



**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**FEBRUARY 8, 2026**

**WELCOME!**

**8:00 AM**

*YOU are welcome here, regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, sex, national origin, marital status, family makeup, socioeconomic status, or political persuasion. St. John's Episcopal Church is a community of people who gather to acknowledge our need for divine and human love, and to respect our common humanity. At St. John's, ALL ARE WELCOME.*

*It is our pleasure to have you join us for worship today. If this is your first visit, or even if you've been attending for a little while, and you'd like to learn more about us, please take a 'Welcome' card from our pews, complete and place the 'Connect' side in the offering plate or hand it to one of our greeters or clergy so that we may follow up with you. Or, feel welcome to contact us using the information on the back of this bulletin.*

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***Our mission***

**LINKING LIVES IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST**



**Shine**

Moyers, Mike  
from *Art in the Christian Tradition*

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***Our vision***

**WE JOYFULLY GATHER TO PRAY, WORSHIP, LEARN AND SERVE  
AS WE SEEK TO FOLLOW JESUS, AND INVITE ALL TO JOIN US  
ON A SACRED JOURNEY OF HOPE AND TRANSFORMATION**

*Please stand as you are able*

**Opening Acclamation**

Celebrant      **Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**  
People          **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Collect for Purity**

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.**

*Please read in unison*

**Gloria**p. 356 in **The BCP**

**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**

Celebrant      The Lord be with you.  
People          **And also with you.**  
Celebrant      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.**

*Please be seated*

**First Lesson** - Isaiah 58:1-12

*Kevin Maksym*

Reader      A reading from Isaiah.

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.

*Please read in unison*

## Psalm 112:1-10 - *Beatus vir*

## 1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
and have great delight in his commandments!  
Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.  
Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
and their righteousness will last for ever.  
Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.  
It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
and to manage their affairs with justice.  
For they will never be shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.  
They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
their heart is right;  
they put their trust in the Lord.  
Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.  
They have given freely to the poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.  
The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; \*  
the desires of the wicked will perish.

**Second Lesson** - 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Kevin Maksym

Reader A reading from 1 Corinthians

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.***Please stand as you are able for the Gospel***Gospel Reading** - Matthew 5:13-20

The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**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.”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**

*The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson*

*Please stand to say together*

**Nicene Creed**

p. 358 in The BCP

**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.**

**Prayer of the People - Form III (p. 387 in The BCP)**

*Alicia Watt*

Leader	Father, we pray for your holy catholic church;
<b>People</b>	<b>That we all may be one.</b>
Leader	Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
<b>People</b>	<b>That your Name may be glorified by all people.</b>
Leader	Remembering especially our Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe, we pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
<b>People</b>	<b>That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.</b>
Leader	We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
<b>People</b>	<b>That there may be justice and peace on the earth.</b>
Leader	Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
<b>People</b>	<b>That our works may find favor in your sight.</b>
Leader	Remembering especially those on our parish prayer list: Cathy & Juan, Susan & Bob, Char, Ronnie, Henry, Chris, Yvonne, Charlene & John, Phillip, Michelle, Julie, the family of Lynn Miller, Lee, Jan, Dennis, Mike and Paul, and any others we now name, silently or aloud, have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
<b>People</b>	<b>That they may be delivered from their distress.</b>
Leader	Give to the departed eternal rest.
<b>People</b>	<b>Let light perpetual shine upon them.</b>
Leader	We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
<b>People</b>	<b>May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.</b>

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.  
*[The people are invited to offer their own prayers]*

### Concluding Collect

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Confession of Sin

p. 359 in **The BCP**

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

*Silence*

Together **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.**

### Absolution

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.**

### Prayer for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Other Milestones

**Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Offertory

*Please stand as you are able*

Together **All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.**

### Eucharistic Prayer A

p. 361 in **The BCP**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People	<b>We lift them to the Lord.</b>
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	<b>It is right to give our thanks and praise.</b>
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.
	For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in 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:
Together	<b>Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.</b> <b>Hosanna in the highest.</b>
	<b>Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.</b> <b>Hosanna in the highest .</b>

*Please stand or kneel as you are able*

Celebrant	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:

Together	<b>Christ has died.</b> <b>Christ is risen.</b> <b>Christ will come again.</b>
	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.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

p. 364 in [The BCP](#)

Celebrant  
**Together**

And now, 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.**

### **Fraction Anthem**

p. 364 in [The BCP](#)

Celebrant  
**People**  
Celebrant

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**  
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*Please be seated*

### **Holy Communion**

*All are welcome to receive communion. St. John's uses gluten-free bread, and wine. You may eat your bread/wafer and return to your seat, or hand it to a chalice-bearer who will intinct (dip) the bread and hand it back to you. Individually sealed cups with gluten-free, allergen-friendly hosts, and grape juice are available by request. Please follow the directions of our ushers.*

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

p. 365 in [The BCP](#)

**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.**

### **Blessing**

*The priest blesses the people*

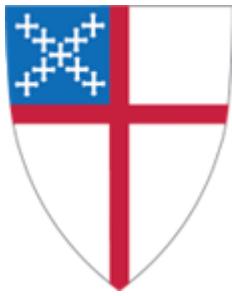
**People**      **Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able*

### **Dismissal**

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

*The flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God and  
in thanksgiving for our St. John's family.*



**HEAD OF THE CHURCH – JESUS CHRIST**  
**MINISTERS – ALL OUR MEMBERS**

**Clergy**

The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson ..... *Rector*

**Staff**

Dr. Amon Eady ..... *Director of Music*  
Travis Fader ..... *Director of Operations & Organist/Pianist*  
Linda Germain ..... *Children & Youth Director*  
Colleen O'Dell ..... *Bookkeeper*  
Ellen Woodard ..... *Administrative Assistant*  
Nick Lowthian ..... *Sexton*  
Vickie Densmore ..... *Janitor*

**SERVING**

Presiding ..... The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson  
Preaching ..... The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson  
Greeter/Usher ..... Jim Bakeman  
Lector ..... Kevin Maksym  
Intercessor ..... Kevin Maksym  
Eucharistic Minister ..... Kevin Maksym  
Altar Guild ..... Judy Ellis, Andrea Burditt  
Coffee Hour Host ..... Scouts  
(signup sheet posted on the bulletin board outside Williams Hall)

**OUR VESTRY – OUR ELECTED LEADERS**

**Class of 2027**

Eric Heglin  
Susan Rye  
Fred Schuster

**Class of 2028**

John Adams  
Doug Germain  
Ann Wright

**Class of 2029**

Nykko Lurie  
Mike Spencer

To get in touch with any Clergy, Staff Member or Member of the Vestry, call  
or email the parish office:  
(989) 631-2260  
[office@sjec-midland.org](mailto:office@sjec-midland.org)

**Contact Us**

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Monday thru Thursday ... 9am-3pm  
Friday ... 9am-noon

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**Instagram:** sjecmidlandmich

**YouTube:** @st.johnsepiscopalchurchmid894