

Church of the Epiphany

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost | Proper 23

10 October 2021 ~ 11:00AM in the sanctuary & via Zoom

Join Zoom Worship on computer/smartdevice: <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 indeed.

This is a place where we nurture souls with prayerful worship.

If we can help you in any way, please let us know!

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

Prelude

Processional: Hymnal #460 *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!*

1 Alleluia! sing to Jesus! his the scepter, his the throne; Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone; Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood; Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us by his blood.

2 Alleluia! not as orphans are we left in sorrow now; Alleluia! he is near us, faith believes, nor questions how: though the cloud from sight received him, when the forty days were o'er, shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you evermore"?

3 Alleluia! Bread of Heaven, thou on earth our food, our stay! Alleluia! here the sinful flee to thee from day to day: Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me, where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal, thee the Lord of lords we own: Alleluia! born of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne: thou within the veil hast entered, robed in flesh, our great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and Victim in the eucharistic feast.

5 Alleluia! sing to Jesus! his the scepter his the throne; Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone; Hark! the songs of holy Zion thunder like a mighty flood; Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us by his blood.

Opening Prayer

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

People **And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and for ever. 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.**

The Gloria: Hymnal #S 280

1. Glory to god in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. 2. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. 3. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; 5. you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. 6. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, 7. you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

The Lord be with you.

Peopl **And also with you.**

Celeb Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos, chapter 2, verses 18-24

Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground! They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore, because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your trans-gressions, and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

The Word of the Lord.**Response: Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm is 90 verses 12-17, read by a lector. *Please pray to yourself, silently or quietly.*

12 So teach us to number our days *that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

13 Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? *be gracious to your servants.

14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *and the years in which we suffered adversity.

16 Show your servants your works *and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; *prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews, Chapters 4 verses 12-16

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The Word of the Lord.**Response: Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: Hymnal #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.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (10: 17-31) Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You

shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.” Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

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.

For the Prayers of the People feel free to kneel or stand. Let us pray.

Prayers of the People (People respond: *Hear us, good Lord.*)

That we may continually seek you and find you. That we may know, deep in our hearts, that we are yours.

We lift our hearts and voices to you.

Hear us, good Lord.

That your grace may always precede and follow. That our lives may be signs of your kingdom, and witnesses to your goodness.

We lift our hearts and voices to you.

Hear us, good Lord.

That there be peace in our hearts, in our churches, between neighbors and nations. May the peace we seek begin with you and overflow beyond measure.

We lift our hearts and voices to you.

Hear us, good Lord.

We give thanks for your extravagant care of us; for your seeking after us, finding us, and keeping us close. We pray that we may follow your model of loving-kindness to those with whom we live and work and worship.

That your love for us may overflow into extravagant love for all your children.

We pray for: the Epiphany School in Uganda, its Primary Class Seven;

for St. Mary's, Reading; and Clergy of the Diocese of Bethlehem.

We lift our hearts and voices to you.

Hear us, good Lord.

We pray on behalf of those who are suffering with pain, who are paralyzed by fear, who are listless and restless and tired. Relieve their misery, be with them in their distress. Bring them to a new sense of hope and wholeness.

We pray for:

Canon Bill & Fran; Rev. Tom; Maureen; Mary-Jo & the Cliff family; Wendy; Gail; David D.; Robert; David; the Johnson family; Tristan; Nancy & Derry; Joyce; Michael, Mikey, Allie; Rick; Carol; Luke; Wilmer; Pat; Mason; Beth; James, Laura & Cristina; Ryan & Michelle; Mel; Donna; Paula; Mike and the residents & staff at Abington Manor; Jimmy; Adele; Molly; Judy; John; Amy and Jim; Beth; Jack; Susan; Scott; Lynn; Richelle; Kim; Ceil; Jim; Don; Eleanore & George; Amy & Todd; Sandi; Bob; Betsy & Ed; Jane; Louise; Daryl; Addiction Sufferers & their families; all whose lives are touched by COVID-19

We lift our hearts and voices to you.

Hear us, good Lord.

We rejoice with those who have entered the larger life, who now reside among the saints in light. We pray for those who mourn and who experience a deep loss.

Hear us, good Lord.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Deacon or Celebrant: 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 & The Announcements

Prayer For a Birthday (#50 BCP page 830)

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on you servants & N. as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer For those we Love (for Anniversary, #54 BCP page 831)

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to thy never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that thou art doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Deacon: **Offertory sentence**

Please remember that you can give on-line at www.onrealm.org or by texting BREAD to 73256

Thank you for your financial support!

Offertory: Lift Every Voice and Sing II (LEVAS) #137 *Just as I Am*

1 Just as I am, without one plea, But that thy blood was shed for me, And that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2 Just as I am, though tossed about With many-a conflict, many-a doubt; Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight riches, healing of the mind, Yea, all I need in thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4 Just as I am, thou wilt receive; Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve, Because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, thy love unknown Has broken every barrier down; Now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am, of thy great love The breadth, length, depth, and height to prove, Here for a season, then above:
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Holy Communion 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.

(Proper Preface)

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: **Hymnal #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. Hosanna in the highest.** [Remain standing or kneel.]

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 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

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: The Armed Forces PBk 1951*

Communion: Lift Every Voice and Sing II (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!

Prayer after Communion – BCP pg. 366

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing & Dismissal

People Thanks be to God.

Hymnal#436 Lift Up Your Heads

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits!
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.
2 O blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes to whom this King of triumph comes!
3 Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.
4 Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee: here, Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel: thy grace and love in me reveal.
5 So come, my Sovereign; enter in! Let new and nobler life begin;
thy Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

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Officiant: Mo. Lou Divis

Assistant: Deacon John Davis

Organist: Mary-Jo Cliff

Choir Director: Melissa Driscole

Broadcast Media: Rick Little

Readers: Al Mileski, Gail Prye

Intercessor:

Ushers: Butch Schmaltz (8) – Maureen Wezmar (11)

Altar Guild: Sue Six, Mary DeNault

Social Media Director: Barbara Little

Sexton: Jeff Napierala

Admin: Adrien Lambert