



Holy Cross EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Second Sunday after Christmas
Epiphany Observed
January 4, 2026

The Service of the Word

Opening Voluntary: “Jesus, What a Wonderful Child”

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Opening Hymn 128: “We Three Kings”

Celebrant Alleluia! To us a child is born.
People **Come let us adore him. Alleluia!**

The Collect for Purity

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

CHILDREN’S CHAPEL *** (Ages 4 – 10 years)

During the following hymn, children process with the leader to the Chapel for a lesson and singing; they return at The Peace.

Song of Praise 99: “Go Tell it on the Mountain”

*(Refrain) Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

*While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light (Refrain)*

The Collect of the Day - prayed by the Celebrant

The First Reading: *Isaiah 60: 1-6*

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Psalm 72 1-7 (read responsively by whole verse)

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 **That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 **He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.
- 6 **He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

Sequence Hymn: “Noel”

No - el, No - el! Come and see what God has done!
No - el, No - el! The Sto-ry of a-maz-ing love.
The light of the world, giv-en for us, No - el.

The Gospel Reading: *Matthew 2:1-12*

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the

people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage. When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

Message: *Festival of Lights*

The Apostles' Creed *(in unison)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
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.
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. *Amen*
*(*catholic means universal)*

Prayers of the People

Heavenly Father, as we begin a new year, help us to keep your Son as the guiding light for all we do;
May he dwell in us and us in him.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Grant that every member of your Church may truly and humbly serve you; *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That the world may see our loving works and give you the glory and praise of their hearts.

Have compassion on all who suffer from any grief or trouble; *That they may experience your steadfast love and be filled with peace and joy.*

We pray for all who have died; *Silence* - lovingly receive them into your eternal kingdom. *That we may one day be reunited with them, in you.*

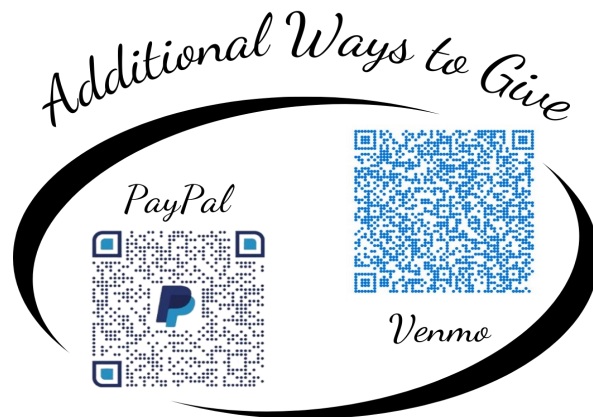
We pray for those on our church's prayer list, for all who are sick or lonely, for prisoners, and for the victims of crime everywhere. *That your healing presence may embrace them all.*

Let us now pray for our additional needs and those of others.

The Confession (p. 360 BCP)

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 Peace: Welcome & Announcements



**NO ONE LEAVES HUNGRY
FROM JESUS' TABLE**

As an important extension of our worship, the Food Pantry is made available and we have a Community Hour following our 10:30 worship. Ask an usher or priest for more information.



The Holy Communion

This portion of the service begins on p. 361 in the BCP however, you are encouraged to give your attention to the altar.

The Communion. *All seeking God through Jesus are invited and welcome to receive Communion. Anyone who does not wish to receive communion is invited come forward, cross their arms over their chest, and receive a blessing. If you would like the clergy to bring communion to someone in the pews, please notify the ushers at the door of the church. For bread only, no wine, put one arm across your chest. Gluten Free available.*

Offertory 112: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

The Doxology 380: (v. 3)

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 Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant 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.

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

Sanctus S-129

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

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People *Christ has died.*

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Lord’s Prayer (p. 336 BCP)

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.

Communion Hymn 109: ”The First Noel”

Communion Hymn: “Noel”

*Love incarnate love divine, star and angels gave the sign.
Bow to babe on bended knee the Savior of humanity.
Unto us a Child is born, He shall reign forevermore.*

*(Chorus) Noel. Noel! Come and see what God has done.
Noel, Noel! The story of amazing love!
The light of the world given for us, Noel.*

*Son of God and Son of man there before the world began
Born to suffer born to save, born to raise us from the grave
Christ the everlasting Lord, He shall reign forevermore
(Chorus)*

Post Communion Prayer (p. 365 BCP)

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.*

Closing Hymn: “We are the Light of the World”

*Blessed are they who are poor in spirit,
Theirs is the kingdom of God.
Bless us, O Lord, make us poor in spirit;
Bless us, O Lord, our God
(Refrain) We are the light of the world;*

*May our light shine before all,
that they may see the good that we do,
and give glory to God.*

*Blessed are they who are meek and humble,
They will inherit the earth
Bless us, O Lord, make us meek and humble;
Bless us, O Lord, our God (Refrain).*

The Dismissal

Serving Today

8:00am: DOD: Kathy Bleeker. Chalice Bearer: Ed Austin. Readers: Chip Lands & Isabelle Peterson

10:30am: DOD: Susan Bell. Acolytes: Lamar Parsley, Gregory Rider, & Andrew Momany. Chalice Bearers: Eden Ridgeway & Sabrina Merritt. Readers: Marline Austin & Landree Williams

Home Communion Volunteers:
Jacemine Ray & Hunter Walker

Your Sermon Notes:

Prayer List

Requested Prayers will remain on the list for 4 weeks. Please let us know if you need to be on longer.

Requested Prayer

Barbara Coats, Marquerite Byrd, Robbie Bay, Susan Bell, Becky Johnson, Todd Ackerman, Jack Silverwood, Nancy Silverwood

Military

Adam Thomas, Adam Zigler, Alexander Logan, Anthony Robbins, Asa Ramsey, Ben Boyer, Bruce Gough, Cale Eggart, Chase Coleman, Christian Clark, Corbin Czeck, Daniel Payden, Donovan Chau, Doug Wiessman, Dylan

Hoewt, Grant Hungerford, Hunter Bailey, Jackie Neville, James Madden, Jessica Parker, Jose Hernandez, Kevin Kahl, Kyle McChesney, Landen Haskins, Laz Bailiff, Marc Ruiz, Mike Darrah, Nicholas Pinkston, Shaun Southall, Stephen del Risco, Taylor Knueven, Steven Bonello, David Boyer, Nicholas Crimaudo, Donald Gibbons

Repose of the Soul

Marilyn Pruitt

We would love to honor your marriage and ever lasting love with your late spouse on your anniversary. Please contact the church office if you would like to participate.

Clergy

The Rev. Rob Dixon, Pastor/Rector
rdixon@holycrosspensacola.org - 850-477-8596

The Rev. Matt Dollhausen, Assistant Rector - 850-477-8596

The Rev. Roger Hungerford, Associate Rector, Emeritus
rog.hungerford@gmail.com - 757-639-5610

Vestry

Ron Burk, (Sr. Warden), Warren Jerrems (Jr. Warden), Tam Lee (Jr. Warden), Britt Landrum, Steven Bell, Hunter Walker, Donovan Chau, Sarah Tarkus, Leslie Parsley, Kaki Chambers, Jean Gibson, Carla Hardin, Chip Lands

Ed Austin - Verger

Parish Staff

Janelle Berger - Church and Ministry Director- director@holycrosspensacola.org- 850-530-3959

Isabelle Peterson - Minister of Music and Liturgy - musicministry@holycrosspensacola.org- 850-477-8596.

Monika Durbin - Parish Accompanist - musicministry@holycrosspensacola.org

D'Anna Entrekin - Family Life Minister and Newcomers Coordinator - familylife@holycrosspensacola.org -850-477-8596.

Julie Pearson - Bookkeeper - bookkeeper@holycrosspensacola.org-850-477-8596

Evan Stoker - Sexton - Custodian

Holy Cross Episcopal Church

7979 N. 9th Ave, Pensacola, FL 32514 Phone: 850-477-8596 Email: office@holycrosspensacola.org Web: holycrosspensacola.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/HolyCrossEpiscopalPensacola