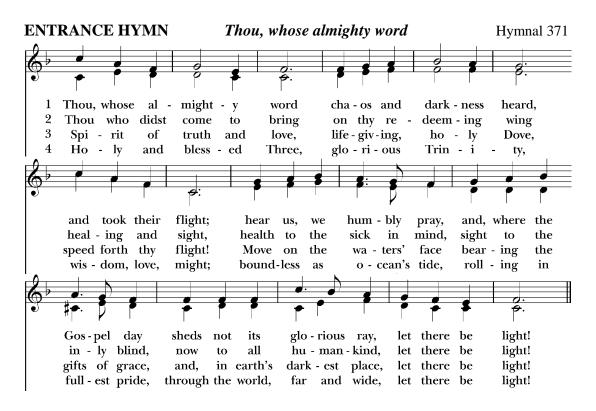


First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord January 12, 2025 10:30am

The Rt. Reverend Russell Kendrick, Bishop The Reverend William M. Lowry III, Rector

The Holy Eucharist Rite Two



The Word of God OPENING ACCLAMATION

CelebrantBlessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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*.

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SONG OF PRAISE

Glory to God

Hymnal S 280

The following is sung, all standing as able



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen*.

The Lessons

The people sit.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

A Reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

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

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 29

Please read with me the Psalm responsively by half verse. (Responses in bold.)

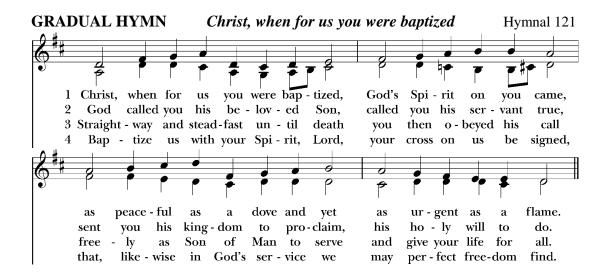
¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, * ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. ²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; * worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. ³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; * the LORD is upon the mighty waters. ⁴The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; * the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; * the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon; ⁶He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, * and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. ⁷The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire; the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; * the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. ⁸The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe * and strips the forests bare. ⁹And in the temple of the LORD * all are crying, "Glory!" ¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; * the LORD sits enthroned as King forevermore. ¹¹The LORD shall give strength to his people; * the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.Silence may follow.



GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

All stand as able.

PriestThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by

saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Priest	The Gospel of the Lord.
People	Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Will Lowry

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Brief moment of silence to follow.

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

All stand as able. Celebrant 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,
<u> </u>	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.
Ĩ	
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	
reopie	I will, with God's help.
Celebrant	I will, with God's help. Will you strive for justice and peace among all people,
-	-

The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows

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

All remain standing as able.

Celebrant: O Heavenly One, you have baptized your Church with the Holy Spirit and fire. You have called us by name and we are yours: Hear our prayers on behalf of your whole creation, and let your creative power go forth, as we pray: God shall give strength to the people; God shall give the people the blessing of peace.

Litanist: Our Gracious God, you have declared that we are precious in your sight and honored, and you have given to your Church the anointing of the Holy Spirit: Grant that we may faithfully uphold our baptismal vows and share in the reconciling work of Christ. We pray especially for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Russell, our Bishop; Will, our Rector; and all other clergy and ministers of your church. God shall give strength to the people;

God shall give the people the blessing of peace.

Your voice, O God, is a powerful voice which splits the flames of fire and shakes the wilderness: Guide the leaders of our nation and all in authority with your power and wisdom, that they may serve your purpose of compassion for all. We pray especially for Joe, our President; Donald, our President-elect; Kay, our Governor; Robert, our Mayor and Tony, Mayor of Orange Beach.

God shall give strength to the people;

God shall give the people the blessing of peace.

You are the Creator of all humankind: Redeem all who are threatened by waters or fire, by terrors or threat, by exile or confinement; bring your sons from far away and your daughters from the ends of the earth.

God shall give strength to the people;

God shall give the people the blessing of peace.

You are the Creator of all humankind: Redeem all who are threatened by waters or fire, by terrors or threat, by exile or confinement; bring your sons from far away and your daughters from the ends of the earth. We pray especially for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine and Russia, in Israel and Palestine and all victims of violence. We pray also for those effected by wildfires. Bring your peace to our world. God shall give strength to the people;

God shall give the people the blessing of peace.

Your creative grace is present throughout this community: Bless our neighbors and region that we may serve one another in the beauty of holiness. We pray for all First Responders, Law Enforcement and Members of the Armed Forces, both at home and abroad, especially our parishioner Chris.

God shall give strength to the people;

God shall give the people the blessing of peace.

You have formed every human being for your glory: Hear our intercessions on behalf of your children, especially our parishioners Cal, Carol, Mike, Norma, Betty, Al, Norma, Kimberly, Wiley, Jane, Jackie, Ava, Dawn, Pam, Daphne, Anne, Sonya, Sara, Evie, Joy, Doris and all on our prayer list.

In your temple we praise your glory and give you thanks.

You gather your offspring from all directions and call them by name; receive into your heavenly glory those who have died.

God shall give strength to the people;

God shall give the people the blessing of peace.

Celebrant: Gracious and loving God, your Church is filled with expectation at the promise of your heavenly blessing, and we ascribe to you the glory due your Name: Let the heavens open and send forth your Holy Spirit to anoint your children in the name of the Holy Trinity, in whom we live and move and have our being, now and for ever. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The 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

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All stand as able.	
Celebrant	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People	And also with you.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS BLESSING OF JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

The Holy Communion

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The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*



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

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

The People remain standing as able.

1	
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.
T • J T J T	

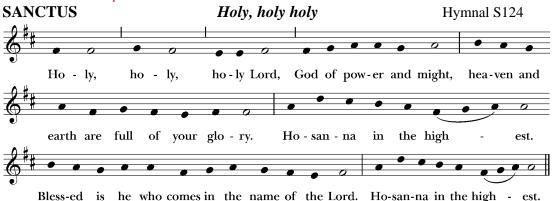
Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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 in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

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:

Celebrant and People



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The People stand or kneel as able. The Celebrant continues

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, *Celebrant and People* We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

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.

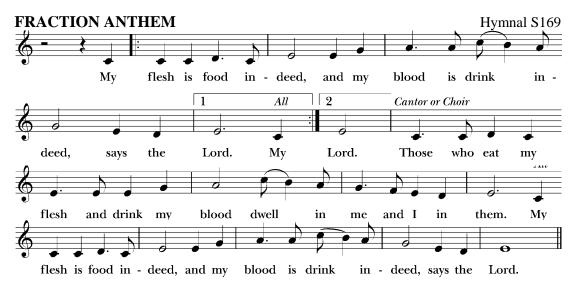
We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the 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

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, *People and Celebrant*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



INVITATION

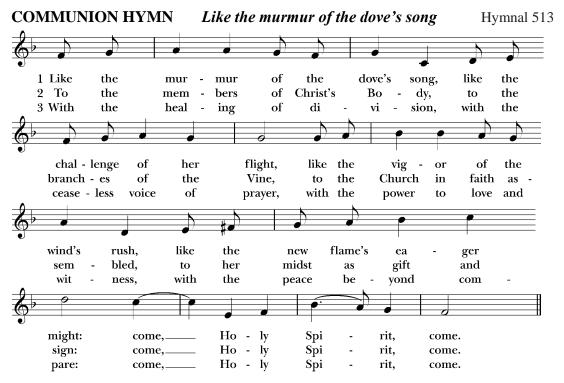
The Celebrant says

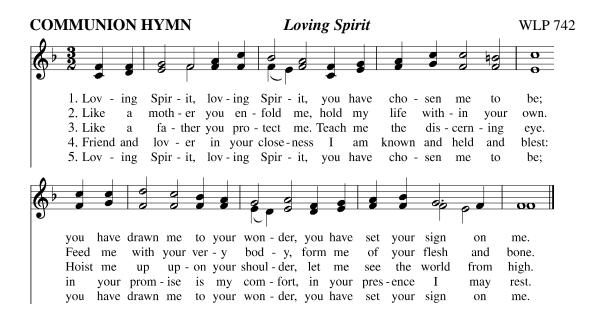
This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, You who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time or ever before, You who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because the Church invites you; It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here.

DISTRIBUTION

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people. Wine may be received by drinking from the chalice or by intinction.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*] The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]





POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

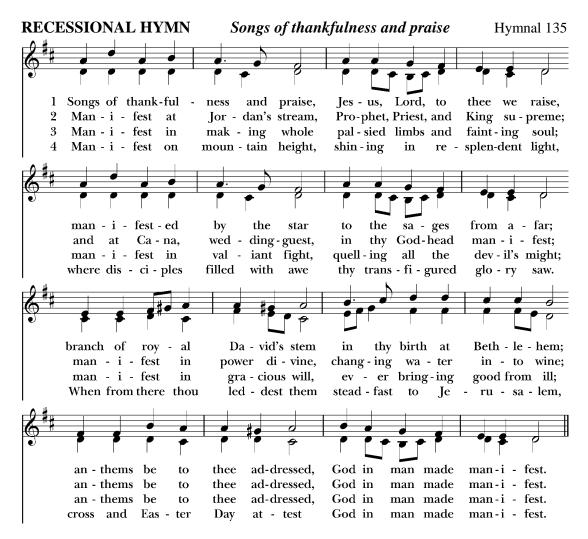
BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people

As you leave this place, go forth in peace. Be assured that the past is forgiven and know that the future is in God's hands. Return no evil for evil, remember the poor,

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pray for the sick, and make no peace with injustice in this world. May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen*



DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia. *People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

WELCOME TO HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

All who seek to know God in a deeper and more meaningful way are welcome to receive Communion. If you do not wish to receive the Sacraments, just cross your arms and a blessing will be given instead. Gluten free communion wafers are available. Please ask the priest as communion is distributed.

NURSERY: We provide a nursery for your convenience for infants and children up to 4 years old. We invite you to bring your child back from the nursery for communion, preferably during the Peace and Announcements.

Those for whom we pray: Cal & Carol Hanson, Mike & Norma Minchew, Katherine Stribling (Jan Waggoner), Marilyn Lewis (Lillian Bemis), Carrietta Nelson (Lillian Bemis), Al Vondrasek, Norma Black-Glossop, Kathi Dolder (Sue Wiggins), Judi Kuntz (Ann Lofaro), Kimberly Worthy, Deloma Bigham (Rhonda Barber), Wiley Ashlev, Laura Hermecz (Lillian Bemis), Jane Taylor, Jayne Sharp (Lillian Bemis), Abe & Dianne Kattawar (Rose Johnson), Lisa Kanuth (Kimberly Worthy), Mikki Stanley (Kimberly Worthy), Nancy Jones (Marilyn & Bobby Quinn), Terry Kilpatrick (Lillian Bemis), Jackie Jabour, Ava Trivett, Debbie, Dave, Eloise & Gigi Welch (Margaret Divito), Mary Ruth Burnes (Lillian Bemis), Valerie Kot (Lillian Bemis), Valerie Wilk (Lillian Bemis), Dawn Johnson, Pam Webster, Daphne Grimsley, Seeley Lewis (Marilyn Quinn), Anne Mevdrech, Matthew Gilbertson (Sam Nelson), Sonva Urguhart, Kimberly Brand (Jan Waggoner), Justin Requena (Carolyn Towery), Sara Walker, Helen Lauderdale & family (Witt Lauderdale), Evie Loftin, Joyce Marie Borck (Norma Black-Glossop), Melissa Mackey (Lillian Bemis), Joy Howell, Doris Kimmerlin, Sherry Jo Johnson (Rose Johnson), Gary Williams (Nancy & Steve Campbell)

For all First Responders, Law Enforcement and Members of the Armed Forces: Phil Gurney (USN), Blake Buskens (USA), Charlie Conner (USA), Chris Miller (GSPD), Joseph Callaway (USN), Savannah Kichler Isenburg (USAF), Jacob Wetzler (USN), Luc Lau (USM), Jack Taylor (USN), Snap Nelson (USMCR), Callaway Williamson (USN), Zachary Russell (USAF), Cailan Ross Ashley (USCG), Joshua Cooper (USA), Margaret Lloyd (USN)

In Thanksgiving for Birthdays in January:

Peter Davis (3rd), Carol Nonnemann (5th), Lillian Bemis (8th), Gavin Frost (9th), Gene Poole (9th), Alyson Signa (10th), Ivee Lowry (11th), Karen Anderson (17th), Daphne Grimsley (17th), Margaret Griffin (27th)

Servers Youth Acolyte- Norah Grace Lowry & Clelie Lowry Chalice Bearer- David Adams Lectors- Jeanie Blake & Fr. Bill Ericson Ushers- Steve & Margaret Griffin Altar Guild- Judy Allen, Joy Branch, Nancy Campbell, June Hayles, Fr Bill Ericson, Leah Reader Flower Guild- Amanda Prince Beadle- Joy Branch

<u>Vestry</u>

Dick Reid ('24), Sr. Warden Sam Nelson ('25), Jr. Warden Joy Branch ('24) Gene Poole ('24) Nancy Campbell ('25), Clerk

<u>Staff</u>

The Rev. Will Lowry-Rector Dr. Julian Jesubatham-Music Director Greg Engell-Assistant Music Director Morgen Szapiel-Parish Administrator Ivee Lowry-Day School Director Kim Payne-Thrift Shop Manager

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<u>2025 Pledge Cards</u>: Scan the QR Code to access the digital pledge card. Paper pledge cards are available in the Parish Hall or contact the church office. We encourage you to prayerfully consider the amount you would like to pledge. Your contribution is invaluable and deeply appreciated in supporting the Church's efforts to achieve its goals.

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John Stomps ('25) David Adams ('26) Joe Barber ('26) Dave Liebenow ('26)