

Welcome to Little Fork Episcopal Church
The Last Sunday after the Epiphany - February 26, 2017
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist



Using Our Gifts to Spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Gathering Song – Jesus is the light. He is the light of the world. *Clap Clap Clap repeat*
Jesus is the light. He is the light of the world, and he’s ever shining in my soul.

The Word of God

Processional Hymn *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise* #135 Hymnal 1982

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. *Book of Common Prayer* p. 355
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant and People “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. *Matthew 5:14-16*

Song of Praise Lord, I lift your name on high. Lord, I love to sing your praises. I’m so glad you’re in my life. I’m so glad you came to save us. You came from heaven to earth to show the way, from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay; from the cross to the grave; from the grave to the sky. Lord, I lift your name on high!

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *Book of Common Prayer* p. 216
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect of the Day *in unison* 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 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.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 99

Book of Common Prayer p. 728

The Lord is King; let the people tremble; *

he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

The Lord is great in Zion; *

he is high above all peoples.

Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *

he is the Holy One.

"O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; *

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his footstool; *

he is the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *

they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *

they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *

you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill; *

for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

The Epistle

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

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

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."

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

Sermon

The Rev. Brad Lee Jackson

The Nicene Creed - standing*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

Celebrant God of mercy, you call us to go to the mountain top and we follow, not quite sure of what is to happen, but we like the view from up here. Lord sometimes we need mountain top experiences with you when our days are dark, when our hearts are heavy. Lord, fill our hearts with

your light, may we be filled with your love, may we be filled with hope. We know that just as Moses and your disciples were changed by their experiences, we, too, are changed and transformed into the image of Christ by your mercy. Lord, may we have unveiled faces that reflect your love, your hope, and your light.

paraphrased from Rev. Abi

Intercessor We pray for this land. Thank you for the abundant blessings you shower on us. Graciously protect us from hatred and intolerance, from prejudice and injustice, from war and disease, and from every kind of disaster. Draw all people into the radiance of your light, so that we may properly care for and use the resources of this wonderful country.

Christ, be our Light: ***shine in the church, shine in the world.***

Thank you for the blessings of good government and civil peace. We commend to you Donald our president, Terry our governor, and all our elected officials. Help all in government and positions of responsibility to maintain honesty and truth, justice and peace. Give our leaders wisdom and compassion in policymaking. Draw us into the radiance of your light, so that we may be obedient to proper authority and the common good of all people.

Christ, be our Light: ***shine in the church, shine in the world.***

We pray for the church in the world. Keep your people true to your word, regular in the use of the means of grace, and genuine in repentance and renewal. Draw us into the radiance of your light, so that we may give a clear witness to you in this land. We pray for all baptized people, especially for Michael Curry our Presiding Bishop; Shannon Johnston, Susan Goff, Ted Gulick, our Bishops; for the churches they serve today; for Emmetri and Brad our clergy; for our brothers and sisters at Beulah Baptist Church; for the Kairos community gathered this weekend; and for our congregation and guests gathered here at Little Fork Episcopal Church.

Christ, be our Light: ***shine in the church, shine in the world.***

We pray for those who have died and for their families and friends who mourn their passing.

Christ, be our Light: ***shine in the church, shine in the world.***

Celebrant Please share with us your joys and concerns for prayer.

Celebrant Almighty God, you have set before us the path but we have wandered on our own to try to find our way. Help us to seek You every day, to acknowledge that we need Your wisdom and guidance, and help us to return to the path and walk with You. In the name of Christ, who is our companion on this journey of faith. We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

All 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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Offertory

Mike Vinson

Offering *Our outreach offerings today go to the Culpeper Food Closet.*

Pledges and other offerings support the spread of Jesus' gospel through Little Fork Church.

Disaster relief: Episcopal Relief and Development, P.O. Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116

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

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer D *Book of Common Prayer, page 372*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And al - so 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.

Celebrant It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and forever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

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

Celebrant continues – We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our

disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation. Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Celebrant Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, forever and forever. Amen.

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Communion Hymns *Let Us Break Bread Together on Our Knees* #152 LEVAS
 Take My Hand, Precious Lord #106 LEVAS

Celebrant and People *Enriching Our Worship 1* page 69

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn *Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord* #178 Hymnal 1982

Announcements

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**