

THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST: CHRIST THE KING

NOVEMBER 26 | 8 AM



"Receive the Holy Spirit."

John 20:22

HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Holy Eucharist: Rite II, Eucharistic Prayer C

The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

November 26, 2023 • 8 a.m.

HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

In today's **Guided Service** we consider the components and intentions of our Eucharistic service, exploring how the internal logic of the liturgy directs our hearts and minds. The colors, adopted from the church seasons, cue the content and mood of each section.

The people's responses are in bold.

This type of note, offering directions about the service, is called a "rubric," which comes from the Latin word rubrica (red)—referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.

The Word of God

We Prepare to Enter In

Liturgical color: Purple (Advent, Twilight, Dawn, Waiting, Expectation, Preparation, Hope)

Core Attitude of the Heart: *Be still and know that I am God. (Psalm 46:10)*

Examine: As I enter into today's practice of the liturgy, where are my heart and mind?
Is anything keeping me from being truly present?

THE ENTRANCE RITE

We acknowledge that our worship is taking place in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people.

We stand as we're called to worship. [Why stand? Standing is a time-honored sign of respect and readiness. We embody these values as we present ourselves before God.]

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

This prayer was an English rendering of a Latin prayer that began the liturgy in the medieval church before the Reformation. It remains a distinctive part of Episcopal worship to this day.

The Celebrant may say

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.**

OPENING ANTHEM

The Gloria, or some other song of praise, centers the service on the God we gather to praise in our worship.

The following is said, all standing

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and

brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

We Tell the Story

Liturgical color: Green (Ordinary Time, Life, Growth, Nourishment, Germination)

Core Attitude of the Heart: One generation commends your works to another, they tell of your mighty acts. (Psalm 145:4) We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from God. (Matthew 4:4)

THE LESSONS

The People are seated for the lessons.

THE FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.

A Reading from the book of Ezekiel.

¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another.

Remain seated.

Reader Our response to the first reading is Psalm 100, found in the service leaflet. Please pray it with me.

PSALM: Psalm 100

¹**Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; *
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.**
²**Know this: The LORD himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**
³**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**
⁴**For the LORD is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

THE SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Church in Ephesus.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

We stand to receive the Gospel.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus said,] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

We sit for the sermon. The People are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

We stand for the Creed. Our creed is an ancient encapsulation of the Christian faith story.

THE NICENE CREED

The word “creed” comes from the Latin “credo” for “I believe.” First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD and confirmed in 381 AD, the Nicene Creed is said at the Holy Eucharist and reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: the Holy Trinity.

**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.

Examine: The heart needs nourishment, just as the body. What words, phrases, or ideas fed you today?

We Share our Hurts, Hopes, and Gratitude

Liturgical colors: Oxblood (Lent, Humanness, Embodiment, Penitence, Forgiveness, Change) & Pink (Advent [secondary color], Joy, Gratitude, Promise, Incarnation)

Core Attitude of the Heart: God with us. God with us. (Matthew 1: 23)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the Universal Church, the nation and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church—the Body of Christ.

The People stand, sit, or kneel as they are able.

Intercessor The Prayers of the People are guided by Form 4 found on page 388 of the Book of Common Prayer and in the service leaflet. Please pray them with me.

Almighty and everlasting God, your will is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son.

In the name of Christ, let us pray for the Church and for the world.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Church of Nigeria.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the parish leaders of St. John's and the community of Butte.

We also pray for Michael Curry, our Presiding Bishop; for Marty Stebbins, our Bishop; and for our priests, deacons, and lay leaders at Holy Spirit and across the Diocese.

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.

Restore vision, and 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.

Restore hope, and 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.

Restore compassion, and 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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Restore, 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. Today we pray especially for:

Olivia Chamberlain and family

Frank, Anthony, and Benjamin Horton

Bert and Nora Horton

Howard and Marcia Ulrigg

Steve Martin

Laura Barthrop

Joel

Peg

Jodie Ulrigg
Karina Walters
Joan Chaussee
Scott Turner
Baby Brandon
Laura Lambert and her family
The family of Shay Downey
Norrie Dusty Bull and family
Candice Briere
Connie Campbell-Pearson
Tom Lee

Cannon Clark
Claudine Cellier
Tennison Mathews
James Frank McDonough
Angela Ruhnke
Glenn Hladek
Melissa Smid
Jeff McElwain
Betty Rice
Keegan Yates

Beverly
Graham
Cheyenne
Moe
Jeanne
Shannon
Jan
Jerry
Sam
Ray

We pray for the people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia, and other places of devastation, violence, and division, and for our neighbors alongside us who are sick, in any kind of prison, oppressed, addicted, suicidal, fearful, or without enough food, shelter, or sense of community.

And in silence or aloud, we pray for the other people or oppressions we lift to you now.

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. This morning we pray especially for Eric Gerke and Travis Tikka and for those we lift to you now.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Silence

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ. ***Amen.***

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

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

Silence may be kept.

Examine: What is on your heart today? How has God provisioned you and met you recently?

Minister and People

**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,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

The People stand.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

We Participate in the Story

Liturgical colors: White (High Holy Feast Days e.g., Easter, Christmas, Holy, Divine, Welcome, Uplifted, Washed, A New Creation)

Core Attitude of the Heart: Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find. (Matthew 22:9)

Examine: You are invited to the great feast at God's table, what does that mean for you today and in your life more generally?

THE OFFERTORY

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give.

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.

All are invited to make a gift to support Holy Spirit's ministry of sharing God's love with our community and the world by texting HOLYSPIRITGIVE to (833) 714-3270 or by visiting <http://holyspiritmissoula.org/give/>. You may also put your gift in the offering plate or by scanning the QR code below to give to the General Fund:



The altar is prepared for Holy Communion

DOXOLOGY

The People stand. All say in unison as the Offering is received and blessed

All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning "Lift up your hearts."

SURSUM CORDA

The People stand.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

The Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.

Celebrant and People

**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.

The people kneel or stand.

We recall God's acts of salvation history. The presider says the "Words of Institution" that Jesus said at the Last Supper. At the Memorial Acclamation we remember Christ's death, resurrection, and promise to return at the end of the age. During the prayer, the Holy Spirit is invoked to bless and sanctify the gifts of bread and wine.

Then the Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

***We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.***

Lord God of our Forebearers; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, and Jacob and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

The Great Amen is when the congregation with a unified great voice concurs with all that the presider has prayed. It is the only "Amen" in all capitals found in the Book of Common Prayer, signifying the greatness of the congregation's response.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.

The Presider then continues

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

People and Presider

**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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said

FRACTION ANTHEM

<i>Celebrant</i>	Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
<i>People</i>	<i>Therefore let us keep the feast.</i>

INVITATION

The Celebrant says

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.

DISTRIBUTION

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

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and respond to receiving Communion by saying "Amen." Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister. Receiving the bread only is full participation in the Eucharist. Wine is also available, and you may drink from the common cup or dip your wafer in the intinction cup. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please indicate your choice by crossing your hands across your chest. Those who wish to have Holy Communion brought to them at their seat should notify an usher.

We Prepare to Enter Out

Liturgical colors: Red (Pentecost, Spirit, Energy, Flame, Invigorated, Anointed)

Core Attitude of the Heart: I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10)

Examine: Have you heard the Good News? God's Spirit abides in you! How will you fan the flame of the Spirit in your life?

PRAYER FOR SENDING FORTH EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

When this prayer is needed, the Celebrant and People say

In the name of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood. We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

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.

BLESSING

The priest blesses the people, saying

May you know the blessing of contemplation and preparation. May you continue to hear the story and tell the story, ever new. May you be blessed with the courage to share your hurts and your hopes. May you know the wonder of God's ongoing invitation to participate in this Holy story, right here and right now. May you enter out, knowing you are blessed and fanning the flames of God's Holy Spirit in this world. **Amen.**

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, may dismiss the people with these words

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God and in love and gratitude for her three sons, by Connie Gerke.



Participants in the Service

<i>Preacher and Celebrant</i>	<i>The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier</i>
<i>Deacon</i>	<i>The Ven. Dorcie Dvarishkis</i>
<i>Liturgist</i>	<i>Lindsay Iudicello</i>
<i>Lector/Lay Eucharistic Minister</i>	<i>Lori Cordis</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Lori Cordis, Beverly Maas</i>

GROW WITH US

Everything we do at Holy Spirit, including today's in-person and online services, is made possible because of people like you. We rely on your donations to make our mission and ministry possible. In these challenging times, your support is needed more than ever. If this service has been meaningful for you, we encourage you to give as you're able to help Holy Spirit continue to serve our community and the greater world. Visit <http://holyspiritmissoula.org/give/> or give on our church app or text **HOLYSPIRITGIVE** to (833) 714-3270 to give on your smartphone. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

WE WELCOME THOSE NEW TO OUR WORSHIP!

Newcomers and guests are always welcome at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church. We hope you will take a moment to complete the white Visitor's Card found in the pew and place it in the offertory plate as it passes.

STEWARDSHIP 2024 – WE'RE THANKFUL FOR YOU

Thanksgiving weekend seems a very good time to say we're grateful to everyone who has turned in pledge cards so far during our Stewardship campaign. Thank you!

Now's the time! Need a pledge card? Please call the office at 406-542-2167 or find one in the church pews. Please bring or mail your pledge card to the church office later this week or complete the online pledge card at <http://holyspiritmissoula.org/give/pledge/>.

And thank you to everyone who has made an annual gift for 2024.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL VISITATION ON DECEMBER 3

The Rt. Rev. Marty Stebbins, the 10th Bishop of Montana, will make her annual visitation to Holy Spirit Parish on Sunday, December 3. As chief pastor and teacher of the diocese, Bishop Marty will preside and preach at both services that Sunday. This will also be the Sunday that Rev. Terri returns from her sabbatical. Please plan to join us for what will be a joyous celebration that Sunday!

As chief pastor and teacher of the diocese, Bishop Marty will preside and preach at both services that Sunday. Her presence connects us to Episcopalians beyond our walls, in Montana, in the Episcopal Church, in the Anglican Communion, and back through the Church's history. While most of us will only see her on Sunday, she will be working hard to learn more about Holy Spirit Episcopal Church by meeting with the Vestry and clergy, hearing and responding to their concerns and questions.

You will have a chance to visit with Bishop Marty at a special coffee time following both the 8 a.m. and the 10:15 a.m. services.

As is the custom in our diocese, an offering for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund will be taken at the service that day. Your checks should be paid to the order of "The Episcopal Diocese of Montana," designating on the memo line 'Discretionary Fund.' Or you can use our giving platform Pushpay to make your donation. Simply choose Bishop's Discretionary Fund from the list of funds available. It is from the Discretionary Fund that pastoral needs are met. Please be generous.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FOR DECEMBER COMPLINE

Enhance your Advent vigil in the quiet candlelight of compline at 8 PM on Sunday, December 10th. The Holy Spirit Compline Choir will begin by chanting an Advent Litany. The meditations for the evening will be drawn from words of the 7th century Northumbrian saint, St. Felgild. Please join us for this serene and simple observation of Advent.

Please note that there will be no compline on December 3rd.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Are you interested in **PROVIDING FLOWERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS ALTAR** or during the Sundays in Advent? To arrange for flowers, please call the church office at (406) 542-2167 **by noon on Monday, December 4**. Although there are no flowers on the altar during the season of Advent, your special prayers and memorials are still read. Your contributions for flowers during Advent are used for the special flowers at the Christmas celebration, and, at that time, your prayers and memorials are noted once again in the Christmas service leaflet.

JOIN US FOR A FAMILY WORSHIP ADVENT SERVICE ON DECEMBER 10

Anticipating Christ's birth in ways designed to engage children and families is what's on tap at a special Family Worship Advent service on Sunday, Dec. 10, at 4:30.

This special gathering is a friendly, informal and loving setting for children to explore our faith through a simple Eucharist, fun and food, with mom and dad in the mix, too. It's also a great way for grandparents to introduce little ones to what church is all about. Family Worship is just right for pre-school and grade school kids – and for the grown-ups who come with them. All are welcome!

NO LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE THIS YEAR

We wanted to update you on a change for this year's Advent season. Unfortunately, due to the late start of Advent, we won't be able to have our cherished service of Lessons and Carols on December 24. Typically, Lessons and Carols takes place on the evening of Advent IV which this year is December 24, and there was no way to make that happen. We know it's disappointing, but we've marked December 22, 2024, in our calendars for its grand return! We can't wait to celebrate with you then and make it an unforgettable evening. Thank you for your understanding.

HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Worship Services for Sunday, December 24th, Christmas Eve

- **9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer** with music in church
- **4:00 p.m.** Early Service with **all** ages in mind: A telling of the Christmas Story, simple familiar Carols, and Holy Eucharist. **This service will not be livestreamed.**
- **6:30 p.m.** Outdoor Service for all ages: prayers, caroling, fire pits for physical warmth and Eucharist and the singing of carols to warm and lift up the heart. Candlelight singing of *Silent Night* around the Spruce tree. **DRESS WARMLY!!**
- **10:00 p.m.** Traditional Choral Eucharist in the church with the singing of the choir and full congregational hymns. **This service will be livestreamed.**

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th

- No services



**HOLY
SPIRIT**

**EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

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