

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

Established 1706



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

The Family Service at 9:00 a.m.

February 7, 2021



OLD ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

The Clergy & Staff

THE REVEREND MARSHALL HUEY, *Rector*
THE REVEREND DR. DONALD MCDANIEL, *Associate Rector*
THE REVEREND JOSEPH VELLA, *Assistant to the Rector*
DAVID ACRES, *Director of Music*
KIRSTEN HOLLEY, *Organ/Piano*
BRAD NETTLES, JR., *Director of Youth Ministry*
AMY AUSTEN, *Parish Administrator*
JEANNE GERHARDT, *Parish Bookkeeper*
JUDITH ACRES, *Administrative Assistant*
WALTER STANLEY, *Sexton*

PAUL PORWOLL *Historian*

THE RT. REV. WILLIAM J. SKILTON
Bishop Suffragan, South Carolina, Ret.
Assistant Bishop, The Dominican Republic, Ret.
Bishop in Residence, Old St. Andrew's Parish Church

The Vestry

Kathy Abraham 2024
William Adams 2024
Gene Arner, 2022
Jim Beall, 2022
Mandy Beckmann, 2023
Rich Carns, 2023, *Junior Warden*
Tommy Compton, 2022
Carrie Davis, 2023
Roxanne Erskine, 2024
Jenny Fogle, 2023
Herb Huser, 2024
Michael Ulmer, 2022, *Senior Warden*
John Steinmeyer, *Treasurer*
Sally Hartnett, *Clerk*
Andy Lacour, *Chancellor*

THE RT. REV. MARK J. LAWRENCE, *Bishop of The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina*



*The flowers on the altar today are given
to the Glory of God
and in celebration of
Father Marshall's and Betsey Shafer's birthdays
and all other February birthdays
by Rubelle Bailey.*

The Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

7 February 2021

The Family Service at 9:00 a.m.

We Gather in the Lord's Name

The Processional Song, *standing*

How Great is Our God

1. The splen - dor of the King, - clothed in maj - es - ty;
2. And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands,

let all the earth re - joice, let all the earth re - joice.
Be - gin - ning and the End, Be - gin - ning and the End;

He wraps Him - self in light, and dark - ness tries to hide,
the God - head, Three in One, - Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

and trem - bles at His voice, and trem - bles at His voice.
the Li - on and the Lamb, the Li - on and the Lamb.

Refrain

How great is our God, sing with me, how great is our God;
and all will see how great, how great is our God! *1st time - to verse 2*
2nd time - going on

Bridge

Name a - bove all names, wor - thy of all praise;
my heart will sing, how great is our God! *1st time - repeat bridge*
2nd time - to refrain

Words and music: Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, and Ed Cash
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Welcome!

to our historic, living church
where the saints have
gathered to worship
since 1706!

If you are visiting with us today,
please take a **welcome brochure**
(located in the envelope rack on
the back of each pew) and fill out
the **visitor card**. Please place it in
the offering plate or leave it with
an usher.

The liturgy begins with the **Accla-
mation**, which is an eager expres-
sion of praise.

The Acclamation, *standing*

(BCP page 123)

Leader: I will make you as a light for the nations.

People: **That my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.**

The Collect for Purity

(BCP page 124)

Leader: 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.

People: **Amen.**

The Summary of the Law

(BCP page 124)

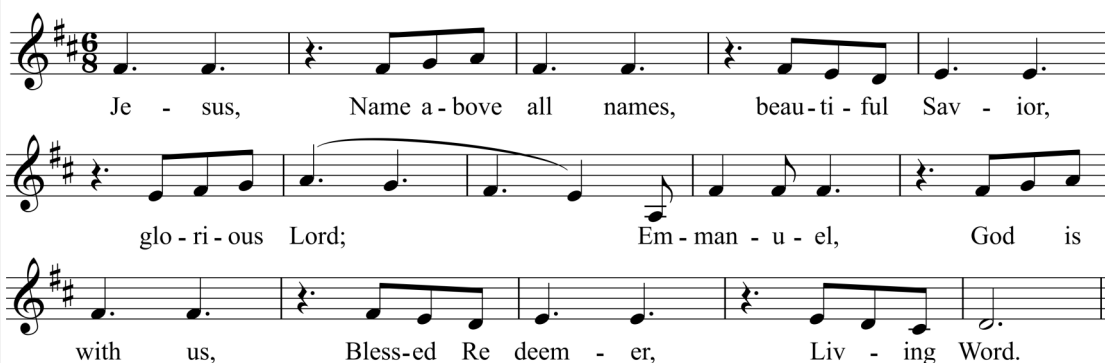
Leader: We remember what our Lord Jesus Christ taught us:

People: **We should love the Lord our God with all our hearts. We should love our neighbors as ourselves.**

Leader: These two commandments explain the way God wants us to live.

The Song of Praise, *standing*

Jesus, Name Above All Names



Words and music: Nadia Hearn
© 1974, 1978 Scripture in Song. Used by permission CCLI #1984772.

The Collect is a prayer that touches on the theme of the Scripture readings and transitions us from speaking and singing God's praise to listening to his Holy Scriptures.

The Collect of the Day, *standing*

(BCP page 125)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Almighty God, through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, you revealed the way of eternal life to every race and nation: Pour out this gift anew, that by the preaching of the Gospel your salvation may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the Lessons

We Hear God's Word

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON, *seated*

II Kings 4: verses 8-21, 32-37

One day Elisha went on to Shunem, where a wealthy woman lived, who urged him to eat some food. So whenever he passed that way, he would turn in there to eat food. And she said to her husband, "Behold now, I know that this is a holy man of God who is continually passing our way. Let us make a small room on the roof with walls and put there for him a bed, a table, a chair, and a lamp, so that whenever he comes to us, he can go in there." One day he came there, and he turned into the chamber and rested there. And he said to Gehazi his servant, "Call this Shunammite." When he had called her, she stood before him. And he said to him, "Say now to her, 'See, you have taken all this trouble for us; what is to be done for you? Would you have a word spoken on your behalf to the king or to the commander of the army?'" She answered, "I dwell among my own people." And he said, "What then is to be done for her?" Gehazi answered, "Well, she has no son, and her husband is old." He said, "Call her." And when he had called her, she stood in the doorway. And he said, "At this season, about this time next year, you shall embrace a son." And she said, "No, my lord, O man of God; do not lie to your servant." But the woman conceived, and she bore a son about that time the following spring, as Elisha had said to her. When the child had grown, he went out one day to his father among the reapers. And he said to his father, "Oh, my head, my head!" The father said to his servant, "Carry him to his mother." And when he had lifted him and brought him to his mother, the child sat on her lap till noon, and then he died. And she went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God and shut the door behind him and went out. When Elisha came into the house, he saw the child lying dead on his bed. So he went in and shut the door behind the two of them and prayed to the LORD. Then he went up and lay on the child, putting his mouth on his mouth, his eyes on his eyes, and his hands on his hands. And as he stretched himself upon him, the flesh of the child became warm. Then he got up again and walked once back and forth in the house, and went up and stretched himself upon him. The child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes. Then he summoned Gehazi and said, "Call this Shunammite." So he called her. And when she came to him, he said, "Pick up your son." She came and fell at his feet, bowing to the ground. Then she picked up her son and went out.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Scriptures teach that much of our spiritual renewal is by the washing of the Word of God, which cleanses our minds and purifies our hearts. This portion of the service is known as the **Liturgy of the Word**, and it consists of the readings, the sermon, the creed, and the prayers of the people.

For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The SPARK Bible Reading, *seated*

Jesus Heals
SPARK Bible, pg. 256

The Gospel Song, *standing*

Make Me a Servant

5 Make me a ser - vant, hum - ble and meek.

9 Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.

13 And may the prayer of my heart al - ways be:

17 Make me a ser - vant, make me a ser - vant,
make me a ser - vant to - day.

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

And immediately Jesus left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. And the whole city was gathered together at the door. And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

The Homily, *seated*

Brad Nettles, Jr.

We Respond to God

The Nicene Creed, *standing*

(BCP page 127)

Celebrant: Let us stand and confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

People: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.**

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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified who 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 **Nicene Creed** is a statement of what the Christian community believes to be true about God. It was born of rigorous intellectual debate in the fourth century, culminating in councils of the whole church at Nicaea in 325 and at Constantinople in 381. The word "creed" comes from the Latin word "credo" which means "I believe."

Reader: Let us offer our prayers to God.

Lord God, we thank you for the leaders of our Church, especially Archbishop Beach, Bishop Lawrence, Bishop Skilton, Father Marshall, Father Donnie, Father Joe, Father David, and our staff, and we ask you to bless them. We also pray for St. Andrew's Mission and their Vicar, Fr. Jimmy Gallant.

Lord God, we pray for all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others, in particular for All Saints' Church in Florence, their Rector, Fr. Jason Hamshaw, Chelsea and their family; for San José Church in the Dominican Republic, their Rector, Fr. Sandino Sanchez and their Bishop, Moises Quezada; and for Fr. Rob Sturdy, Anglican Chaplain at The Citadel.

Lord God, we pray for the leaders of our country, especially President Biden, Governor McMaster, Mayor Tecklenburg, and we ask you to bless them.

Lord God, we thank you for all our blessings, especially for people who love and care for us. (*intercessions may be spoken aloud*)

Lord God, we ask you to take care of everyone who is sick or sad. (*intercessions may be spoken aloud*)

Lord God, we know you hear us when we pray. We ask that you answer our prayers as may be best for us.

We Ask for God's Forgiveness

We are sinful people. "From the beginning, human beings have misused their freedom and made wrong choices" and that "Sin is the seeking of our own will instead of the will of God, thus distorting our relationship with God, with other people, and with all creation." Here, in the Confession, we admit our wrongdoings and lay our sins at the feet of Jesus on the cross.

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." - 1 John 1:8

Celebrant: Let us kneel and confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
(*Silence*)

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 Absolution, *kneeling*

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace, *standing*

(BCP page 131)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

We Give in Thanksgiving for God's Blessings

The Offertory Song, *seated*

He Will Hold Me Fast

Sung by the Family Service Music Team

The Presentation Song, *standing*

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here be -

low; praise Him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken (1637-1711)
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

Celebrant:

(BCP page 131)

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People: **And of your own have we given you.**

We Share God's Holy Communion

Our altar is The Lord's Table and all baptized Christians (baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) are welcome to receive Holy Communion here.

In the Anglican tradition, Communion is received in two kinds: in the Bread and in the Wine.

Individual communion elements are available for you to take to your seats.

The Sursum Corda, *remain standing*

(BCP page 132)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues:

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who took on our mortal flesh to reveal his glory; that he might bring us out of darkness and into his own glorious light.

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:

The **Sanctus** is the song of the seraphim contained in the great vision that the prophet Isaiah experienced while worshipping in the Temple in Jerusalem. This vision is recorded in the 6th chapter of Isaiah. It is inspired by Isaiah's vision of the heavenly court "Holy, holy, holy" acknowledging the transcendence of God.

The Sanctus and Benedictus

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
2. Bless - ed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. Ho

Heav'n and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
san - na in the high - est, Ho san - na in the high - est.

Text: International Consultation on English Texts
Music: LAND OF REST American; arr. Emily R. Brink (b. 1940)

Celebrant:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you have made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant:

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

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.**

When we gather together, we remember the presence of Jesus. By repeating the words and actions of Jesus' last meal with His disciples, we join the story and make it our own. We don't just watch the drama or listen to it unfold, we enter into the story as we, too, take the bread and wine and eat and drink.

This **AMEN** is often called the "Great Amen" because it is the apex of our liturgy, the powerful ending to the Eucharist Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

The **Lord's Prayer**, so called because Jesus gave this prayer to His disciples as an example of how to pray, has been a part of Eucharistic liturgies since the fourth century. The link between "our daily bread" and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is very ancient. In the Lord's Prayer, we ask for daily bread, meaning the things we need to get through each day. But as a part of that, the sacramental bread is Jesus Christ. When we eat of this bread, we most certainly receive our daily bread.



Our Fa-ther who art in heav-en, hall-ow-ed be thy Name, thy king-dom come thy will be done, on earth as it is in heav-en. Give us this day our dai-ly bread and for give us our tres-pass-es as we for-give those who tres-pass a- gainst us. And lead us not in-to temp - ta-tion, but de - liv-er us from e - vil. For thine is the king-dom, and the pow - er, and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men. A - men. A - men.

Text: International Consultation on English Texts
Music: R.D. Duckett (1959-2013) Used by permission. This arr.: M. Wilkinson (b. 1991) & C.L. Walchesky (b. 1989). Used by permission.

The Fraction

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Prayer of Humble Access

(BCP page 135)

Celebrant and People;

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen

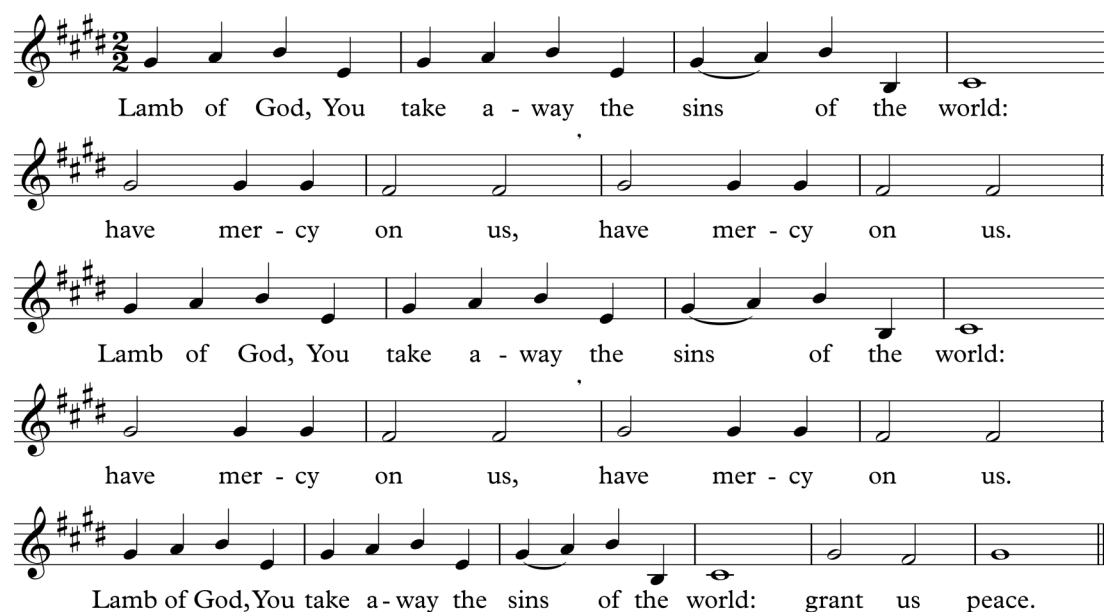
The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

(BCP page 677)

Celebrant: Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people [gathered around every altar of your Church], and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul, never permit me to be separated from you. **Amen.**

The Christian life is deeply personal yet is essentially corporate by nature, not private. Every act of worship is intended not only to glorify God for His own sake, but to lift up and build up one another in Christ for His sake as well. The word "liturgy" literally means "the work of the people." A central function of liturgy is to send the message that in a worship community there are no bystanders. It is corporate through and through and from one end to the other. Singing is also a form of prayer that can help carry the heart to God not only in the words being sung but beyond the reach of words. At Old St. Andrew's, we encourage you to continue to pray by singing both before and after Communion. In this way all of us are helping each other to lift our hearts continuously in the midst of receiving the greatest gift ever given: the life of Jesus Christ.

The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)



Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Setting: Eric Wyse (b. 1959).
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The Invitation to Communion

(BCP page 136)

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.

The Communion Song, *seated*

Revelation Song

Wor-thy is the Lamb who was slain, ho-ly, ho-ly, is He;
sing a new song to Him who sits on hea-ven's mer-cy seat.
Refrain
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord God Al - migh - ty,
Who was, and is, and is to come. With all cre-a - tion, I sing
praise to the King of Kings; You are my ev-ery thing and I will a-dore You.

Words and music: Jennie Lee Riddle
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The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

Heavenly Father,

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.

We have been blessed by being here. Now, at the end of the service, we are reminded that God takes loving delight in blessing us abundantly. We leave in peace, forgiven, fed, and sent out with a purpose in the name of Jesus Christ.

The Blessing

The Recessional Song, *standing*

Go My Children With My Blessing



1. "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2. Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3. Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.
4. I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
I the Lord will smile up - on you, and give you peace.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Bro - ther.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
Glo, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free.
Go, my chil - dren, I will keep you, and give your peace."

Text: Jaroslav Vajda (1919-2008)

Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh Traditional. Used by permission. OneLicense.net A-716890.

We Go Out to Serve God

The Dismissal

(BCP page 138)

Priest or Deacon:

Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia.

After hearing his holy Word and eating and drinking of his precious Body & Blood, we are sent out into the world to proclaim the great things Jesus has done for us.

A Brief History of Saint Andrew's Parish Church

Built in 1706, this simple, elegant church is the oldest surviving structure used for worship south of Virginia. It is South Carolina's only remaining colonial cruciform church.

St. Andrew's Parish Church (commonly known as Old St. Andrew's) was one of ten Anglican churches in South Carolina established in 1706 by the Church Act. It was built to serve the Anglican planters along the Ashley River, a thriving tidal waterway that connected them to the city of Charles Town and to each other.

The ancient building holds a full schedule of worship services every Sunday. Some of its earliest counterparts are still used, but less often. (None is older.) Others have been replaced or augmented by newer buildings, some centuries old themselves, some modern. Still others have vanished, or their ruins stand in eerie silence to ages past. Visitors to this national treasure see a beautifully restored building, but the church hides a past that left it for dead many times.

Rice, indigo, and slaves brought prosperity to the lands along the Ashley, where some of the wealthiest plantations in British North America were located. The church was expanded to the shape of a cross in 1723 to accommodate a growing population. It survived a major fire in the 1760s but was quickly rebuilt inside its existing walls. But the parish declined before the Revolution and into the antebellum era. Ministering to the slaves, at the church and three plantation chapels, became the focus of the clergy. From 1851 to 1891, the Rev. John Grimké Drayton, the renowned horticulturalist at Magnolia-on-the-Ashley just north of St. Andrew's, was rector.

The church was one of the few buildings along the Ashley that Union troops did not burn to the ground during the Civil War. It became a polling place and did not reopen until 1876, eleven years after the war ended. The parish found itself at the epicenter of two of the most important events of late nineteenth century Charleston: the phosphate mining boom along the Ashley and the Great Earthquake of 1886, which caused significant damage to the church. After Rev. Drayton died in 1891, St. Andrew's lay dormant for the next fifty-seven years.

In 1948 Episcopalians moving to the West Ashley suburbs reopened the dilapidated church, even though it was far away from new residential developments. Dogged perseverance brought slow but continual improvements. A parish house was built, and then expanded twice in quick succession. Hurricane Hugo (1989) caused major damage to the graveyard. Into the twenty-first century, the church undertook the most extensive restoration in its history and celebrated its tercentennial. In 2013, the Parish left The Episcopal Church and aligned with the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina and later with the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA).

For more than 300 years, St. Andrew's has survived, indeed has thrived, against all odds.