

# GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

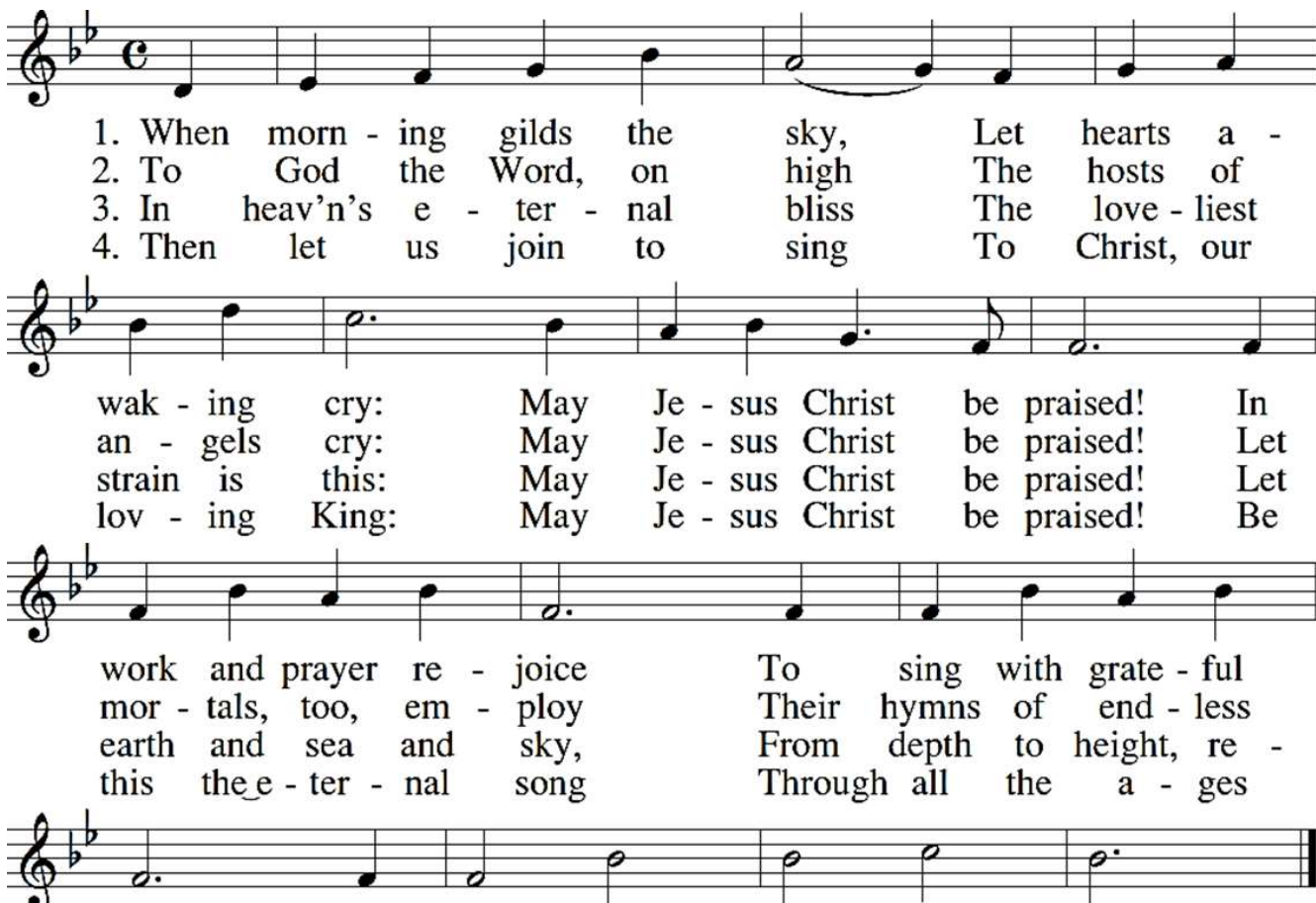
February 15, 2026 – The Last Sunday After Epiphany  
8:30 Bulletin

## LITURGICAL SEASON EXPLAINED

The word “Epiphany” as defined in the dictionary has two meanings. When the word is capitalized, it refers to God being revealed to the world in the person of Jesus. In lowercase, the term applies to any display of a deity. We typically use the word today to describe any insightful or dramatic moment that instills new spiritual insight, vision, or perspective into our lives. An epiphany is not something to be hidden; rather, it is something to be shared. God was revealed to the world in Bethlehem in the form of a newborn baby. The news of the Epiphany was shared with the shepherds in Luke’s Gospel, while in Matthew’s Gospel, the news is shared with the Magi. These Gentiles wanted to see for themselves how God chose to come into the world, and we are invited to do the same. The season of Epiphany starts on January 6 and ends the day before Ash Wednesday. The liturgical color is **green**.

## OPENING HYMN: When Morning Gilds The Sky

*Please stand as you are able*



1. When morn - ing gilds the sky, Let hearts a -  
2. To God the Word, on high The hosts of  
3. In heav'n's e - ter - nal bliss The love - liest  
4. Then let us join to sing To Christ, our

wak - ing cry: May Je - sus Christ be praised! In  
an - gels cry: May Je - sus Christ be praised! Let  
strain is this: May Je - sus Christ be praised! Let  
lov - ing King: May Je - sus Christ be praised! Be

work and prayer re - joice To sing with grate - ful  
mor - tals, too, em - ploy Their hymns of end - less  
earth and sea and sky, From depth to height, re -  
this the e - ter - nal song Through all the a - ges

voice: May Je - sus Christ be praised!  
joy: May Je - sus Christ be praised!  
ply: May Je - sus Christ be praised!  
long: May Je - sus Christ be praised!

## **ACCLAMATION** *BCP p. 355*

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

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.  
AMEN.**

## **GLORIA** *BCP p. 356*

**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.**

## **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

*This Week's Reader: **Cheryle Kahl***

*Ash Wednesday: **Selia Tuten (12 PM) & Tom Stotz (7 PM)***

*Next Sunday: **Karen Davenport Cheryle Kahl***

## **FIRST READING** Exodus 24:12-18

*Please be seated*

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law

and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 2**

*Verses read alternately by the reader and the people, breaking at the \**

<sup>1</sup>Why are the nations in an uproar?\*

**Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?**

<sup>2</sup>Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,  
and the princes plot together, \*

**against the Lord and against his Anointed?**

<sup>3</sup>“Let us break their yoke,” they say; \*

**“let us cast off their bonds from us.”**

<sup>4</sup>He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; \*

**the Lord has them in derision.**

<sup>5</sup>Then he speaks to them in his wrath, \*

**and his rage fills them with terror.**

<sup>6</sup>“I myself have set my king \*

**upon my holy hill of Zion.”**

<sup>7</sup>Let me announce the decree of the Lord:\*

**he said to me, "You are my Son;  
this day have I begotten you.**

<sup>8</sup>Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance\*  
**and the ends of the earth for your possession.**

<sup>9</sup>You shall crush them with an iron rod\*  
**and shatter them like a piece of pottery."**

<sup>10</sup>And now, you kings, be wise;\*  
**be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

<sup>11</sup>Submit to the Lord with fear,\*  
**and with trembling bow before him;**

<sup>12</sup>Lest he be angry and you perish;\*  
**for his wrath is quickly kindled.**

<sup>13</sup>Happy are they all\*  
**who take refuge in him!**

## **SECOND READING** 2 Peter 1:16-21

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL** Matthew 17:1-9*Please stand as you are able*

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of our Lord.

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

**SERMON***Please be seated***NICENE CREED** BCP p. 358*Please stand as you are 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.**

## **PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

*The Leader and people pray responsively:*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

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. Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in your mercy:

## **Hear our prayer.**

Grant our senators and representatives, whom we entrust to make our laws, the courage and foresight to take action, making bold decisions to safeguard our Constitution and to provide for the needs of all our people. Lord, in your mercy:

## **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our nation in a time of crisis, and continue to keep in our prayers the families of Silverio Villegas Gonzáles, Renee Good, and Alex Pretti, slain by ICE. Lord, in your mercy:

## **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our prayer list; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. 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. Lord, in your mercy:

## **Hear our prayer.**

For the children in our lives and in our world: Grant us calm strength and patient wisdom that we may teach them to love whatever is just, true, and good. Lord, in your mercy:

## **Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant adds a Concluding Collect:*

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 PEACE**

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

*People* **And also with you.**

*The Celebrant and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Please stand as you are able*

*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 our God.

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

*Celebrant:*

It is truly right to glorify you God, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and forever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we say:

**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.**

We acclaim you, holy God, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in

seeking you we might find you. Again and again, you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

For you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death and rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

We now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, our God.**

God, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, God, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light. And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ.

For it is through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER** *BCP p. 364*

*Celebrant:*

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

**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** *BCP p. 364*

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*Celebrant* The gifts of God, for all of us, the people of God. Holy gifts for holy people.

## **COMMUNION**

*Please be seated*

### *Communion at Grace is Open to Everyone*

*Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, there is a place for you at God's table. You may choose to receive bread (gluten free wafers available upon request). You may choose to receive wine in the silver chalice or grape juice in the white and blue chalice. You may drink from either cup or intinct (dip) the bread into the chalice. You may refrain from the bread and chalice and just receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.*

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER** *BCP p. 366*

*Please stand as you are able*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says:*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People:*

**Eternal God, 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**

May the blessing of God Almighty—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit—be with you this day and forevermore.  
**AMEN.**

## CLOSING HYMN: Alleluia, Song Of Gladness



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;  
2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;  
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;  
4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;  
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;  
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;  
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;

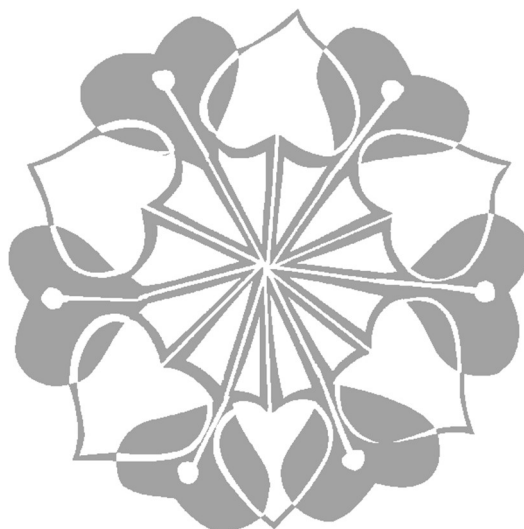


in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.  
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.  
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.  
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

**DISMISSAL** *BCP p. 366*

*Celebrant* Our worship has now ended; go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**People** Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



## **The Prayers of this Congregation**

Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop; our Bishop, Bonnie Anne Perry; Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Presiding Bishop; Donald P. Kreiss, ELCA Bishop, SE Michigan Synod; Craig A. Satterlee, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod. Our retired bishop, Wendell Gibbs; our retired community, spouses, and companions. Our diocesan household: Committees, commissions, ministries, agencies, priests, deacons, lay leaders, volunteers, and staff members; Steven Steinberger-Domienik; Grace Church Mt. Clemens; Bonao, DR Church of the Pentecost.

For Donna Hanes; Jasmine Gardner; Frankie Dion; Elliott Belair; Charlotte Kalligeros; Tom Stotz; Jennifer Holland; Joan Walsh; Elizabeth Gage; Logan & Teresa Davidson; Jeanne Nowak; Donna Powell; Pamela Sherry; Linda Fields; Michael Woodard; Pat Greenwood; Sara Mattocks; Gene Skladnowski; Sherie Borsa; Joan Donald; Rob Haynes; Scott Kadets; Brenda Steinberger-Domienik; Laurisa; Jason Zadorski; Pat Ruditis; Jean & Terry Hitchcock; Laura Mary Lake; Allen Clay; Mary Anne Jackson; Martha Wehba; Holly Quintero; Jody Gorney; Tammy Murphy; Eka & Kiana Bassey; Suzanne LaMontagne; Vito Fontana; Christa Carpenter; Nancy & Bob Johnson; Rick Gherzi; Rory Heinz; Louise Lambert; Carole Schwertman; Tish Germain; Shirley & Nelson Rumpel; Lucy Smith and family; Helen Fitzgibbon; Joyce & Roy Schafer; Danielle; Leo Bradley, Jr.; Betty Brogan; Paige Biehl; Ulrike Lamb; Debbie H.; Vickie Rose; Kristi Frangedakis; the family of Carolyn Siewert; Beverly Wolff; Ellen Laudicina; Beth Jarvis; Dave Salyer; Al Gazoul; Randy; Bill Atkinson; the family of Tom Krell; Sharon Fedchenko; Joyce Geiger; Tom Burns; Steve Burns; Brenden Murphy and family; the Domienik family.

***Do you know someone who can use our prayers? Please contact the office to add them to or keep them on the prayer list.***

## CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please send all bulletin submissions to [bulletins@gracechurchmtclemens.org](mailto:bulletins@gracechurchmtclemens.org)*

### ALTAR FLOWERS

Please sign up for altar flowers on the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the sanctuary.

### COFFEE HOUR

Please volunteer to host a coffee hour; the sign-up sheet is in the hallway. The host(s) makes and sets up the coffee and any snacks and then cleans up afterwards. You may also be reimbursed for any money you spend for snacks—just let Marchea (in the office) know! Thank you for sharing in the hospitality ministry of our parish!

### BIBLE STUDY

Please join us on **Sundays** at **9:30 AM** in the Guild Room for our Bible study. No preparation needed; just come and listen and join in the conversation. Each session is self-contained so you do not have to attend each week; come when you can. We learn a great deal about Scripture, our faith, ourselves, and each other! Hope to see you there!

### CHOIR

Please join us for choir rehearsal on **Wednesdays** at **6:30 PM** in the sanctuary. No experience required; just bring your spirited heart and a friend! Thank you!

### LENTEN STUDY SERIES

The first part of our Lenten Study Series is watching and discussing Season 5 of "The Chosen." We're watching the eight episodes on **Tuesdays** at **6:30 PM** in the Guild Room. This season focuses on the triumphal Palm Sunday entrance into Jerusalem and goes through all of the Holy Week events.

The second component focuses on a discussion of white Christian nationalism which will begin **today** at **noon** and continue each week at this same time through Palm Sunday. We'll watch a video documentary the first week and explore readings from *The Seven Deadly Sins of White Christian Nationalism* by Carter Heyward.

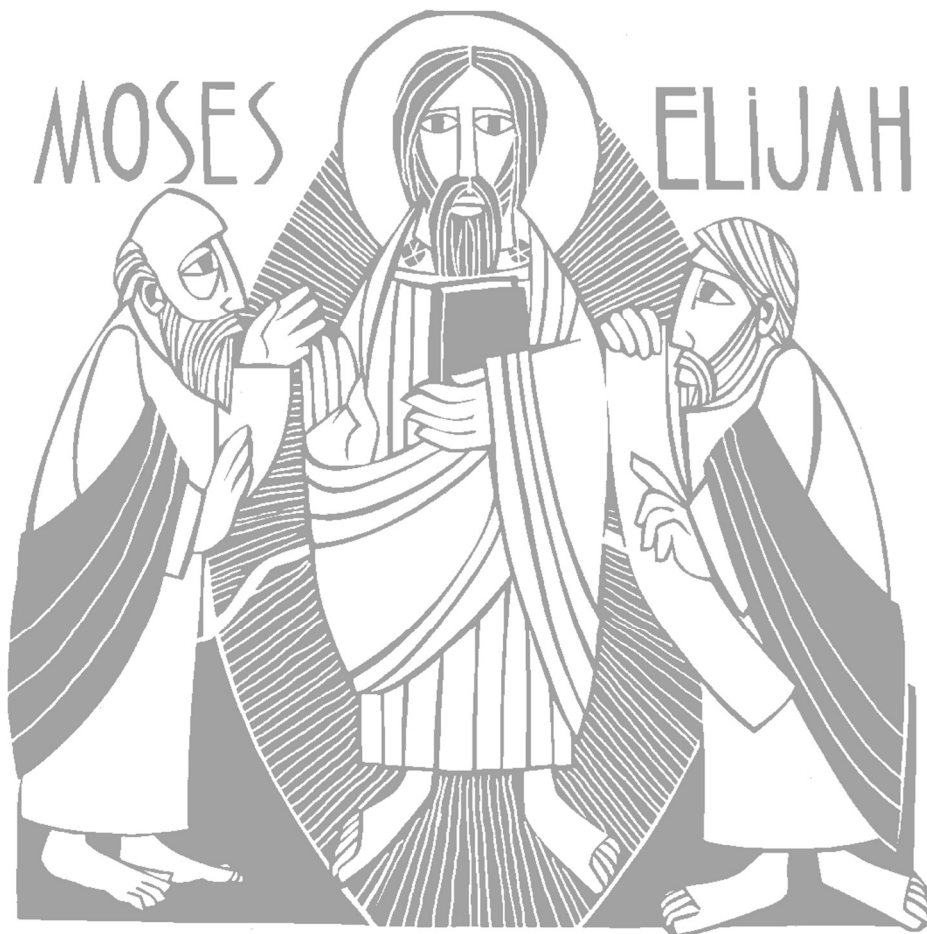
Participate in one or both activities for lively discussion as we prepare for Easter.

## **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

Please join us on **Tuesday, February 17** when our vestry will be preparing and serving a pancake supper for our members from **5 to 6:30 PM**. You may come anytime during this period, and you're welcome to stay afterwards to watch Season 5, Episode 2 of "The Chosen."

## **BOOK CLUB**

The next book club meeting will be at **6 PM** on **March 12** at Grace Church. The book to be discussed is *The Feather Detective* by Chris Sweeney. We look forward to meeting newcomers as well as regular members for a fun evening. Call Ann Strevel with any questions or concerns.



## For the People of Yemen Facing Hunger

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God who hears the **cry of the hungry**, whose Son Jesus always sided with the destitute and entered fully into **human suffering through his incarnation**, we lift up those who are at risk of **starvation in Yemen** and whom the international community have failed. **We pray** for an end to this food shortage and the injustice that sustains it, that all Yemenis, upheld by your providence, might be granted a **sustainable future**. God, you have called us to share our food with the hungry. **Empower your people**, by your Spirit, to loose the bonds of injustice. **We pray** for the nutritional services, the health facilities, and the authorities with the **power to help** in the region. **Take away barriers** to delivering aid and protect all those who labor to keep people fed. Let each of us follow **the example of your Son**, our Savior, and feed the hungry crowds, for the sake of his most precious name. Amen.

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