

# The Liturgy of the Word

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

February 14, 2021 • 10:00 a.m.

The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

*The people's responses are in bold.*

## The Entrance Rite

*The people stand as able.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN • 129

*Christ upon the mountain peak*

1 Christ up - on the moun - tain peak stands a - lone in  
2 Trem - bling at his feet we saw Mo - ses and E -  
3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came. God pro - claim - ing  
4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and pro - phets

glo - ry blaz - ing; let us, if we dare to speak,  
li - jah speak - ing. All the pro - phets and the Law  
in its thun - der Je - sus as his Son by name!  
fade be - fore him; first and last and on - ly One,

with the saints and an - gels praise him. Al - le - lu - ia!  
shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Na - tions cry a - loud in won - der! Al - le - lu - ia!  
let cre - a - tion now a - dore him! Al - le - lu - ia!

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## THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be the One Holy and Living God

**Glory to God forever and ever.**

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love  
you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE • S-280

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father, Amen.**

## The Word of God

### THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain:  
Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross,  
and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

### THE FIRST READING

**2 Kings 2:1-12**

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 50:1-6** (*Read in unison*)

**1 The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; \*  
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.**

**2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, \*  
God reveals himself in glory.**

**3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; \*  
before him there is a consuming flame,  
and round about him a raging storm.**

**4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above \*  
to witness the judgment of his people.**

**5 "Gather before me my loyal followers, \*  
those who have made a covenant with me  
and sealed it with sacrifice."**

**6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; \*  
for God himself is judge.**

THE SECOND READING

**1 Corinthians 4:3-6**

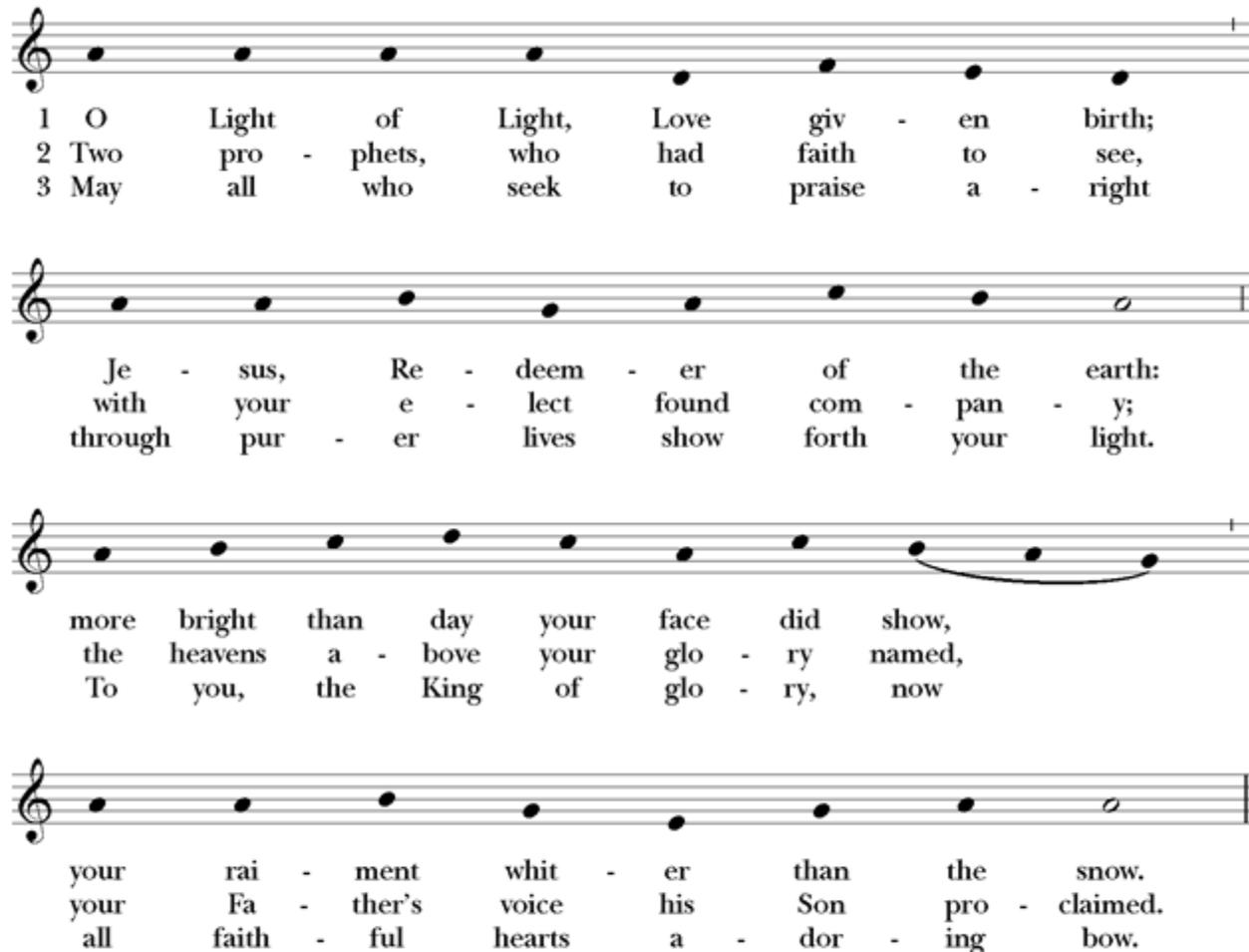
Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able at the introduction of the hymn.

## HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE • 134 *O Light of Light*



1 O Light of Light, Love giv - en birth;  
2 Two pro - phets, who had faith to see,  
3 May all who seek to praise a - right

Je - sus, Re - deem - er of the earth:  
with your e - lect found com - pan - y;  
through pur - er lives show forth your light.

more bright than day your face did show,  
the heavens a - bove your glo - ry named,  
To you, the King of glo - ry, now

your rai - ment whit - er than the snow.  
your Fa - ther's voice his Son pro - claimed.  
all faith - ful hearts a - dor - ing bow.

Words: Latin, 10th cent.; tr. Laurence Housman (1865-1959), alt.

Music: *Jesu dulcis memoria*, plainsong, Mode 2, acc. James McGregor (b. 1930) Copyright ©1984, James McGregor. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark (9:2-9).

**Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Presider* Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Almighty God, grant that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; Scott, our bishop; and for all bishops, ministers and lay leaders. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace, especially Joe, our president; Kamala, our Vice President; Greg, our governor; and Betsy, our mayor; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for 4Saints Episcopal Food Pantry, Eastside Ministries, and other non-profit organizations caring for your beloved. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Joy of human hearts, heal our communities, especially those where your word is not heard, or where neglect, violence, greed, and warfare increase the suffering and need of people and other creatures. Protect and guide those who serve in the military, and those who are first responders. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Comforter of all the earth, bless those worshiping with us today and any looking for a place to belong; sustain the people who need your presence and help especially those we now name \_\_\_\_\_. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

*Presider* Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Savior.  
**Amen.**

## THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Let us pray also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful God;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, together we pray,

*All*     **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
          hallowed be thy Name,  
          thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
          as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
          and the power, and the glory,  
          for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## THE BLESSING

And the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier,  
be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

## THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve God and one another.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE