

Date: 01/31/26 Season: EPIPHANY 4 (GREEN)

PASTOR <u>Rev. Orin W Cummings, PhD</u>	VICAR <u>Abbey Knappman</u>
ASSISTING <u>Vickie Donnell</u>	LECTOR <u>Irene Chaloupecky</u>
ORGANIST <u>Marilyn Boston</u>	A/V <u>Drew Bowman</u>
DISTRIBUTION MINISTERS <u>Vicar Abbey and Vickie Donnell</u>	

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit Calls us together as the people of God.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

In celebration of our baptism, we worship  
In the name of God: Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

**Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Mighty God, lover of justice,  
you call us to life in community,  
but we have served our own interests  
at the expense of our neighbors.  
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.  
We say the right words,  
but our hearts are far from you.  
Turn us to seek your face.  
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,  
that we may do justice, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
**Amen.****

**The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in ✙ Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.  
**Amen.****

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 873

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!



- 1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;  
2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,  
3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth  
4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.  
send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.  
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.  
as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

*Refrain*



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

5 At last the march shall end;  
the wearied ones shall rest;  
the pilgrims find their home at last,  
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,  
the Lord whom we adore:  
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,  
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.  
Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### THE FIRST READING FROM MICAH 6:1-8

- <sup>1</sup> Hear what the LORD says:  
Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.
- <sup>2</sup> Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the LORD has a case against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.
- <sup>3</sup> "O my people, what have I done to you?  
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!
- <sup>4</sup> For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.
- <sup>5</sup> O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."
- <sup>6</sup> "With what shall I come before the LORD  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?
- <sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
- <sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good,  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?

**The Word of the Lord**

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE SECOND READING FROM 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

<sup>18</sup> The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

**“The Word of the Lord**  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

**The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 5<sup>th</sup> Chapter**  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup> “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all

kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Orin Cummings

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS 1062

1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,  
feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.  
Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.  
Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.  
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**With the whole church, let us affirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

**The Peace of the Lord be with you always.**

**And also with you.**

**Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

God our wisdom, renew the church in the power of the Spirit, that it may do justice, love kindness, live humbly, and boldly proclaim Christ crucified. We pray for social justice and humanitarian aid ministries, especially Community Partners of the Ozarks, Convoy of Hope, Ozarks Food Harvest, and Crosslines Community Outreach. Merciful God,  
receive our prayer.

God our source, we honor you by caring wisely for your creation. We pray for the health of old growth forests, ice caps, and ocean currents. Preserve the diversity of life on earth. Merciful God,  
receive our prayer.

God our righteousness, raise up visionary leaders who serve with integrity and respect human rights. Increase freedom in every nation. Protect educators, journalists, artists, and religious activists who are reviled for speaking truth. Merciful God,  
receive our prayer.

God our advocate, you give hope to all who suffer because of persecution, poverty, or war especially in the Middle East, Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and the Americas. Reunite separated families and bring orphaned children to safety. Comfort any who grieve or suffer in any way, especially Jack, Beth Ramsey, Sherry Dogwiler, Robert Carlson, Jennifer Ledbeeter, Emily Melgren, Janet Pennel, Michael Carr, Larry Sorenson, Delaney Metzger, Jackie Kellie, Sally McCarville, Bruce Whiting, Gabe Derr, Jacob Russell-Rivera, Juanita Steinbaugh, Andrew Langr, Mark Krueger, Bob White, and Beverly Carlson. Merciful God,  
receive our prayer.

God our blessing, we pray for the children and youth of this congregation, and for parents, grandparents, mentors, teachers, and youth ministers who model love for their neighbor and care for others. Merciful God,  
receive our prayer.

God our joy, we give thanks for the lives of those before us who journeyed humbly with you, especially Karen Eggers. Comfort her loved ones. Merciful God,  
receive our prayer.

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:**  
**Our Father in heaven,**  
**hallowed be your name,**  
**your kingdom come,**  
**your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**  
**Forgive us our sins**  
**as we forgive those who sin against us.**  
**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**  
**now and forever.**  
**Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see.



COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

ELW 532

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the  
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the  
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the  
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone,

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen  
Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com), 800.442.3358.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

ELW 523

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet  
*Vamos todos al banquete*

*Refrain / Estribillo*



Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la  
Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the



me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -  
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is



re - le tie - ne un pues - to y u - na mi - sión.  
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.



1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -  
1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -  
2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the  
3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all



pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la  
mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm  
ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be  
peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -

*Refrain / Estribillo*



cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.  
walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.  
hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.  
geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

2 Dios invita a todos los pobres  
a esta mesa común por la fe,  
donde no hay acaparadores  
y a nadie le falta el conqué. Estribillo

3 Dios nos manda a hacer de este mundo  
una mesa donde haya igualdad,  
trabajando y luchando juntos,  
compartiendo la propiedad. Estribillo

Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, *Misa popular salvadoreña*; tr. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956  
Music: VAMOS TODOS AL BANQUETE, Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955  
Text and music © 1994, 1996 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Saturday 5:30 p.m.

**TABLE BLESSING****POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Radiant God,  
 we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
 In the sacrament of his body and blood  
 you have drawn us to your heart.  
 Send us from this table with delight,  
 that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
 and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
 Amen.

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**BLESSING**

May the triune God,  
 who has put a new song in your mouth  
 and tune your heart for praise, bless you now and forever.  
 In the name of the Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit.  
 Amen.

**SENDING HYMN****ELW 551****The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve**

1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in  
 2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the  
 3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter  
 4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings  
 bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to  
 joy like seed and, all our days, to  
 to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.  
share a dream and help the blind to see.  
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.  
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939  
Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820  
Text © 1993 Delores Dufner, admin. OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

## MISSION STATEMENT

**Guided by the Gospel, we:**  
**Welcome all to worship;**  
**Make disciples;**  
**Hunger for ministry;**  
**Nurture youth;**  
**Gather resources for growing ministries;**  
**Offer healing and care to all in need.**

## DISMISSAL

**Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

## OFFERING

*(Please place gifts in the plates as you leave)*

## POSTLUDE