

Christ Episcopal Church

Roxbury, Connecticut

The Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

February 1 , 2026 9:30 AM

At ten minutes before the hour, the altar candles are lit, inviting all into a time of preparation for our worship. Please silence electronic devices.

Prelude The 2nd Movement, Larghetto, or the *Divertimento No. 4 in C Major* [K 439b or KV 229] of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Ada Lu, Flute, Karen Xu, Flute, and Janis Leung, Clarinet
The Taft Chamber Orchestra, T.J. Thompson, Conductor

Welcome

The Rev. Jack Gilpin

Processional Hymn *'Tis the Gift to Be Simple*

Hymn 554

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Blessed be God, Father and Holy Spirit.

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

The Celebrant 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.**

The Gloria

GLORIA

FROM MASS FOR CHRIST CHURCH ROXBURY IN F MAJOR

GREGORY J. CAVA

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Glo-ry to God in the hi-gh-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God. Hea-ven-ly King. Al - mi - gh-ty God and

Fa-ther. We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we pra - ise you for your glo-ry! Lord Je - s - us Christ; On-ly s-on of the

Fa-ther. Lord God. Lamb of God. You take a - way the sins of the world have mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the

right hand of God: Fa-ther re-ceive our prayer. For you - a - lone are the Ho-ly One. You a - lone are he Lord.

You a - lo-ne are the Most High Je - sus Christ with the Ho-ly Spir-it in the glo-ry o-f God the Fa - ther. A - men.

A - men. A - men. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

A Reading from Micah (6:1-8)

Read by Deb Howes

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;

for the LORD has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!
For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?
The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15 *In Unison*

Led by Deb Howes

- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
who speaks the truth from his heart.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue;
he does no evil to his friend; *
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
but he honors those who fear the LORD.
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong *
and does not take back his word.

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
7 Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (1:18-31)

Read by Deb Howes

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn *Blessed Are the Pure in Heart*

Hymn 656

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew (5:1-12)

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of the Lord

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

The Sermon

The Rev. Jack Gilpin

The Nicene Creed *In Unison, please stand if able*

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 (*based on Form VI*)

Led by Steve Morris

Please stand or kneel as able.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our presiding bishop, Jeffrey and Laura our bishops, the ministers of Christ Church Roxbury,
and all who proclaim the Gospel in word and deed.

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. *Silence*

We remember especially those for whom prayers have been requested: Annie, Bobby, Charlie, Chris,
David, Deb, Deke, Denise, Diane, Drew, Ed, Freddy, Genesis, James and Robert, Jamie, Jane, Jean,
Jeanne, Jeffrey, Jerry, Joan, John, John and Pam, Judy and Mike, Judith, Kathy, Lance, Lily, Linda,
Lisbet, Margo, Meg, Mia, Mike, Peter, Ryan, Sheila, Steve, Sydney, Timothy and those we name
before you aloud and in our hearts

Silence

Hear us Lord;
For we put our trust in you.

We pray for an end to war and all acts of violence of one group of people against another.
We pray for peace in the Holy Land.

We pray for an end to the violence and polarization that plague our communities. *Silence*

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Please add your own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Please add your own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon your saints;

Who put their trust in you.

A Prayer While Awaiting a New Shepherd *In Unison*

Loving and Faithful God, You have guided our parish through seasons of joy and challenge. As we wait for the shepherd You have chosen for us, fill our hearts with patience, unity, and hope.

Bless those entrusted with the call to discern and decide. Prepare the heart of our future priest with wisdom, compassion, and courage, that they may lead us closer to You and serve with humility and love.

Keep us steadfast in prayer, generous in service, and open to the new chapter You are writing for our community. May Your Spirit be our guide until we welcome our new pastor with joy.

In Jesus' name we pray, *Amen*.

The Celebrant concludes

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.**

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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

Please stand as able. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please greet each other in whatever way you are comfortable.

Announcements *(Also see page of the service leaflet.)*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

Hymn: 616 vv. as necessary

*During the offertory anthem, the ushers will collect your gifts and bring them before God's Holy Table
The Celebrant receives the gifts and all sing.*

The Doxology

DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

ARRANGED & VOICED BY
GREGORY J. CAVA

INTRODUCTION

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

7 Praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host: Praise Father,

14 Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A.

The people stand. The Celebrant faces them and says

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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 art 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:

Celebrant and people sing together

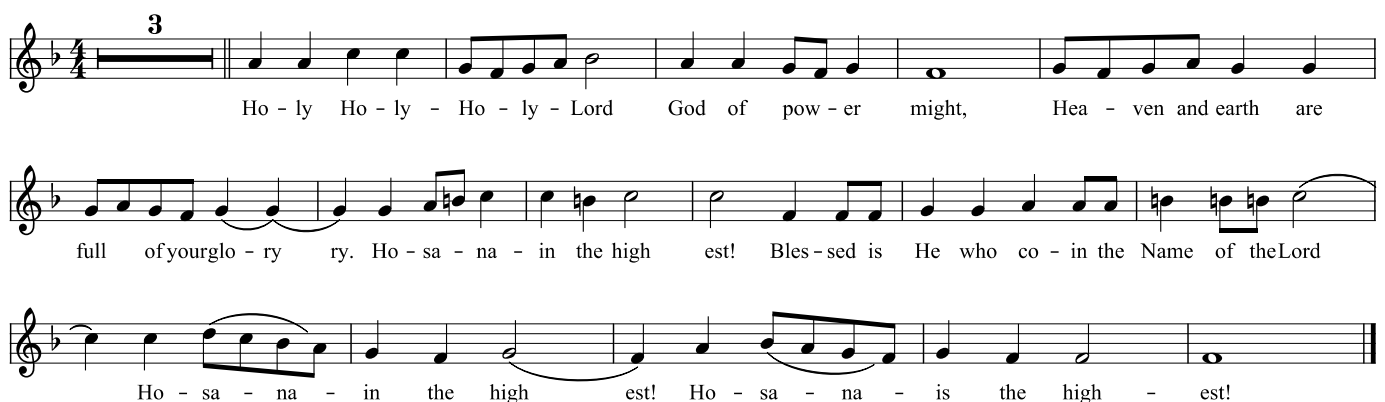
The Sanctus

SANCTUS

FROM MASS FOR CHRIST CHURCH ROXBURY IN F MAJOR
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COMPOSED BY
GREGORY J. CAVA

INTRODUCTION



Ho - ly Ho - ly - Ho - ly - Lord God of pow - er might, Hea - ven and earth are
full of your glo - ry ry. Ho - sa - na - in the high est! Bles - sed is He who co - in the Name of the Lord
Ho - sa - na - in the high est! Ho - sa - na - is the high - est!

The people stand or kneel as able.

Then the Celebrant continues

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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.*

us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**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. A period of silence is kept.
 Then may be sung*

The Fraction Anthem

FRACTION ANTHEM

GREGORY J. CAVA

FROM MASS FOR CHRIST CHURCH ROXBURY IN F MAJOR

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A - le-lu - ia! A - le-lu - ia! A - le-lu - ia! A - le-lu - ia! Christ, our pas-sov-er is

6
 saf-ri-fi-ced for us; there-for le-t us keep the feast. A - le-lu - ia! A - le-lu - ia!

11
 A - le - lu - ia! A - le - lu - ia!

Please come forward to receive communion either standing or kneeling along the altar rail.

Gluten free wafers are also available.

If you do not wish to receive, you are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Communion Meditation *The Two Duets for Violin [KV 487] of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*
 Eden Thompson, Isabel Hsu, and Naomi Thompson, Violin
The Taft Chamber Orchestra, T.J. Thompson, Conductor

The Celebrant says
 Let us pray together.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, 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

The Blessing *The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.*

Recessional Hymn *All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine*

Hymn: 477 vv. 1, 2 and 5

Postlude *Blackbird* words & music by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, Arr. by John Reed

Ada Lu and Karen Xu, Flute, Eden Thompson, Isabelle Thompson and Naomi Thompson, violin, Madison Kirkland, cello and Juda Kissi, double bass violin
The Taft Chamber Orchestra, T.J. Thompson, Conductor

Thank you to our ministers today.

The Rev. Jack Gilpin

Music Minister: Mr. Gregory J. Cava

Eucharistic Minister: Steve Morris

Lector: Deb Howes

Welcoming: Linda West

Sonneur: Larry Apolzon Allumeur: Mike Snowden

Special Thanks to the Talented Musicians of the Taft School Chamber Orchestra

T.J. Thompson, Conductor

Ada Lu and Karen Xu, Flute

Eden Thompson, Isabelle Thompson and Naomi Thompson, violin

Madison Kirkland, cello

Juda Kissi, double bass violin

Cover Art: The Sermon of the Beatitudes, James Tissot, 1836-1902

Permission to podcast the music in this service obtained from One License, License #A-733800, and Gregory J. Cava

Announcements

All are welcome to enjoy brunch today in the parish hall followed by the

Annual Meeting of Christ Church

Please come and take part in this important event in our church life.

Healing prayer is offered today in the back of the church during the Communion or speak with Judy Martinez.

Next Sunday, February 8th, we will celebrate the Holy Eucharist with the Reverend Jill Morrison, Director for Congregational Development & Networking. Rev. Morrison serves with the Rev. Kevin Olds, Canon for Congregations & Transitions to support the work of ECCT's regions and ministry networks.

Mark Your Calendar!

The **Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** will be February 17th at 5:30 – 7:00 PM

The Rev. Jack Gilpin will celebrate a Service of Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes on Wednesday, February 18, at 7:00 PM

If you've not yet returned your **pledge card**, please do so at your earliest convenience.



Christ Episcopal Church

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Website: <https://christchurchroxbury.net>

Warden: Dona Murphy, 860-354-6760

Warden: Steve Morris, 203-910-3138



EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT
PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut

The Right Reverend, Jeffrey Mello, Bishop Diocesan

The Right Reverend Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan