

Star with royal beauty bright

Westward leading, still proceeding

Guide us to thy perfect light

Welcome! We come from many backgrounds, have varied points of view, and are in different places in our spiritual journey. We share a common desire to enter more deeply into the life God has for us in Christ Jesus.

Thank you for worshipping here today. We invite you to share in the bread and wine of communion with us at the Lord's Table. Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. Please join us after the service for refreshments and fellowship in the Parish House.

If you are joining us today for the first time, please sign the register in the Narthex or complete the visitor's card located in each pew and place in the offering plate.

# **Epiphany**

In traditional Christian churches **Christmas** is celebrated as a period of time, a season of the church year, rather than just a day. The Season of the Church Year associated with Christmas actually begins with the first Sunday of **Advent**, four Sundays before Christmas Day. Advent is marked by expectation and anticipation in preparing to celebrate the coming of Jesus. **Christmas** begins with Christmas Day, December 25, and lasts for **Twelve Days** until **Epiphany**, January 6, which looks ahead to the mission of the church to the world in light of the Nativity. The **Epiphany Season** lasts until the Sunday before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of **Lent**.

The term *epiphany* means "to show" or "to make known" or even "to reveal." It remembers the coming of the wise men bringing gifts to visit the Christ child, who by doing so "reveal" Jesus to the world as Lord and King.

The colors of Epiphany are usually the colors of Christmas, white and gold, the colors of celebration, newness, and hope that mark the most sacred days of the church year.

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

**Prelude:** See Information Sheet

**Announcements** 

**Entrance Hymn:** [All stand] See Information Sheet

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

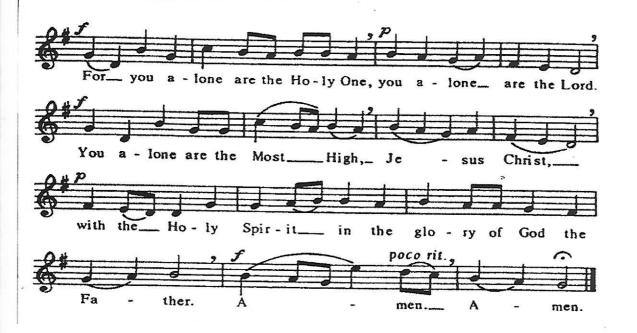
People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

[Everyone in Unison remaining standing]

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.

Gloria Begins on next page and continues on page 3





# The Collect of the Day [in Unison] [Contemporary]

See Scripture Insert

#### The First Lesson

See Scripture Insert

[Before the lesson:]

Reader: A reading from the Book of ........

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

[After the lesson:]

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

#### The Psalm

See Scripture Insert

#### The Second Lesson

See Scripture Insert

[Before the lesson:]

Reader: A reading from ..........

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

[After the lesson:]

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn: [All stand]

See Information Sheet

**The Gospel** [All stand and face the Celebrant]

See Scripture Insert

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to ......

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[After the Gospel, the Celebrant says]

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

#### The Sermon

#### **The Nicene Creed** [All stand and say together]

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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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 (Form VI) [All standing]

[The Leader and People (in bold) pray responsively.]

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Kevin our Bishop, and Marianne our pastor and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For our Armed Forces throughout the world, Police Officers, Firefighters and for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially those on our Parish Prayer List.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The people may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
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.

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

The Peace [All stand]

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

#### **Birthday and Anniversary Blessings**

Offertory:

See Information Sheet

Doxology [Sung]

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

[Eucharistic Prayer A—BCP 361]

[The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says]

Celebrant:

The Lord be with you.

People:

And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People:

We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People:

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

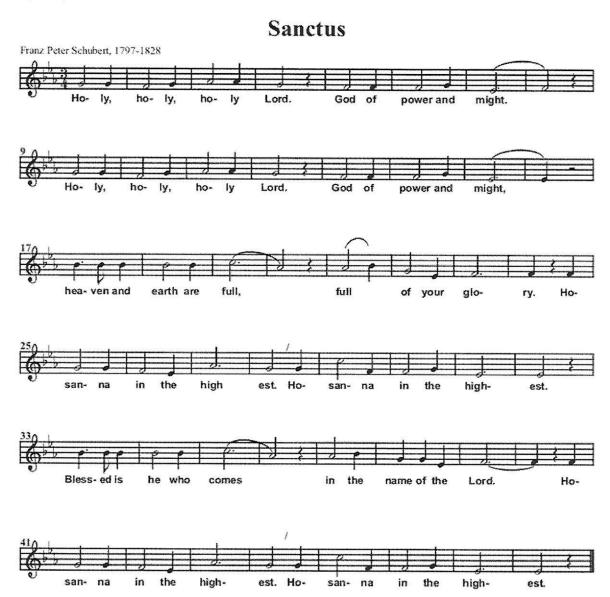
[Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds]

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

[Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.]

#### [The Celebrant continues]

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



[The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues.]

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

[At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a had upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.]

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

[Celebrant and People]

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

#### [The Celebrant continues]

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

[Join hands and say together]

#### The Lord's Prayer

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

[The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.]

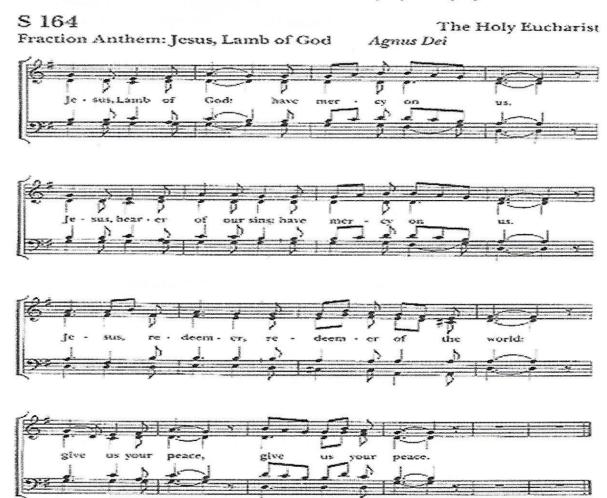
[A period of silence is kept.]

[Then may be sung or said]

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

#### Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

**Agnus Dei (Jesus, Lamb of God):** [Celebrant and people singing]



Sendings From Orabicke Africa, France Proce Schudose (1797-1806); son Richard Process de 1947)

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation]

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

And may add:

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

#### The Communion

In the Episcopal Church we believe that all baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion at the Lord's Table.

Please come forward as you are able or ask an usher for Communion at your seat.

[The Celebrant and the communicants receive the Sacrament. The following or similar words are said to each at the distribution and each responds, saying Amen.]

Celebrant: The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

People: Amen.

Eucharistic Minister: The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

People: Amen.

[During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems may be sung.]

[When necessary, the Celebrant consecrates additional bread and wine, using the form on page 408 of the Book of Common Prayer.]

#### Post Communion Hymn:

See Information Sheet

#### **After Communion**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

[Celebrant and People together]

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### The Blessing of the Congregation

[The Celebrant blesses the people with these or other suitable words, the people respond with 'Amen'.]

The peace of God, which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **AMEN.** 

#### Retiring Hymn:

See Information Sheet

Celebrant:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

#### Postlude:

See Information Sheet

#### Post Communion Hymn:

See Information Sheet

#### **After Communion**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

[Celebrant and People together]

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### The Blessing of the Congregation

[The Celebrant blesses the people with these or other suitable words, the people respond with 'Amen'.]

The peace of God, which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **AMEN.** 

#### Retiring Hymn:

See Information Sheet

Celebrant:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

#### Postlude:

See Information Sheet



## Please return to the ushers.

# St. Luke's Episcopal Church Front Street, Seaford

Mailing Address: 202 North Street, Seaford, DE 19973

Phone: 302-629-7979

E-mail: StLukesEpis@comcast.net

On the web: http://www.stlukesseaford.org

The Reverend Marianne Ell, Pastor

"To know Christ and make Him known"