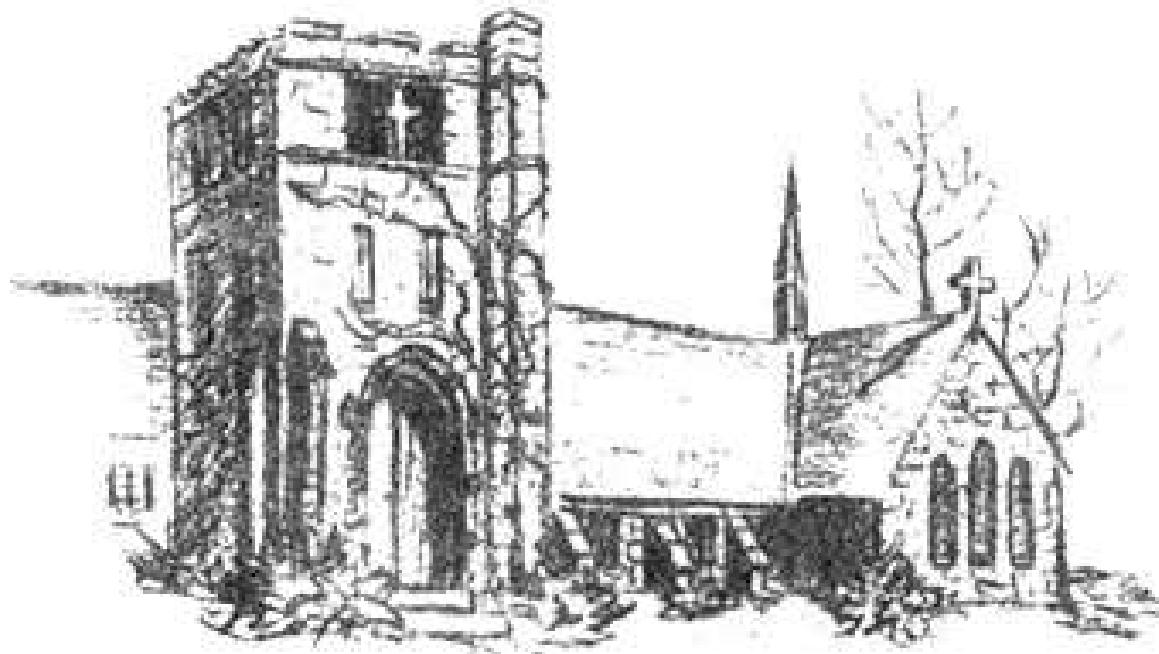


**The Third Sunday after the Epiphany
of Our Lord Jesus Christ
January 25, 2026**



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
1935 The Plaza
Parish Office: 1229 Baker Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12309
518-346-6241; office@st-stephens.church

If you or someone you know is in need, please call Mother Lisa at (518) 637-7736

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II
The Third Sunday after the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ
January 25, 2026

The Entrance Rite

The Prelude *Adagio for Glass Harmonica* Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) arr. E. Power Biggs
Mozart wrote this piece for the glass harmonica, a musical instrument invented by Benjamin Franklin. Its series of rotating glass bowls emit ethereal sounds when touched by the wet fingers of the player. Virtuoso organist E. Power Biggs arranged this music for organ.

The Processional Hymn Hymnal #381

The Word of God

The Opening Acclamation Page #355

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

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

The Collect for Purity Page #355

The Gloria Hymnal S-278 *Hymn numbers beginning with S are found in the front of the Hymnal.*

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 Collect of the Day Page #215

The Lessons

The First Lesson Isaiah 9:1-4

Lector: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 27:1, 5-13

- 1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;
 whom then shall I fear? *
 the Lord is the strength of my life;
 of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 5 One thing have I asked of the Lord;
 one thing I seek; *
 that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;
- 6 To behold the fair beauty of the Lord *
 and to seek him in his temple.
- 7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
 he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
 and set me high upon a rock.
- 8 Even now he lifts up my head *
 above my enemies round about me.
- 9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
 with sounds of great gladness; *
 I will sing and make music to the Lord.
- 10 Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; *
 have mercy on me and answer me.
- 11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
 Your face, Lord, will I seek.
- 12 Hide not your face from me, *
 nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
- 13 You have been my helper;
 cast me not away; *
 do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Lector: A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians .

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not

send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn

Hymnal #665

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12-23

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Celebrant: When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.”

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Lisa Busby

The Nicene Creed

Page #358

All: **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.**

Prayers of the People:

Celebrant: Friends, it is the Holy One who speaks in our hearts, who says, “Seek my face.” With humble hearts let us come before the Lord saying “When we call, O God, *Hear our prayer.*”

Intercessor: God, help your church. Heal her divisions. Increase her joy. Unite her members that we might have a common purpose: to proclaim the gospel.

Silence

Intercessor: When we call, O God,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Intercessor: God, help this nation and the world. Where there are heavy burdens, where oppression reigns, show the strength of your arm and set your people free. May the coming of your kingdom be ever nearer.

Silence

Intercessor: When we call, O God,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Intercessor: God, help our local community. May your great light drive away all of the shadows that darken our region. Even now lift up the heads of the downcast.

Silence

Intercessor: When we call, O God,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: God, help the sick and suffering. Do not forsake them but show yourself to be the strength of their lives and their salvation. May Jesus be the healer of every disease and sickness among the people.

You may add your petitions silently or aloud.

Silence.

Intercessor: When we call, O God,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: God, help the dying and the dead. Hide them in the secrecy of your dwelling. May all those being saved say with boldness, “I belong to Christ. Forever.”

Intercessor: When we call, O God,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Celebrant continues with the absolution.

The Peace *During the exchange of the peace, you are welcome to greet those around you.*

The Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem

Take My Yoke Upon You

Williams/Nolan

The Doxology

V.3, Hymnal #380

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

Page #367

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: 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.)

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:

Sanctus Hymnal S-128 *Hymn numbers beginning with S are found in the front of the Hymnal.*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer. The congregation joins in at the following prompt:

Celebrant: Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
All: **We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant continues with the remainder of the Eucharistic Prayer. At the conclusion, all say:

All: **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Page #364

Celebrant: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today 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

Page #364

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:
People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Fraction Anthem: Agnus Dei

Hymnal S-161

The Invitation to Communion

The Communion Hymn:

Hymnal #321

Post-Communion Prayer

Page #366

Celebrant: Let us pray.
All: **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual
 food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus**

Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Concluding Rite

The Blessing		Page #366
The Recessional Hymn		Hymnal #535
The Dismissal		Page #366
The Postlude	“Gloria” from <i>Twelfth Mass</i>	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) arr. George Blake (1912-1986)

The “Twelfth Mass” broadly contributed to Mozart’s fame. Research in the late 20th century revealed that it had been inaccurately attributed to Mozart in an 1819 publication. The Austrian composer Wenzel Müller (1767-1835) likely composed this work. Regardless of authenticity, George Blake’s arrangement of “Gloria” reflects the freshness and energy of Mozart.

The postlude sends us out into the world. You are welcome to exit quietly or stay for the entire piece. We hope you will join us for coffee hour and fellowship in the parish hall immediately following today's service.

* * * * *

Serving Today:

Altar Guild: Doreen May
Ushers: Vicki Hoshko
Doreen May
Eucharistic Minister: George Woodzell
Acolyte: Basil Dewdney
Lector: Ruth Basantes
Intercessor: John Artieda
Counter: Bob Voelker
Coffee Hour: Richey & George Woodzell

Today's Altar Flowers are given by Deborah O'Connor to the glory of God.

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