

Church of the Epiphany
The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

17 January 2021 ~ 11:00AM

Join Zoom Worship via device: <https://zoom.us/j/99005230944>

Call-in to Zoom Worship: 1-646-876-9923, Enter Meeting ID: 990 0523 0944

Hello & good day! We are glad indeed that you are here!
This is a place where we nurture souls with prayerful worship.
If we can help you in any way, please let the priest or the office know.

Office: 570-563-1564 Rev. Lou Divis: 570-878-4670 Deacon John Davis: 570-575-8689

Processional hymn #7 Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise! Triumph o'er shades of night:
Dayspring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart appear.
2 Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return, till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
3 Visit then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!
Fill me, radiance divine; scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

Opening Prayer

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thought 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.**

Glory to God #S-280 *Gloria in excelsis*

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 Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

Peopl
e **And also with you.**

Celeb
rant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the first Book of Samuel (3:1-10)

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to

God

The Psalm: 139:1-5,12-17. Spoken alternately, by verse.

1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.

3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

14 My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book; *

they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.

16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *

how great is the sum of them!

17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; *

to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians (6:12-20)

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel hymn #656 Blest Are the Pure in Heart

1 Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God;
the secret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's abode.

2 The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring,
to dwell in lowliness with us, our pattern and our King;

3 he to the lowly soul will still himself impart
and for his dwelling and his throne will choose the pure in heart.

4 Lord, we thy presence seek; may ours this blessing be;
give us a pure and lowly heart, a temple fit for thee.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1:43-51)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Let us lift our hearts to the One who calls us, saying, We call to you, O Lord. And we are listening.

We pray for the Church, that the hearts of the leaders and those who are led be turned toward you. Call us to support your work in the world through the Church. We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Kevin our Bishop, Lou our priest and John our deacon.

We call to you, O Lord. And we are listening.

We pray for those who govern the nations of the world, that their leadership be wise and compassionate. Call us to informed and cooperative citizenship. We pray for Donald our President, Joe our President-elect, Tom our Governor, the Congress and courts of the land.

We call to you, O Lord. And we are listening.

We pray for people in every corner of the world, especially for those who lack adequate food, shelter and hope. Call us to compassionate action. We pray for all people and all places that have suffered natural devastation, effects of war, or plague.

We call to you, O Lord. And we are listening.

We pray for those close to our hearts who suffer from illness, anxiety; who face challenges and transitions; who struggle with your will in their lives. We pray today for Rev. Ellie, Rev. Tom, Fr. Steve and Maureen, Fr. Graham and Mary-Jo; James, Laura & Cristina; Ryan & Michelle; Scott; Lars; Andrea & Mark; Lynn, Kathy, David, Ted, Richelle, Elle, Kim, Ceil, Jim, Evelyn, Don; Eleanore & George, Amy & Todd, Sandi, Bob,; Betsy & Ed; Sandy, David & Melissa; Jane, Jackie, Jack, Amy & Bill, Louise, Daryl; Addiction Sufferers & their families; all whose lives are touched by COVID-19; Epiphany School in Uganda, its Primary Class Seven; Grace Church, Allentown; and Grace Montessori School.

We call to you, O Lord. And we are listening.

We pray for those who will be born this day, that they will be embraced by loving communities. We pray for those who are dying and those who now rest in your eternal embrace. Are there those you wish to name?

Loving God, we call to you. And we are listening.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence.*

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 Bishop, when present, or 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 and Announcements

Offertory sentence: I appeal to you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*

Offertory hymn #707 Take My Life and Let It Be

1 Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
2 Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.
Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Eucharistic Prayer B

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because you gave Jesus Christ your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. 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:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord #S-128 Sanctus

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 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

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 [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now 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

Fraction Anthem # S-154: Christ our Passover

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Prayer of Spiritual Reception: **In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of Thy Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our soul and body with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our heart. We unite ourselves to you, and embrace you with all the affections of our soul. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live and die in your love. Amen.** (*Adapted from The Armed Forces Prayer Book 1951*)

Communion Hymn WLP#812 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me, I will hold your people in my heart.

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make the darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have born my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them, They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I have tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

Prayer after Communion – BCP pg. 365

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 & Dismissal

May the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen!**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. **Thanks be to God!**

Recessional hymn LEVAS#136 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

1 I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus,

I have decided to follow Jesus, No turning back, no turning back!

2 Though no one join me, still I will follow, Though no one join me, still I will follow,

Though no one join me, still I will follow, No turning back, no turning back!

3 The world behind me, the cross before me, The world behind me, the cross before me,

The world behind me, the cross before me, No turning back, no turning back!

Koffee Klatch

Images in today's Readings

How complicated is it to connect to others to be part of the reign of God? We may secretly desire some cosmic cultural, societal reason, or excuse why we can't seem to attract or retain new people. But the truth is much simpler. We have grown accustomed to our isolation, so reaching out and making connections becomes less natural to us, uncomfortable even. We lose sight of how essential connection is to being human – especially during COVID.

Think of your first commitment to faith. How did it happen, where and what was going on? Were there people around? Was it a whisper or a "hey you"?

We are all seen and known and loved and named by God, just like Nathanael. The grace of God can help us all step out of our comfort zones and have cup of coffee with someone we want to

know better. It takes an inquiring heart, patience, prayer, and discomfort. It matters. It matters that we love God more than fear our neighbor. It matters that we love God more than fear of outsiders. It matters that God loves us especially when we are afraid. Who do you know you could connect with – email or phone during this time?