

**St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Chester, Vermont
Holy Eucharist
The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
January 18, 2026**



The organ prelude is selected and played by organist Karlaine Livingston. Following the prelude, the bell summoning all who hear to join us in celebrating a Epiphany Eucharist. The bell is followed by a moment of silence and then the opening hymn.

Entrance Hymn 7 *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,
 2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pan - ied by thee;
 3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!

Sun of Right-eous - ness, a - rise! Tri-umph o'er the shades of night:
 joy - less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer - cy's beams I see,
 Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
 till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
 more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

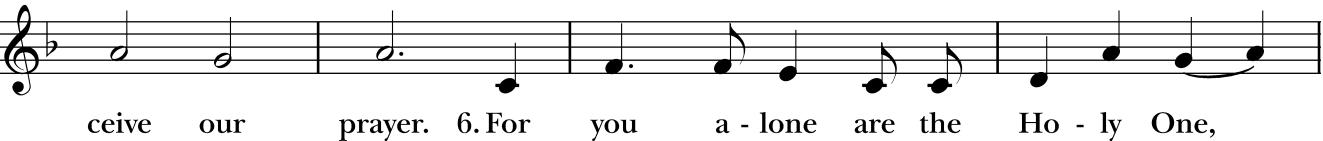
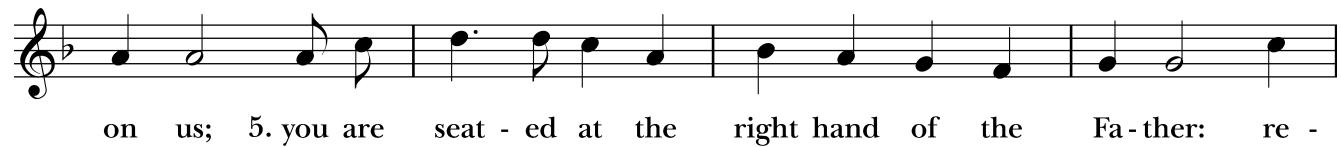
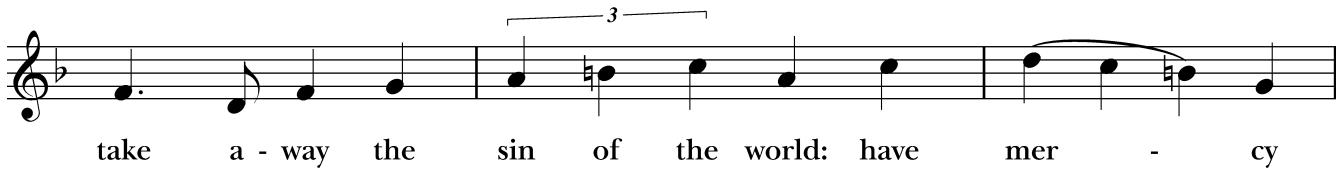
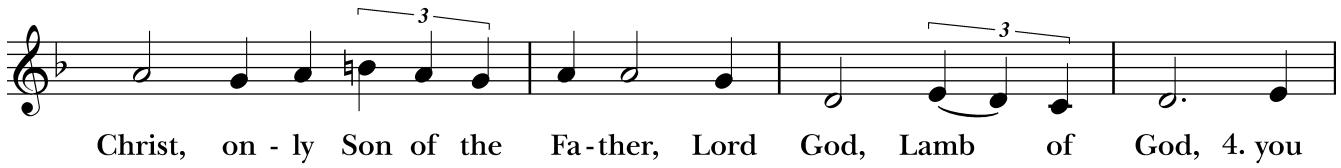
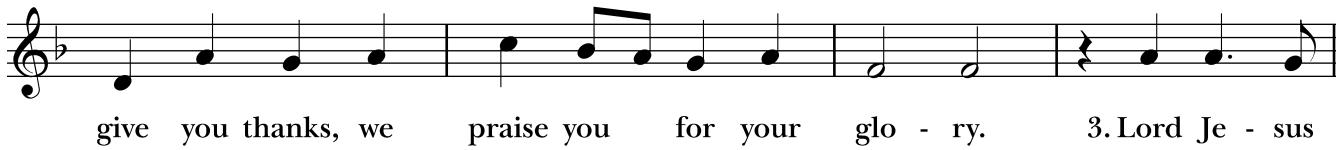
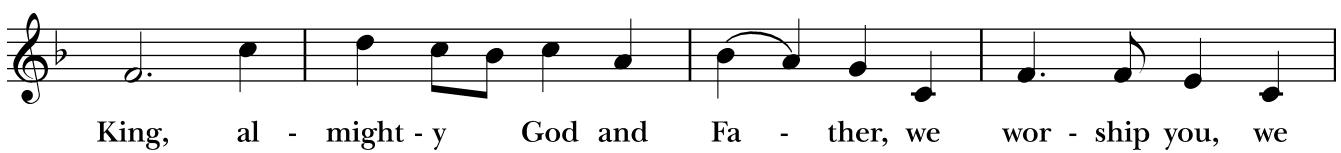
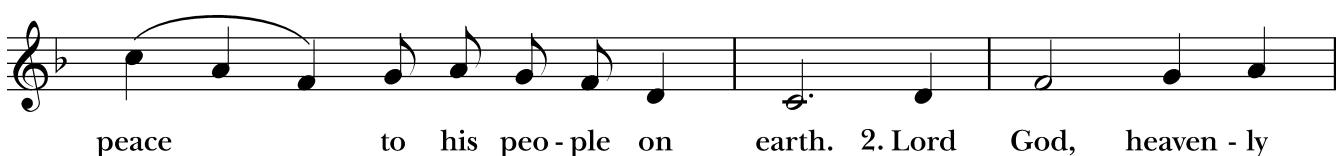
Presider Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People You come to your people and set them free.

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and people. 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.

Song of Praise S-280 The Hymnal 1982 Service Music



glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Collect for the Second Sunday after Epiphany (*Book of Common Prayer, p. 212*)

Presider and people

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

Lector A Reading from Isaiah

¹Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

²He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.

³And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD,

and my reward with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—

⁶he says,
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
"Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

147

PSALM 40: 1-12

1 I waited patiently for you, O God; * you stooped to me and heard my cry.

2 You lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; * you set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.

3 You put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; * many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in you.

4 Happy are they who trust in you; * they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.

5 Great things are they that you have done, O God; how great your wonders and your plans for us; * there is none who can be compared with you.

6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them, * but they are more than I can count.

7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure * (you have given me ears to hear you);

8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, * and so I said, “Behold, I come.

9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: * ‘I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.’ ”

10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; * behold, I did not restrain my lips, and that, O God, you know.

11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; * I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.

12 You are the Holy One; do not withhold your compassion from me; * let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Lector: A Reading from First Corinthians

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be

blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 109 *The Heart Sings Out*

Refrain

I am the church! You are the church!

We are the church together! All who follow Jesus,

all around the world, yes, we're the church together!

1 The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the
2 We're many kinds of people with many kinds of faces, all

church is not a resting place; the church is a people!
colors and all ages too, from all times and places.

Repeat refrain

Words and Music: Richard Avery and Donald Marsh © 1972 Hope Publishing Co., 380 S. Main Pl., Carol Stream, IL 60188
[www.hopepublishing.com]. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Holy Gospel John 1:29-42

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
People Glory to you, Lord Christ

²⁹[John] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon *The Rev. Dr. Bruce L. MacDuffie*

Nicene Creed Presider and people

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, 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

Brothers and sisters, grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I bid you to, “Come and see the great things God has done. *Behold, we come.*”

We pray for your Church. Give us as a light to the nations. Sanctify us in Christ Jesus, call us to be saints and strengthen us to follow Jesus to the end.

Silence

Come and see the great things God has done.

Behold, we come.

We pray for this nation and the world. May your salvation, O God, reach to the ends of the earth. May all the peoples know of your faithfulness and your deliverance.

Silence

Come and see the great things God has done.

Behold, we come.

We pray for all of creation. Give us a sense of awe as we consider all of the works of your hands.

Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence

Come and see the great things God has done.

Behold, we come.

We pray for our local community. Make our footing sure. May our future be secured by your love and faithfulness.

Silence

Come and see the great things God has done.

Behold, we come.

We pray for all those in need of your healing and strength. Lift them out of the desolate pit. Put in their mouths a new song, a song of praise. May they know just how great for them are your wonders and your plans.

Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence

Come and see the great things God has done.

Behold, we come.

We pray for those who have died. In your great faithfulness, keep them blameless for the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Honor them in your sight forever.

Silence

Come and see the great things God has done.

Behold, we come.

From riteplanning.com.

Copyright © 2026 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved

Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins to God. *Silence may be kept.*

Minister and People God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Absolution

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.

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Offertory Sentence

“Great things are they that you have done, O Lord My God! how great your wonders and your plans for us! there is none who can be compared with you.” (Psalm 40)

Offertory Hymn # 632 *Hymnal 1982*

we praise thee for the radiance that from the scripture's page,
 It is the chart and compass that o'er life's surging sea,
 O teach thy wandering pilgrims by this their path to trace,

 a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.
 mid mists and rocks and quick-sands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.
 till, clouds and darkness end-ed, they see thee face to face.

Presentation of the Offering - Sung to the melody of Hymn 380 -the "Doxology"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise God all creatures here below
 Praise God above ye heavenly host
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Eucharistic Prayer *The people remain standing.*

Presider The Lord be with you.
 People And also with you.
 Presider Lift up your hearts.
 People We lift them to the Lord.
 Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; through Jesus Christ our Lord; Because you gave Jesus Christ your only Son, to be born for us; who by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. And so as the stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

The Sanctus S-125 *The Hymnal 1982*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Ho - san-na in the high-est.

The people stand or kneel.

Presider Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

"Drink this, all of you:
this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us:
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
longing for Christ's coming in glory,
and presenting to you these gifts
your earth has formed and human hands have made,
we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and people
Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Presider Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Luke, the patron of this congregation, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator
in voices of unending praise.

Presider and people

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

Presider And now, As our Savior Christ Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Presider and people

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 Breaking of the Bread

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem S-164 The Hymnal 1982

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Presider The Holy Gifts of God for the Holy People of God.

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time or ever before, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here. All are welcome to receive communion. (Special COVID precautions may be voiced here.)

Communion Hymn # 80 *My Heart Sings Out*

Words and Music: Donald Fishel (b. 1950) © 1974 Word of God Music (admin. T.C.C. - The Copyright Company, 1026 16th Ave. South, Nashville, TN 37212 [www.thecopyrightco.com.]) All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission.

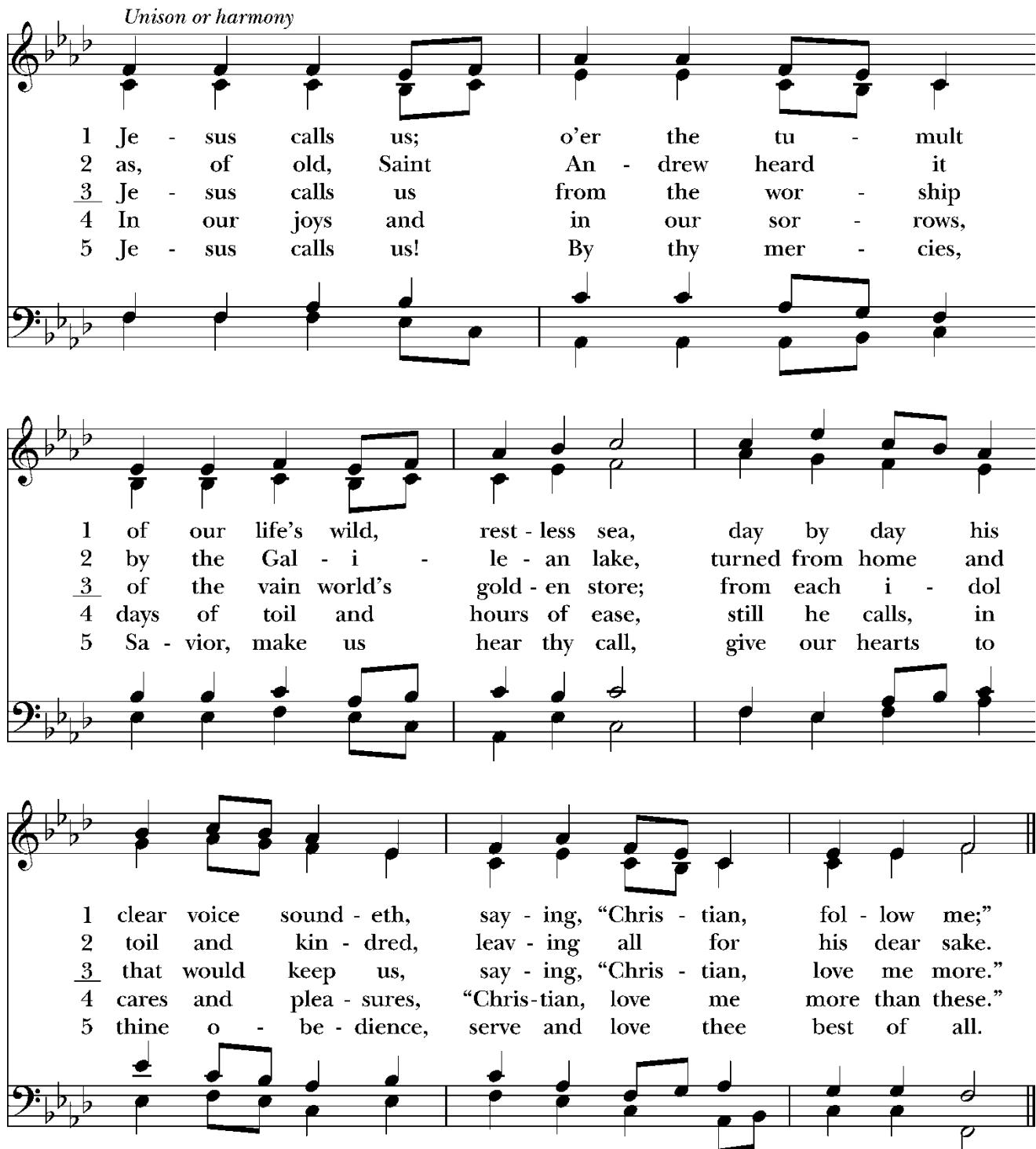
Post-communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.
Presider and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Closing Hymn 550 *The Hymnal 1982*

Unison or harmony



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult
 2 as, of old, Saint An - drew heard it
 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship
 4 In our joys and in our sor - rows,
 5 Je - sus calls us! By thy mer - cies,

1 of our life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his
 2 by the Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and
 3 of the vain world's gold - en store; from each i - dol
 4 days of toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in
 5 Sa - vior, make us hear thy call, give our hearts to

1 clear voice sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me;"
 2 toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for his dear sake.
 3 that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 4 cares and plea - sures, "Chris-tian, love me more than these."
 5 thine o - be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

Epiphany Season Blessing

May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. *Amen.*

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only- begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. *Amen.*

May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Announcements

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PLEASE!! Take this service leaflet with you. Read the scriptures again. Learn a hymn or two. Use the prayers of the people all this coming week. Blessings!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

January 21 - Midweek Eucharist 5:30-6:00 PM
Commemorating Agnes and Cecilia of Rome

January 25 - Sunday, The Third Sunday after the Epiphany
Holy Eucharist 10-11:15

January 28 - Wednesday Holy Eucharist 5:30-6:00 PM

Other Events

January 15 Thursday Annual Meeting Reports due in Editor's Hands
Ruth Walker
January 21 Wednesday Vestry Meeting 6:30 - 8 PM
January 25 Sunday after Eucharist - Adjourned Annual Meeting