



Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

January 28th, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Welcome to worship at Saint John's Episcopal Church.

Here are a few notes to make you feel more comfortable.

- Relax and allow your focus to be on praising God, not on the “right” way to do things, because there is no “right” way.
- Please remain muted for the duration of the service unless you have a speaking role. All are welcome to unmute themselves during announcements.
- Above all, ask questions through Zoom's chat feature, if you have them. Anyone in the congregation will be happy to try and answer them.

We gather quietly for a period of meditation and reflection.

The Liturgy of the Word

The service begins with three chimes of a bell, followed by the announcement of the opening hymn.

OPENING HYMN –371 (*standing, as able*)

THOU, WHOSE ALMIGHTY WORD

John Marriott

- 1 **Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and, where the Gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light!**
- 2 **Thou who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
now to all humankind,
let there be light!**
- 3 **Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight!
Move on the waters' face
bearing the gifts of grace,
and, in earth's darkest place,
let there be light!**
- 4 **Holy and bless'd Three,
glorious Trinity,
wisdom, love, might;
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world, far and wide,
let there be light!**

OPENING ACCLAMATION (*standing, as able*)

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

People And blessed God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant says

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 COLLECT OF THE DAY (*standing, as able*)

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON: DEUTERONOMY 18: 15-20 (*seated*)

Reader A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

[Moses summoned all Israel and said to them,] "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the Lord replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.'"

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 111 (*seated*)

Leader Let us read Psalm 111 responsively by whole verse.

- 1 Hallelujah!
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
- 2 **Great are the deeds of the Lord! ***
they are studied by all who delight in them.
- 3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures forever.
- 4 **He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; ***
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.
- 5 He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant
- 6 **He has shown his people the power of his works ***
in giving them the lands of the nations.
- 7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.
- 8 **They stand fast for ever and ever, ***
because they are done in truth and equity.
- 9 He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant forever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.
- 10 **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; ***
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures forever.

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 8:1-13 (*seated*)

Reader

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Reader

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: MARK 1:21-28 (*standing, as able*)

Gospeller

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Gospeller

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON (*seated*)

The Rev. Christopher Richardson

THE NICENE CREED (*standing, as able*)

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 (*standing, as able*)

Officiant Creator of the stars in the sky, the sun, and the moon, You are the light by which we wake and work.

People **Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.**

Officiant Surround your church, her leaders, and people, with your armor of light. We pray especially for Michael, our presiding bishop; Wayne, Ken, Nedi, and Wendell, our bishops; Kristin, our bishop-elect; and Christopher, our priest. Strengthen them as they reach out to you in prayer and hope. Open their hearts to your will.

People **Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.**

Officiant We pray for our leaders: especially Joe, our president; Mike, our governor; and the Congress and courts of this land. Savior of the nations, guide those who govern, and awaken those they lead, that we may all live in the spirit of cooperation and share so that all have enough: food, care, and peace.

People **Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.**

Officiant For people across the world whose spirits bend under the yoke of oppression and struggle, give the people of this community a sense of togetherness and support. Open our eyes to those who fall by the wayside and whose faces and needs remain invisible.

People **Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.**

Officiant Lover of our souls, you continue to mold us in your image and hold us in your hands. We ask your blessing on those who struggle with illness, anxiety, grief, or isolation. Today we pray for the Alcott family, Richard Barohn, Mary Becht, Susan Bush, the Correa family, Jenny Coss, Sue Craig, Maureen Cunningham, Michael Curry, Chad Dade and family, Bernadette Dickerson, Darrell Forren, Kim French, Brenda Groff, John Kissel, Kevin Lewis, Marian Peeler, Taryn Rapp and family, Barb Phillips, David Richards, Nadya Richardson, Rodger Silvia, Charles Spissu, Dale Van Bibber, Bill Walker, Mike and Sue Whitaker, Eric Williams, Alexander, Keller, Monica, and all of the people across the world affected by natural disasters, violence, and war.

People **Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.**

Officiant Father of us all, we pray for those who have recently returned to your embrace and those who are broken with grief.

People **Amen.**

Officiant Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

The People may stand or kneel as able.

People **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Officiant 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.

People **Amen.**

PEACE (*standing, as able*)

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS (*seated*)

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (*seated*)

Officiant Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY HYMN – 530 (*seated*)

SPREAD, O SPREAD, THOUGH MIGHTY WORD

Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Spread, O spread, thou mighty word,
spread the kingdom of the Lord,
that to earth's remotest bound
all may heed the joyful sound; | 4 | word of how the Spirit came
bringing peace in Jesus' name;
how his never-failing love
guides us on to heaven above. |
| 2 | word of how the Father's will
made the world, and keeps it, still;
how his only Son he gave,
earth from sin and death to save; | 5 | Word of life, most pure and strong,
word for which the nations long,
spread abroad, until from night
all the world awakes to light. |
| 3 | word of how the Savior's love
earth's sore burden doth remove;
how forever, in its need,
through his death the world is freed; | | |

DOXOLOGY (*standing, as able*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures, high and low;
Give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

The Holy Communion

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C (*standing, as able*)

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 our 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:

People **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.

(standing or kneeling, as able)

Celebrant And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

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 Ancestors; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, and Leah; 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 *(standing or kneeling, as able)*

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

People **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 (*standing or kneeling, as able*)

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

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

The ministers receive the Sacrament, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

EUCCHARISTIC HYMN –567 (*seated*)

THINE ARM, O LORD, IN DAYS OF OLD

William Alexander Percy

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old
was strong to heal and save;
it triumphed o'er disease and death,
o'er darkness and the grave.
To thee they went, the blind, the deaf,
the palsied, and the lame,
the leper set apart and shunned,
the sick with fevered frame. | 3 | Be thou our great deliverer still,
thou Lord of life and death;
restore and quicken, soothe and bless,
with thine almighty breath:
to hands that work and eyes that see,
give wisdom's heavenly lore,
that whole and sick, and weak and strong,
may praise thee evermore. |
| 2 | And lo! thy touch brought life and
health,
gave hearing, strength, and sight;
and youth renewed and frenzy calmed
owned thee, the Lord of light:
and now, O Lord, be near to bless,
almighty as of yore,
in crowded street, by restless couch,
as by Gennesaret's shore. | | |

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER (*standing or kneeling, as able*)

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.**

THE BLESSING (*standing or kneeling, as able*)

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.

People **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN –438 (*seated*)

TELL OUT, MY SOUL, THE GREATNESS OF THE LORD

Timothy Dudley-Smith

- 1 **Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.**
- 2 **Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age the same;
his holy Name- Lord, the Mighty One.**
- 3 **Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**
- 4 **Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!**

DISMISSAL (*standing, as able*)

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- All are invited to join us in our meeting room following the service for coffee and fellowship.
- Office hours have been updated! Sam will be in the office Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.
- Annual Meeting will be held Sunday February 25th, 2024, immediately following the 10 a.m. service. The slate of nominees for Mission Council and Delegates to Diocesan Convention is as follows:
Tim Phillips- Senior Warden and Delegate to Diocesan Convention
Margaret Sirbaugh- Junior Warden and Delegate to Diocesan Convention
John Kissel- Alternative Delegate to Diocesan Convention
Kristyn Quiroga- Alternative Delegate to Diocesan Convention
- God willing and the people consenting, the Rev. Canon Kristin Uffelman White will be ordained bishop on Saturday, February 17 at 11 a.m. at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus. Everyone in our diocese is invited to attend in person! The service will also be livestreamed on the diocesan website.
Reservations are not required, but your RSVP
(<https://form.jotform.com/233523865584162>) will help us plan. Please be sure to reserve a spot if you need childcare during the ordination service so we have as many caregivers as we need.
- The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which will be February 14 this year. We will have a service with the imposition of ashes that Wednesday at 6 p.m.
- You can now enroll in Kroger Community Rewards. This is a way to raise funds for St. John's simply by shopping at Kroger. If you need assistance with this process, please contact Sam at stjadministrator@st-johns-columbus.org.
- St. John's and Sacred Table are hosting a dinner church twice a month on Wednesday evenings. This will be an opportunity to gather around a "dinner table" as sacred space. Worship and a meal will all be one experience, and we will have local artists, poets, and musicians joining us. The next dinner will be hosted at St. John's on February 21st at 6 p.m.
- Street Church meets at the PNC on the corner of Central and Broad on Sundays at 1 p.m.
- If you know anyone in assisted care, please reach out to us! We would love to keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

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Saint John's Worships on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Staff:

The Rev. Christopher C. Richardson, *Priest-in-Charge*
Sam Meade, *Church Administrator*
Darrell Forren, *Pianist*
Don Sirbaugh, *Sexton*

Mission Council Members:

Kurt Wacker, *Senior Warden*
John Kissel, *Junior Warden*
Julie Farr
Peg Kissel
Kristyn Quiroga
Gay Roberts
Charles Spissu
Nadya Richardson, *Treasurer*
Sam Meade, *Clerk*

Mission Statement:

St. John's is a body of Christians, where all are welcome, giving thanks to God through traditional worship in an informal setting and serving God, fully dedicated to being in ministry with our neighborhood and beyond.

Vision Statement:

St. John's envisions a world of equity, peace, and compassion. At St. John's you can be yourself, while experiencing God's love, without fear of judgment.

Who We Are:

St. John's was founded in 1873 as a neighborhood mission and continues to strive to be fully engaged in the Franklinton community through worship, service, and relationships. We do not do outreach; everything we do reaches out into the larger community and invites the community into the life of the congregation.

