



THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

FEBRUARY 8, 2026, 10:00AM

Christ Church Episcopal

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The Rev. Scott P. Bellows, Vicar

Maggie Ribb, Minister of Music

Todd Woolley, Sexton

Lisa Berman, Parish Administrator

Vestry

Sandy Allard, Mary Ellen Eichmann, Wardens; Lisa DeLong, Treasurer; Elaine Mason, Clerk
Janet Cassidy, Jennifer Lutz, Cathy Walsman, Members

Sharing Christ's love in the world and creating a nurturing place for all.

*All spoken texts for this liturgy are contained within this printed Service Bulletin; people's parts in **BOLD**. Hymns are found in The Hymnal 1982 (blue, hardcover) or Wonder, Love, and Praise (WLP - green, softcover) in the pew rack in front of you. Additional music will be included either printed in the Bulletin or on an Insert. Service Music, designated by "S", is found in the front section of The Hymnal 1982.*

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Beginning on page 355 of The Book of Common Prayer (BCP)

Acclamation

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

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.**

The Collect of the Day BCP p. 216

Presider: May God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the prophet Isaiah (58:1-12)

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go

free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112:1-9 *Read responsively by whole verse*

1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord * and have great delight in his commandments!

2 **Their descendants will be mighty in the land; * the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, * and their righteousness will last for ever.

4 **Light shines in the darkness for the upright; * the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending * and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 **For they will never be shaken; * the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; * their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.

8 **Their heart is established and will not shrink, * until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

9 They have given freely to the poor, * and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up their head with honor.

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (2:1-12)

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these things God has revealed to

us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymnal 488

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart

Tune: *Slane*

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew (5:13-20)

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Homily

Father Scott Bellows

The Nicene Creed *all standing, as you are able*

BCP p. 358

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

BCP p. 392

The Intercessor and People 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 Sean, our presiding bishop; Julia, our bishop; Scott, our priest; and for all ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for churches of the Boston Harbor Deanery, including St. John's Church, Jamaica Plain; Northeastern University Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry; St. Cyprian's Church, Roxbury; Building Bridges Ministries; and retired clergy of the diocese.

In our Parish Cycle of Prayer we pray for George Arsenault, Chris Axner, Sam Bennett, Joe Bertrand, Ann Brown, The Carlin Family, Elisabeth Cassidy, Tom Clark, Sam Cohen, the Colby family, Beau Coursen, Sidney Coursen, Nick Czajkowski, Laura DeCaprio, Tim Dyer, Amelia Goodfield, Nancy Hardiman, The Green family, Betty Hadfield, Pat Hart, Paul Horvath, Donna Jacobs, Randy Joiner, Bradley Jugler, Cindy Jugler, Patrick Leahy, Pat MacKinnon, Stephen Mazzur, Sue Parkinson, Kimberly Schoener, Charles Schwabe, Stephen Shuart, Diana Stelma, Kathleen Vogt, Dianne Wade, and Debby Waugh; and for those we name now, either aloud or in the quiet of our hearts.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessing of this life. We give thanks for all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries.

Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your name forever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, including Cecile "Boo" Lewis, Donna Kennedy, and Keith Green, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

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.

Silence

Intercessor 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.

The Presider pronounces the Absolution

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

Presider: The peace of God be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Those celebrating a birthday or anniversary are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Offertory Anthem

Day by Day

Thomas Keesecker

Hymnal 380, verse 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

Tune: *Old 100th*

The Great Thanksgiving – Eucharistic Prayer "A"

BCP p. 361

Presider: May God 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 our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

Hymnal S-125

Sanctus

Richard Proulx

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. 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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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.

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Invitation to Communion

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It has been made ready for those who love God and for those who hope to love God more. So come if you have been here often, and come if you have not been here long. Come if you have followed, and come if you have stumbled. Come because it is the Lord who invites you. It is Christ's will that those who seek him will meet him here at His table. These are the gifts of God for all the people of God.

Please follow the Usher's guidance to come forward and either kneel or stand at the altar rail, as you are able.

First, the priest will place the wafer/bread (gluten-free on request) in your outstretched hand. The Eucharistic Minister will then offer you the cup (containing wine), from which you are invited to sip. If you prefer, you may carefully intinct (dip) the wafer in the cup. If you are unable or prefer not to receive from the cup, simply cross your arms over your chest and the Eucharistic Minister will say the words "The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation" in front of you. Please be assured that no matter how you receive – bread and wine, bread or wine only, or spiritually, you will receive the full grace of the Sacrament. If you prefer not to receive the Sacrament today, you are invited to come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a Blessing in the name of the One God.

Hymnal 334

Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing

Tune: *Alles ist an Gottes Segen*

Post-communion Prayer *in unison*

BCP p. 365

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

Book of Occasional Service

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. **Amen.**

Source: from Saint Clare

Hymnal 490

I want to walk as a child of the light

Tune: *Houston*

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

Fanfare on 'Engelberg'

John A. Behnke

The flowers that beautify our altar today were given in loving memory of Donna Kennedy by Karen Butler and in loving memory of Carol Husted Schneider by Lisa Berman.

Thank you to those serving today

Lisa DeLong, lector/intercessor; Jean Bertrand, greeter; Meg Pappas, usher
Karen Butler, Lay Eucharistic Minister

Many helping hands to prepare and serve our brunch; Deborah Aylesworth, flower delivery
Elizabeth Salomé and Leslie Meier, Altar Guild servers

Those serving on February 15

Brad Goodwin, lector/intercessor; Elaine Mason, greeter; Al Richards, usher
Bob Lawton, Lay Eucharistic Minister
Jean Bertrand and Karen Butler, coffee fellowship; Jean Bertrand, flower delivery
Elizabeth Salomé and Leslie Meier, Altar Guild servers

News & Noteworthy

Dates to Note

- TODAY, Sunday, February 8, 11:00am – Brunch followed by the Parish Annual Meeting
- Thursday, February 12, 9:30am – Staff meeting
- Sunday, February 15, 11:30am – Vestry meeting
- Sunday, February 22, 11:30am – Refresher/Training for Lectors/Intercessors. If you are currently serving as a Lector (reading the Lessons)/Intercessor (leading Prayers of the People) OR would like to begin doing so... please plan to join us!

Ongoing

- Tuesdays, 12:00pm – Book Lovers' Gathering; a new book will be chosen soon.
- Thursdays, 4:30pm -- Choir Rehearsal

Office Hours week of February 8

- Tuesday – Friday, 10:00am – 2:00pm

Noah's Ark Thrift Shop -- We are accepting donations again and are looking for spring clothing, household items, puzzles and games, linens... the usual! The shop remains closed until March 6 but the team will be working right through February preparing for the reopening.

Building Use Saturdays, 7:30pm – AA meeting

Remember to bring donations of food for the Family Pantry; they are urgently needed. Non-perishable items must be in code and unopened. Many thanks to Todd for building a new shelving system for our donations (*at the top of the stairs, on the right, outside the accessible bathroom*).

Please pick up your 2025 year end donations summary in the Parish Hall.

Obituary for Cecile “Boo” Lewis, former Christ Church member

Cecile “Boo” Lewis, most recently of Mystic Connecticut, passed away peacefully on January 28, 2026, surrounded by her loving family. She was the devoted wife of the late United States Navy Commander Porter Lewis Jr. (Retired) and cherished mother of Elizabeth (Matt Tattersall), Madeleine, John (Krista Lewis), and Miranda (Anne Lewis). Boo was also a beloved grandmother and great-grandmother. In addition to her children she is survived by her brother the Reverend Mark S. Anschutz, numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren, and extended family.

Born in Carthage, MO, Boo met Porter at age 15 at the Christ Church Georgetown Youth Group, and soon after played the heroine opposite him in Henning Nelms’ melodrama *Only an Orphan Girl*—a moment that began their legendary love story. On June 11, 1960, just three days after Porter’s graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy, they were married at Christ Church Georgetown in Washington, D.C.; Boo’s father, the Reverend John R. Anschutz, officiated.

Throughout Porter’s distinguished naval career, Boo was his steadfast partner, supporting him through assignments that took them across the country and overseas, including Rota Spain, Thurso Scotland, and London England. Together, they built a home filled with warmth and hospitality, welcoming friends and family wherever life took them.

Boo earned her Master of Arts in Early Childhood Development from Connecticut College in May 1991 and subsequently served as a teacher in Connecticut College’s Birth to Three program. In retirement, Boo and Porter settled in South Chatham, Cape Cod, where they embraced their passions for family, travel, and the church. She shared in Porter’s love for adventure; together they cruised all over the world—from Alaska to Bermuda and the seven seas, including a once-in-a-lifetime 70-day Pacific Rim voyage. Boo’s greatest joy was creating lasting memories with Porter, her children and grandchildren during these travels.

A woman of deep faith, Boo was an active member of Christ Church Episcopal in Harwich Port, Massachusetts, where she experienced significant joy and fellowship through the parish choir. She also held both vestry and altar guild positions, and organized many parish dinners, lobster-roll lunches, and fellowship gatherings that were renowned throughout the southeastern Cape Cod community.

Boo will be remembered for her exceptional grace, overwhelming kindness, and unwavering devotion to those she loved. Her legacy lives on in the hearts of her family and many friends.

A funeral service will be held at Noank Baptist Church, 18 Cathedral Heights, Noank, CT on February 7, 2026 at 10:00 am. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Naval Academy Foundation. Notes of condolence may be sent to Boo’s daughter, Liz Tattersall, 274 Greenhaven Rd., Pawcatuck, CT 06379.