



# St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday, February 5th, 2023, 10.30am

The Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany

Welcome to Our Guests

*We are so glad you have chosen to worship at St. John's today. You are very welcome to receive Holy Communion if you have been baptized in any Christian Church. Those who wish not to receive Holy Communion may come to the altar rail, fold their arms across their chests, and receive a blessing from the priest. Children's activity bags are available in the back of the church.*

## HOLY EUCHARIST (RITE II)

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**THE PRELUDE** *Ricercar (Messa delli Apostoli)* Girolamo Frescobaldi  
*Prelude in C* Johann Sebastian Bach

**THE OPENING HYMN** 428 *O all ye works of God, now come*

## THE WORD OF GOD

*p. 355*

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

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

*Celebrant* 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.**

## THE GLORIA

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-

might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,  
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;  
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For  
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of  
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*All sit.*

### THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: ISAIAH 58:1-9A

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

### PSALM 112:1-9 Chant: Thomas Attwood

*Sung by choir.*

1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
and have great delight in his commandments!

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
and their righteousness will last for ever.

4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

- 6 For they will never be shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.
- 8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- 9 They have given freely to the poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

### **THE EPISTLE: 1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-12**

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

**SEQUENCE HYMN 490** *I want to walk as a child of the light*

## THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 5:13-20

*All stand*

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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

**THE SERMON** The Rev. Dr. Deonna Neal

*All sit.*

## THE NICENE CREED

*All stand.*

*The Celebrant and People say together*

**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.

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM VI)** *All kneel as able. p. 392*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work; **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world; **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation; **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Glenda and Brian our Bishops, and Duncan and Deonna our priests, and all bishops and other ministers; **For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence (The People may add their own petitions.)*

Hear us, Lord; **For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence (The People may add their own thanksgivings)*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence (The People may add their own petitions)*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

## Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence*

*Priest and People*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 people stand to greet one another.*

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

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

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The celebrant will say an offertory sentence. The people sit.*

Offertory Anthem *He Shall Feed His Flock (Messiah)* G F Handel

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young. Come unto him, all ye that labor, come unto him that are heavy laden, and he will give you rest. Take his yoke upon you, and learn of him, for he is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls

*All stand and sing the Offertory verse when the offertory is brought up to the altar.*

**All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad; the Trinity whom we adore for ever and for evermore.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (PRAYER A)

*All stand.* p.361

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord, that in him we have seen the light of the world and received your Spirit, who has begun the rebuilding of our integrity on the ancient foundations of justice, mercy and compassion. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**THE SANCTUS (S128)**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,  
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the  
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

*All kneel as they are able*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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**

*Celebrant* 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**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

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

*The Celebrant presents the holy gifts to the congregation saying*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith with

Thanksgiving.

*The priest receives the Sacrament, and then serves the people with these words:*

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

*Communion is offered in both kinds at the communion rail or station on the floor.  
Communicants may receive the wine by intinction or by drinking directly from the cup.*

**THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

*All kneel as they are able. p. 366*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**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.**

**THE BLESSING**

*All kneel.*

*The Celebrant blesses the people*

You are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Go, therefore, and let your light shine before others that seeing your justice, mercy and compassion they may give glory to God in heaven.

And may God the Father guide you;

May God the Son satisfy your needs even in parched places,

and may God the Holy Spirit make your life as rich as a garden whose springs of living water never fail.

And the blessing of God the Holy Trinity be upon you and remain with you always

**THE CLOSING HYMN 339** *Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness*

**THE SENDING OUT**

*Minister* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**THE POSTLUDE**

*Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness*

J G Walther

## TODAY'S SERVERS

**Acolytes:** Wyatt Wells, Susannah Miller, Molly Selman, Samuel Collier, Eloise Carlisle

**Lector and Intercessor:** Ashley Hamlett, Debbie Schremser

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Mary Hughes, Leale McCall, Dudley Perry

**Ushers/Greeters:** William Haynes, Debbie Schremser, Anne Hamner, Cam Hughes, Kathleen Bradford

**Altar Guild:** Josie Eskridge

**Flower Guild:** Jane Bargainer, Josie Eskridge, Margaret Peoples

**Flower Delivery Team:** Carma Marks, Jeanette Lynne, George Matthews

**Videographer:** Scott Mitchell

**Instrumentalists:** Robert Scott, *flute*; Bob Hoit, *clarinet*; David Simpson, *bassoon*.

**Altar Flowers given in memory of:** Harald Ernst Hermann Rohlig, Jeanette Hart Lynn, Albert Leon Lynn, Sr., James Thomas Freeman, Detlev Harald Rohlig, Deborah Anne Rohlig, William Arthur Cannon, Mildred Lucille Coapstick, Thomas Eugene Cannon, Mary Rita Unger, Patricia Jean Hoefling

**Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:** Jim Bennett, Bill & Lida Bowman, Rod Frazer, Leslie Little, Ken Mahan, Christopher Marshall, Richard McCrory, Eddie McDowell, Marilyn Pickett, Shirley Price, Evelyn Sherbert, Tommy Tyson, Larry Worrilow.

**Prayers are also requested for these friends:** Philip Eagerton, Hope Hamblin, Johnathan Pace, Karen and Angelo Pacheco, Robert Proctor, Thomas Storie, Sarah Stone Walker

*Please notify us when you are sick or hospitalized so that we might provide pastoral care. The prayer list will be updated monthly, please notify us if names need to remain longer.*

**Pastoral Care Team for February:** Cindy Seibels, Florence Tyson, Margaret Ann Selman, Anne Hamner, Susan Harris

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**2023 Pledge:** Please remember to fill out your 2023 pledge card. If you do not have one, you may ask a vestry member, or call or email the office. We are 92% of the way there. We have received \$1,305,403.07 and have \$61,712.50 outstanding.

**Ephesians Winter Bible Study-** Deonna is leading an 11-week Bible study on Paul's letter to the Ephesians. Two identical sessions will be offered to provide a variety of participation options, Sunday mornings (in-person) from 9.15 to 10.15am in the Archives room and Tuesday nights (via Zoom) from 7pm to 8pm.

**Rector's Forum: Welcome Course-** Duncan will lead an engaging program of presentations and discussions about the Christian faith and the Episcopal tradition. Sunday mornings, 9:15 to 10:15 am in the Library.

**Backpack Program FUNdraiser-** Thursday February 16th, 6:30-9:30. Join us for a fun filled Mardi Gras Whodunit at The Fitz! Enjoy delicious appetizers, drinks and a spirited time in support of St. John's BackPack Program. More information and tickets available on the website.

**Cello and Violin Concert:** Sunday, February 19, 4 pm. Alexie Romanenko and Jonathan Kuo will perform works by Kodaly, Servais-Ghys, Reger and Handel.

**Paper Eagle-** If you would like to start or stop receiving the paper Eagle, please email [constance@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:constance@stjohnsmontgomery.org)

**Service Opportunities-** Several of our service groups are looking for additional help, including: Brass Polishing, Flower Guild, Flower Delivery Team, Men's Breakfast Brigade and Pastoral Care Committee. If you would be interested in any of these ministries, please email [constance@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:constance@stjohnsmontgomery.org)