

Last Sunday after Epiphany

February 15, 2026

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith, welcome to Advent Episcopal Church. Our worship service follows the Book of Common Prayer and includes Holy Communion in which all may receive the bread and wine of Christ's Body and Blood. Hymn numbers preceded by the letter "H" are found in the blue Hymnal 1982. The hymn numbers preceded by the letter "W" are found in the blue hymnal Worship & Rejoice. Thank you for joining us for worship today!

Acknowledging the people of the land, the Hohokam and other indigenous people as the original stewards of this land, we give thanks for our ancestors, our elders, and for all indigenous people who pray for unity and peace together.

Prelude

Processional Hymn H 460

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

All **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Celebrant 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.**

All Song of Praise S236

- 1. Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;**
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
- 2. Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;**
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
- 3. Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;**
on the throne of you majesty, glory to you.
- 4. Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;**
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
- 5. Glory to you, beholding the depths;**
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
- 6. Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;**
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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 PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The First Lesson Exodus 24:12-18

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 2 (*8am spoken, 10am sung*)

¹ Why are the nations in an uproar? *

 Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

² Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,

 and the princes plot together, *

 against the LORD and against his Anointed?

³ "Let us break their yoke," they say; *

 "let us cast off their bonds from us."

⁴ He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; *

 the Lord has them in derision.

⁵ Then he speaks to them in his wrath, *

 and his rage fills them with terror.

⁶ "I myself have set my king *

 upon my holy hill of Zion."

⁷ Let me announce the decree of the LORD: *

 he said to me, "You are my Son;

 this day have I begotten you.

⁸ Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance *

 and the ends of the earth for your possession.

⁹ You shall crush them with an iron rod *

 and shatter them like a piece of pottery."

¹⁰ And now, you kings, be wise; *

 be warned, you rulers of the earth.

¹¹ Submit to the LORD with fear, *

 and with trembling bow before him;

¹² Lest he be angry and you perish; *
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

¹³ Happy are they all *
who take refuge in him!

The Second Lesson 2 Peter 1:16-21

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Hymn H 615

Deacon The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Gospel Matthew 17:1-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

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

Sermon The Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father 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 and 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

Leader O Christ, your light shines upon us, giving us the fullness of salvation. Help us to shine our light upon the world that all people may know the love of Jesus. Lord of glory,
People Hear our prayer.

Leader O Christ, by your baptism you opened the door of new life into the Church. Make us servants of your Gospel, and we pray especially for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Jennifer our Bishop, and the clergy of our parish. Lord of glory,
People Hear our prayer.

Leader O Christ, you were a servant to us and called us to serve one another. Give us grace that we may be faithful and courageous Christians in the world, and we pray especially for the President of the United States, the Governor of Arizona, and all First Nations tribal leaders. Lord of glory,
People Hear our prayer.

Leader You ministered to the poor, the weak and the suffering. Comfort the sick, console the sorrowful, and raise the hearts of those who are burdened by any grief or trouble. Lord of glory,
People Hear our prayer.

Leader O Christ, you are the resurrection and the life. We pray for all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone. Lord of glory,
People Hear our prayer.

Celebrant Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
People Amen.

CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, in what we have done, and in 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.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon 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.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Music

All **Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.**
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, brothers and sisters are we,
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally,
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

THE SERVICE OF THE TABLE

Eucharistic Prayer B *BCP 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.**

The Celebrant proceeds:

It is a right and good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

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

S125

The Celebrant continues:

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in your creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.**

The Celebrant continues:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where with all the saints, we may enter into the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

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 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Fraction Anthem

Agnus Dei

S164

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.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome to the Lord's Table to receive the bread and wine of Christ's Body and Blood. The wine will be offered by intinction, which means that you may dip the wafer into the small cup offered by the Lay Assistant. Please do not put your fingers into the wine. If you do not wish to receive the wine, just receive the wafer and return to your seat. The Church teaches that you receive the full Christ in either the bread or wine. There is no requirement to receive both. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Music

Celebrant The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

Communicant Amen.

Deacon The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

Communicant Amen.

Hymn W 696

CLOSING PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 the 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

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn W 123

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia.

Dismissal Response: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia**

Postlude