

# Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 1, 2026 • 10 am • Holy Eucharist, Rite II



*The Feast of St. Brigid of Kildare*



**St. Michael's**

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

[www.stmichaelschurch.org](http://www.stmichaelschurch.org)



## Welcome to St. Michael's Episcopal Church!

We are an open, affirming and inclusive parish, worshipping in the Episcopal tradition. No matter where you're from, or what you believe, you are welcome to gather with us, sing with us, pray with us, learn with us, and receive communion with us. We do our best to make our customs accessible to all people, but if anything seems confusing, feel free ask someone for help, or simply sit and observe.

### Welcome, Visitors! Tell us about yourself.

If you are visiting today, we invite you to sign the Guest Book. We would love to get to know each other! And if you're seeking baptism, confirmation, or simply a community of healing and hope to belong to, we would be delighted to join you on your journey.



### Online Giving

If you wish to make a one-time or recurring donation to St. Michael's, scan the QR code, or visit [stmichaelschurch.org/give](https://stmichaelschurch.org/give). Thank you for your generosity!

### Service Notes

An asterisk (\*) denotes moments when the congregation is invited to stand (as able)  
"Hymnal" refers to the Hymnal 1982 located throughout the Nave.

#### Music Copyrights

CCLI License 478600, OneLicense.net 603831

"Glory to God" Setting: Robert Powell

"Be Not Afraid" Words & Music: M Bob Dufford, SJ, © 1975, 1978, Robert J. Dufford, SJ, and OCP Publications

"Sanctus" Setting: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828)

"Eat This Bread". Words & Music: Jacques Berthier; © 1984 Les Presses de Taize, admin GIA Publications

# The Word of God

## Prelude

### \* Processional Song

*"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"*

Hymnal # 441

### \* Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

### \* Gloria

*"Glory to God"*

Hymnal #S-280



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



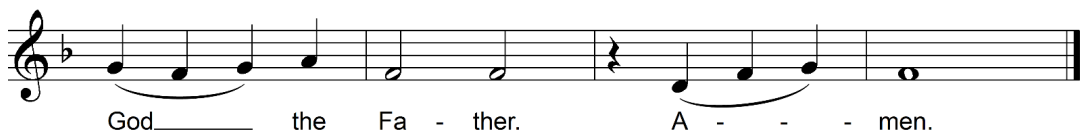
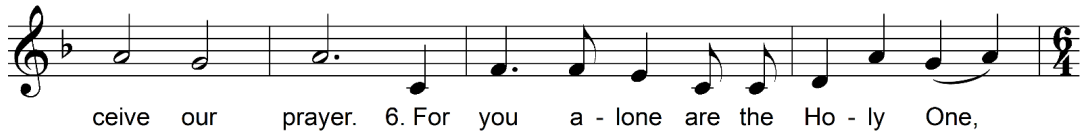
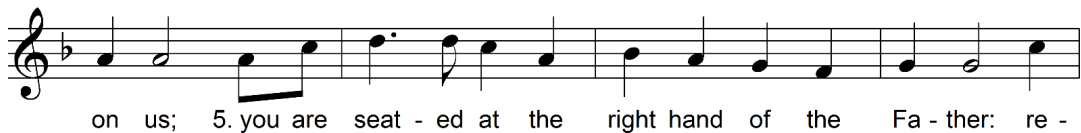
peace\_\_\_\_\_ to his people on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly



King, al - mighty - y\_\_\_\_\_ God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we



give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus



## \* Collect of the Day

Epiphany 4a

Celebrant      The Lord be with you.

**People      And also with you.**

Celebrant      Let us pray. O God, whose servant Brigid, kindled with the flame of your love, became a shining light in your church: Grant that we also may be aflame with the spirit of love and discipline, and walk before you as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*Amen*

## \* Special Collect

The Feast of St. Brigid of Kildare

Celebrant      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.***

## First Lesson

Micah 6:1-8

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. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 15**

LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*

who may abide upon your holy hill?

Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*

who speaks the truth from his heart.

There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; \*

he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*

but he honors those who fear the LORD.

He has sworn to do no wrong \*

and does not take back his word.

He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*

nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things \*

shall never be overthrown.

## Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

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. **Thanks be to God.**

\* **Sequence Song**

*“Blest Are the Pure in Heart”*

Hymnal # 656

## \* Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

Celebrant      The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**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.”

Celebrant      The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon

The Rev. Ryan Wiksell

## \* Nicene Creed

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.

### \* **Prayers of the People**

Form VI

Intercessor: God of love, we pray for your holy universal Church;

**People: That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

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.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*[Silence – The people may add their own petitions]*

Intercessor: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**All: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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.

## **Welcome & Announcements**

- Annual Meeting & Potluck—Following this morning's service
- St. Mike's Hard Questions—Wednesday, January 28, 5 pm
- DOK Service of Admission—Sunday, February 8, 10 am

# The Holy Communion

## Offertory

*“God the Omnipotent!”*

Hymnal # 569

## \* The Presentation

*“Doxology”*

Hymnal # 380 v3



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures  
here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; praise  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

## \* The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

Hymnal #S-120

**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 our thanks and praise.**

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.

Because of the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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:

# **Sanctus**

*“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord”*

Hymnal #S-130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might.

— Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. God of power and

might, — hea - ven and earth are full, — full —

of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

— in the name of the Lord. — Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father.

**All: We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.**

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Michael, the Archangel, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus

Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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**

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

**All** 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 Breaking of the Bread**



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.



**Communion Notes:** Communion is offered in two kinds: bread and wine. One may receive the bread alone, dip it into the wine, or drink from the chalice after consuming the bread. Sealed, pre-packaged containers of bread and wine are available. Gluten-free bread may be requested by crossing one's hands palms-down. All manners of reception are valid, and all are welcome to come forward to receive Communion or a blessing.

## Communion Music

*"Be Not Afraid"*

Dufford

## \* Postcommunion Prayer & Blessing

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**All:** 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

*"God of Grace and God of Glory"*

Hymnal # 594

## \* Dismissal

Celebrant      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

People          Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!



## *The Feast of St. Brigid of Kildare*

Monastic, c.523.

February 1

Brigid of Kildare was born around 450 into a Druid family, being the daughter of Dubhthach, court poet to King Loeghaire. At an early age, she decided to become a Christian, and she eventually took vows as a nun. Together with a group of other women, she established a nunnery at Kildare (meaning, Church of the Oak). She was later joined by a community of monks led by Conlaed.

Kildare had formerly been a pagan shrine where a sacred fire was kept perpetually burning, and Brigid and her nuns, instead of stamping out the fire, kept it going but gave it a Christian interpretation. This was in keeping with the general process whereby Druidism in Ireland gave way to Christianity with very little opposition, the Druids for the most part saying that their own beliefs were a partial and tentative insight into the nature of God, and that they recognized in Christianity what they had been looking for.

Brigid as an abbess participated in several Irish councils, and her influence on the policies of the Church in Ireland was considerable. In addition to her veneration as one of the three patron saints of Ireland, Brigid is considered by many to be the patron saint of midwives, newborns, Irish nuns, fugitives, blacksmiths, dairymaids, boatmen, chicken farmers, cattle, scholars, sailors, and much more.

**Brigid is also known for the unique  
“St. Brigid’s Cross” depicted here:**

