



First Sunday after Epiphany

The Baptism of Our Lord

January 7, 2024

WELCOME

to St. Mary's Episcopal Church

a member of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Big Rapids, MI

Seeking every day to love God
with our whole heart, mind, and soul, and
to love our neighbors as ourselves.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Cadillac, MI

We strive to live out the Great
Commandment: To love the Lord with all
our heart, soul, and mind and to love our
neighbors as ourselves.

If you have a faith or are seeking one, you are always welcome here.

If you are visiting or looking for a spiritual home,
we'd love to get to know you.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

BCP, p. 355

Processional Hymn *All stand as able.* *Angels from the realms of glory,* **Hymnal, #93**

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity

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

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

The celebrant prays the collect for purity.

The Gloria *Said in unison.*

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

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you**

Celebrant Let us pray. *The celebrant prays the collect of the day.*

The Lessons *All sit as able. Texts found in the bulletin insert.*

First Reading **Genesis 1:1-5**

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

The Psalm **Psalm 29**

Second Reading **Acts 19:1-7**

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

Gospel Hymn *All stand as able.* *Thy Word, Pew Folder, p.107*

The Holy Gospel **Mark 1:4-11**

Before the Gospel:

Celebrant Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

After the Gospel:

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord

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

Hymn after the Gospel *I Love you Lord, Pew Folder, p.44*

Homily **Kris Veldheer**

The Renewal of Baptismal Promises

All stand as able.

Celebrant Dear people of God: through the Paschal mystery we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. Let us now, as we remember Christ's own baptism, renew the promises of Holy Baptism.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People I do.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People 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.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People 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.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Praying the Scriptures

Intercessor Sisters and brothers, ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name. Let us approach our great God with humble hearts saying: "Lord, give strength to your people; **bless us with peace."**

Lover of souls, you seal us by your Holy Spirit in baptism and claim us as your own forever: may our offering of worship be acceptable in your right. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Skip, our Assisting Bishop; Radha, our Rector; our Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant.

Holy Family, Midland - Debbie, Sr. Warden, St. Paul's, St. Joseph – Karen, Interim Rector. We pray for all those in our diocese discerning calls to ministry, both lay and ordained. In particular, we pray for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Priests, including Barrett, Alex, Matt, Anne Marie, Abraham, John, Stephanie, Thon, Jessica, Julianne, Rachel, Cathy, Kathryn, Kris, Johnathan, Theresa. We pray also for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Deacons, including: Mary, Deb, Laura, Jennifer, Christi, Paige. We remember with gratitude the retired clergy of the diocese. *Silence*
Lord, give strength to your people.

People **Bless us with peace.**

Intercessor Lover of souls, you sit enthroned as king for evermore: may the leaders of the nations, especially Joe, our president; Gretchen our govenor; Carla, our mayor, do justice and govern with mercy. *Silence*
Lord, give strength to your people.

People **Bless us with peace.**

Intercessor Lover of souls, you created the heavens and the earth: we praise you that you make holy such basic things of earth---water for baptism, grapes and grain to sustain our souls. *Silence*
Lord, give strength to your people.

People **Bless us with peace.**

Intercessor Lover of souls, you forgive the sins of the penitent and care for the injured: be with all victims of gun violence; heal and convert the hearts of the violent. May our city know peace. *Silence*
Lord, give strength to your people.

People **Bless us with peace.**

Intercessor Lover of souls, your voice is a voice of splendor: speak healing and comfort to all the heartbroken and needy. We pray for those in the St. Mary's circle of prayer: Erin, Dorothea, Lonnie & Heather, Mike & Connie, Virginia, Renee, Larry & Therese, Janet, Lawson, Josh & Lindsey, Nancy & Pat, Sally, Madi, Larry, Ron & Barb, Shanna, Charlene, DeeDee, Anita & Jim, Terri, Larry, Ron, Shelly; For those in the St. Andrew's circle of prayer: Nan, Elizabeth, Robert, Rob, Jessica, Krystal, Kevin, Kathy, Sharyn, Howie; For our family and friends in the armed forces and who are first responders: Richard, Corey, Matt, Taylor, Tony, Kim, Drew, Jon, Sabastian, Noah, Eli, Jess; And for all those we name at this time. *Silence*
Lord, give strength to your people.

People Bless us with peace.

Intercessor Lover of souls, you called the light into being: let light perpetual shine on those who have died, especially Julane. May we all rest in the hope of life eternal. *Silence*
Lord, give strength to your people.

People Bless us with peace.

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Confession of Sin *Said in unison, kneeling as able.*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.

All **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.**

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 *All stand as able.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.** *The people greet each other in the name of the Lord.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory *The celebrant says the offertory sentence.*

Offertory Hymn *Hail Mary, gentle woman, Pew Folder, p.39*

After all the gifts are brought to the altar, all say in unison:

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

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

People Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant 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.

People By your will they were created and have their being.

Celebrant 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.

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

Celebrant 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.

People By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Celebrant 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 (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Pew Folder, p.87

The people stand or kneel as able while the celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine. Then says:

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

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

Celebrant Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; of Sarah, Rebecca, Leah, 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.

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

Celebrant 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.

People AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

It is our tradition to gather in a circle to say the Lord's Prayer. You are welcome to either stand and join hands, or remain seated and we will encircle you.

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then says:




Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;




People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Invitation *The celebrant says the invitation.*

Everyone is welcome to receive communion. There is no one who is too old or too young, no one who has too many doubts or too few beliefs. This is the altar prepared by a loving God for all creation by the power of Jesus Christ. You, who are part of that creation, are welcome.

Please come forward down the center aisle to in front of the altar to receive communion or a blessing. If you need communion brought to you, let an usher know.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD - You can either,		
	CONSUME	Hold out your hands and then eat the bread after it is placed in your hand.
	GLUTEN-FREE	If you require a gluten-free wafer, please clasp your hands.
	BLESSING	If you prefer not to receive, cross your arms for a blessing.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE WINE - You can either,		
	DRINK	Hold the base of the chalice and guide it to your lips to drink the wine.
	INTINCT	Hold up the bread. The minister will take the bread, dip it for you, and hand it back to you.
	NOT RECEIVE	Cross your arms. The minister will hold the chalice up, but you will not drink.

Communion Hymn

Pew Folder, p.59

Prayer after Communion

All stand or kneel as able.

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.**

The Celebration of Special Days and Announcements

The Blessing

All stand as able while the celebrant blesses the people.

Celebrant May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.
Amen.

Recessional Hymn

As with gladness men of old, Hymnal, #119

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**
Alleluia. Alleluia. Amen. Amen.



*A Prayer for Epiphany, by John Birch
(faithandworship.com)*

The God who breathed this world alive
And sustains it day by day
Whose hands flung stars into space
And controls our destiny
Says, "Do not be afraid, for I am with you."
The God who filled the ocean depths
And set tides on their way
Who caused mountains to be raised up
And rainbows to display
Says, "I have called you by name, you are mine."
The God who made the fertile earth
And seed within to sow
Whose artistry creates butterflies
And the early morning dew
Says, "You are precious in my sight."

magi from the East

CAME TO
JERUSALEM,

ASKING

"WHERE IS THE CHILD

WHO HAS BEEN BORN

KING OF THE JEWS?"

FOR WE HAVE OBSERVED HIS

STAR

at its RISING,
AND HAVE

COME TO PAY HIM HOMAGE."

The Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan

1815 Hall St SE #200, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

(616) 319-2006 | www.edwm.org

The Rt. Rev. Skip Adams

Assisting Bishop

sadams@edwm.org

Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

www.cmecovenant.org

The Rev. Radhajyoti (Radha) Kaminski,

Rector

rector.cmec@gmail.com

(352) 727-8927

Tara Lee, Covenant Administrator

Covenant Council

Eileen Patterson, 2026

Karen Peters, 2026

Dawn Paulin - *Treasurer*, 2025

Mary Frew, 2025

Mark Lauzon, 2024

Nancy Foster - *Facilitator*, 2024

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

323 S. State St., Big Rapids, MI 49307

standrewsbr@gmail.com

(231) 598-9032

www.standrewsbr.com

The Rev. Robert Garrels

Director of Music

boogiebob40@hotmail.com

St. Andrew's Vestry

Paul Martin - *Junior Warden*, 2026

Jodi Gabert - *Clerk*, 2026

Mark Lauzon, 2025

Diane Wesp, 2025

Coleen Dice - *Senior Warden*, 2024

Michelle Kelenske, 2024

Bob Stanton - *Treasurer*

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

815 Lincoln St., Cadillac, MI 49601

stmaryscadillac@gmail.com

(231) 775-9641

www.stmaryscadillac.org

St. Mary's Vestry

Jerry Hoekwater, 2026

Jim Pals, *Junior Warden*, 2025

Pat Foster, *Senior Warden*, 2025

Anita Hunt - *Clerk*, 2024

Ross Maxwell - 2024

Dawn Paulin - *Treasurer*

In case of an emergency need for pastoral care call: Mtr. Radha Kaminski 352-727-8927