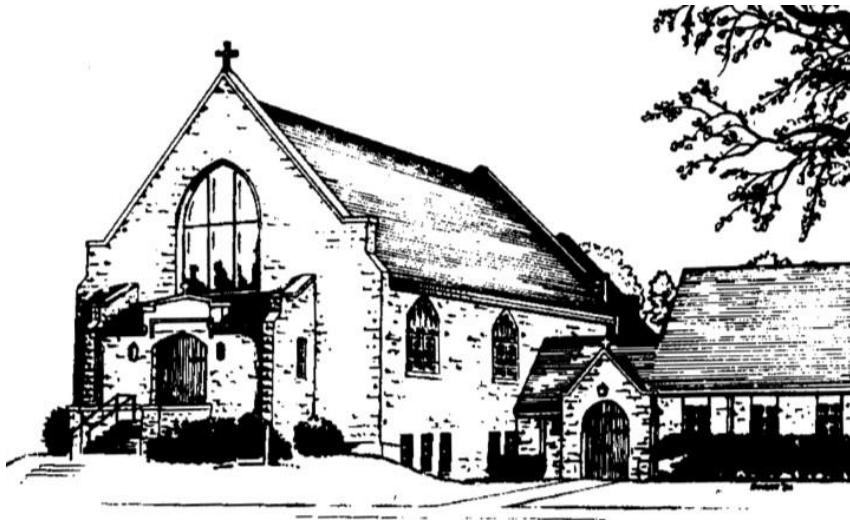


First Sunday after the Epiphany

January 11, 2026



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 2255
Batesville, Arkansas, 72503

870-793-2203

Today's Ministers

<i>Officiant:</i>	Mike Schmidt
<i>Chalice bearer:</i>	Brenda Bittle
<i>Lector:</i>	Ellen Massey
<i>Ushers:</i>	Mike Smith & Fuller Bumpers
<i>Choir Director & Organist:</i>	Kristian Ameigh
<i>Technical Support:</i>	Steve Massey
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Judy Purnell & Jo Cargill-Krug

Community Meal (1/14/2026): Team Bumpers

This Sunday's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Kitty and Nels Barnett, who were married on January 10, 1925 by Sandy and Nelson Barnett.

The Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion: Rite Two

The Word of God

Entrance Hymn 381: *Thy Strong Word Did Cleave the Darkness*

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy speak - ing
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as night and
 3 Thy strong word be - speaks us right - eous; bright with thine own
 4 God the Fa-ther, Light - Cre - a - tor, to thee laud and

it was done; for cre - at - ed light we thank thee,
 deep as death, broke the light of thy sal - va - tion,
 ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward glo - ry,
 hon - or be; to thee, Light of Light be - got - ten,

while thine or - dered sea - sons run: Al-le - lu-ia, al - le -
 breathed thine own life - giv - ing breath: Al-le - lu-ia, al - le -
 and our lives our hopes con - fess: Al-le - lu-ia, al - le -
 praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly; Ho-ly Spi-rit, Light-Re -

lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 veal - er, glo - ry, glo - ry be to thee; mor-tals, an-gels,

al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 now and ev - er praise the Ho - ly Tri - ni - ty.

The Alleluias in stanzas 1-3 may be sung antiphonally.

Today's service begins on Page 355 in the Book of Common Prayer.

The people standing (as able), the Officiant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

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

The Officiant says

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.**

*Gloria - Sung (S278)**(BCP 356)**Officiant and People*

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo- ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
might - y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

First Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

Lector: A reading from Isaiah.

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
 my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
 he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry or lift up his voice,
 or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
 and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
 he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed
 until he has established justice in the earth;
 and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the LORD,
 who created the heavens and stretched them out,
 who spread out the earth and what comes from it,

who gives breath to the people upon it
 and spirit to those who walk in it:

I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
 I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people,
 a light to the nations,
 to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
 from the prison those who sit in darkness.

I am the LORD, that is my name;
 my glory I give to no other,
 nor my praise to idols.

See, the former things have come to pass,
 and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
 I tell you of them.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
 ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; *
 worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
 the God of glory thunders; *
 the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
 the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *
 the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
 and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
 the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; *
 the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
 and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the Lord *
 all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
 the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
 the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Second Reading

Acts 10:34-43

Lector: A reading from Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

There is no procession. The Lector remains at the lectern to read the third reading, using the same form as the first two.

Sequence Hymn 529: *In Christ There Is No East or West*

Unison or harmony

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in
 2 Join hands, dis - ci - ples East or the West, in what
 3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in

 him no South or North, but one great fel - low -
 e'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther
 him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are

 ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 as his child is sure - ly kin to wide me.
 one in him, through - out the whole wide earth. me.

Third Reading

Matthew 3:13-17

There is no procession. The Lector reads the third reading from the lectern, using the same form as the first two.

Lector: A reading from the gospel according to St. Luke.

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Announcement before Sermon: *This morning's sermon is from Sermons that Work, a service of the Office of Communication of The Episcopal Church. It was written by The Rev. Charles Hoffacker.*

Sermon

Mike Schmidt

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

BCP 292

Officiant and People together, all standing

Officiant *As we celebrate the baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Jordan, let us renew the solemn promises and vows that we made at our baptism. Using the form on page 292 in the Book of Common Prayer*

Officiant **Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?**

People I do.

Officiant **Do you believe in God the Father?**

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Officiant **Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?**

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Officiant **Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?**

People I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Officiant **Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?**

People I will, with God's help.

Officiant **Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?**

People I will, with God's help.

Officiant **Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?**

People I will, with God's help.

Officiant **Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?**

People I will, with God's help.

Officiant **Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?**

People I will, with God's help.

The Officiant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayers of the People, Form IV – found on page 388 in the Book of Common Prayer

People kneeling, as able, the Leader and People pray responsively

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

We pray for our wardens, vestry, and those who will choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for God's people and equip us for our ministries.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, **especially** Danell Hetrick (1/11), and Fuller & Elizabeth Bumpers (1/13).

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation **especially:** Jamie Bridgers, Ann Rhodes, Jim & Deb Johnson, Patricia Smith, Joan Davidson, Matt Stephenson, John & Susan Dempsey, Ellen Massey, Bill Olson, Cindy Perkey, Isabelle Tenace, Dana & Bob Teichert, Machelle Christiansen, Ardis Gillespie, Martha Healey, Mike Mundy, and Natalie Molineaux.

We pray also for family and friends for whom our prayers have been requested: Kitten Lawless, DeAnna McCool, Robin Goertz, Gerry Goertz & Jinny Goertz, Tom & Kathy Celestine, David Smith, Lucy Harris, Adam M, Charlotte, Daniel & Steven King, Sherry Snow, Mark Higginbotham, Danny Yeager, Shannon Bohnert, Micah Jordon, Rodney Brady, John V. Miller, Ben Handford, Jim Reynolds, Peggy Comer, Kristin, Georgina Mosser, Kristi Smith, Raymond Staggs, Gary & Phylis Bratton, Connie Barnett, Q, James & Lois Work, Wilma, Edie Knowles, Mitchell Dobson, Sharon Runyan, Eleanor, Ian Young, Shelly & Heath Wooldridge, Walter Hopper, Linda Brewer, Sarah Mosser, Nicole Haskins, Linda Healey Morgan, Ina Bolten, Sandra Coe, the Teague Family, Kera Cook & family, Jacqueline Levy, Gina, Linda, Autumn & Our Father's Table, and Hank Pearce.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Officiant adds the following Collect:

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Confession

BCP 360

The Officiant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant 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 Officiant remains kneeling and says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. ***Amen.***

Peace

All stand. The Officiant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Officiant may begin the Offertory with the following or another Offertory sentence.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Anthem: Brightest & Best of The Stars of The Morning

James Proctor Harding

Doxology: 43 v.4

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.

The people's offerings of money or other gifts are received. The officiant reverently places the offerings on the altar.

The Officiant opens the tabernacle, reverently places the ciborium containing the consecrated bread on the altar, and pours the consecrated wine from the flagon into the chalice.

The Officiant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Officiant

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Officiant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add

**Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts
by faith, with thanksgiving.**

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Communion Hymn: Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized

After Communion, the Officiant says

Let us pray.

Officiant and People

On 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.

Post Communion Hymn 448: *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*
vs 1, 2, 3, & 6

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so

1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom

1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Dismissal

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Postlude