

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

January 10, 2021 · 9:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST

Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church, Lafayette Square.

PRELUDE: *Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Épiphanie*, Op. 13 Maurice Duruflé
(1902-1986)

RECTOR'S WELCOME

HYMN 119

As with gladness men of old

Please stand as the procession enters.

1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly man - ger - bed;
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at that man - ger rude and bare;
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus! ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;
 5 In the heaven - ly coun - try bright, need they no cre - a - ted light;

1 as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
 2 there to bend the knee be - fore him whom heaven and earth a - dore;
 3 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
 4 and, when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
 5 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;

1 so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led to thee.
 2 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek the mer - cy - seat.
 3 all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ! to thee, our heaven - ly King.
 4 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
 5 there for ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our King.

The Reverend Robert W. Fisher
Rector

The Reverend Savannah Ponder
Associate Rector

The Reverend William Morris
*Assisting Priest for Engaging
Faith and the Workplace*

Kaye Edwards
*Assistant for
Church Growth*

Brent Erstad
Director of Music and Organist

Samantha Scheff
Associate Organist

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)
 Music: Dix, melody Conrad Kocher (1786-1872); arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889); harm.
The English Hymnal, 1906
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THE WORD OF GOD

Please continue to stand.

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

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

Priest: 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.

People: **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

Priest: O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

THE READING

Please be seated.

Read by Anthony Pegues.

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

Read by Craig Burkhardt.

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people;
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish;
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute,
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress,
and the oppressed who has no helper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor;
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence,
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Tone VI

Alleluia.
We have seen his star in the East:
and are come with offerings to worship the Lord.
Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Please be seated.

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM IV)

Please stand.

Led by Betsy Danello.

Leader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world, responding with the words "Hear our prayer."

Leader: Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For the communities of St. John's and our companion relationships with the *Anglican Church of Southern Africa** and the *Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem*, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, for *Christ Church, Washington*. For *Michael*, our Presiding Bishop, for our Bishops, *Mariann* and *Chilton*, and for all bishops and other ministers. Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. For *Donald*, our President, *Joseph*, President-elect, the leaders of *Congress*, the *Supreme Court*, and for all who serve our country. We pray for a peaceful transition of power and for our city during this time of transition. Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

* In particular, the Kwasa Centre in the Diocese of the Highveld.

Leader: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. For those celebrating a birthday this week, especially *Bonnie DeWitt, Lizzie Ehrich, Spencer Galm, Hannah Hahn, Jack Herzog, Gabriela Koch, Kevin Kozlowski, Julie Neff Lippman, Jessica Martens, Cami Pease, Raymond Petniunas, Natalie Popovic, Ellen Spencer, Ken Starling, Chandler Van Orman, Willy Wolter, and Renée Yancey*; for those celebrating an anniversary this week, especially *Fruzsina Harsanyi and Raymond Garcia, Kate Bedingfield and David Kieve, and Emily and John Lucio*. Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially *Jimmy Lowe* who is in hospice care; and those who are sick and who are shut-ins. For *all affected by the coronavirus*. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Priest: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Priest 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.

ABSOLUTION

Priest: 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.

THE PEACE

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN 128

We three kings of Orient



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,
 3 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
 5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -



1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
 3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.
 4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain

O star of won - der, star of night,

star with roy - al beau - ty bright; west - ward lead - ing,

still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Words: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891), alt.
 Music: *Three Kings of Orient*, John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891)
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A PRAYER FOR STEWARDSHIP

Priest and People:

Gracious and everlasting God, the giver of all good gifts, you have blessed us and our parish abundantly. Grant us the hope to dream and the courage to live into our possibilities. Make us faithful stewards, both for the provision of our necessities and for the relief of those who are in need. Bless the efforts of our Annual Giving this year to extend the work of spiritual renewal in our church and community of faith. Through Jesus Christ, who gave all of himself, we offer this prayer. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please remain standing.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

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

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

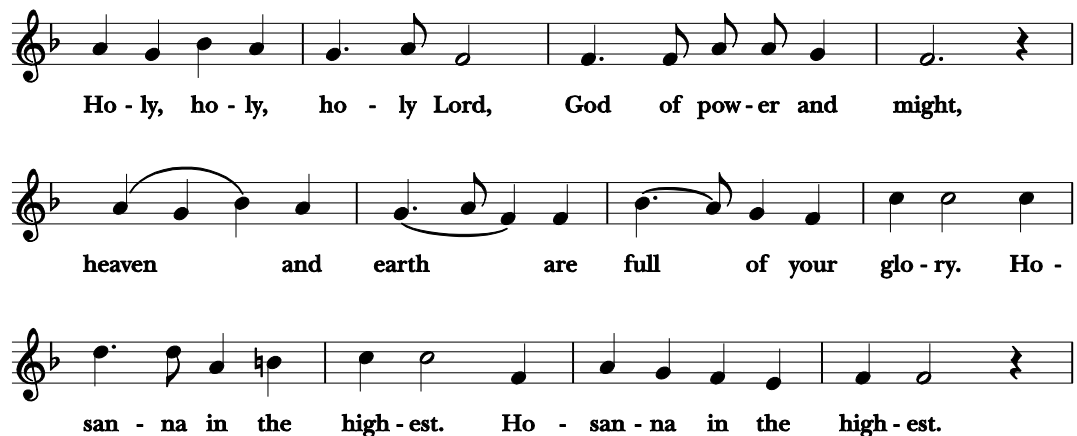
People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Priest: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

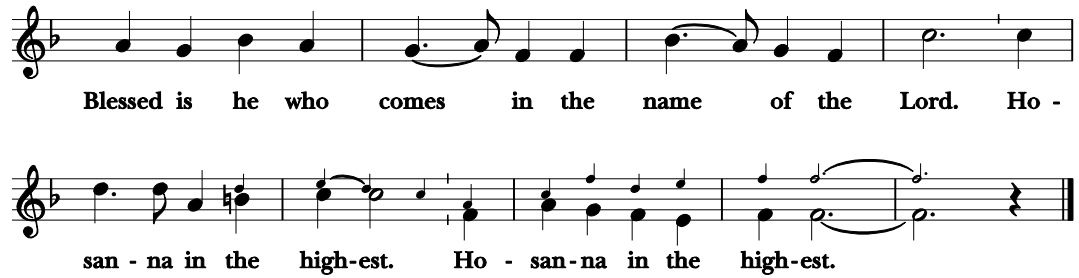
Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

SANCTUS (S-125)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



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Please stand or kneel.

Priest: 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Priest and People:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Priest: 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.

People: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Priest and 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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Priest: 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.

All persons, including children, are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us. During this time, our practice will be to offer the bread and the wine following health guidelines. An usher will provide communicants with hand sanitizer before the priest (who has washed his or her hands immediately prior) places a blessed wafer into your hands. Take a few steps, remove your mask, and consume the wafer. Blessed wine in small paper cups on a tray will be offered by a lay server.

After drinking the wine, place the cup in the basket at the end of the line.

Receiving the bread only is a valid way to share in Holy Communion. Parents may decide if their children receive the bread and/or wine. Children may instead signal their desire to be blessed by the priest by crossing their arms over their chest.

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION

Anthem *The Three Kings*

Peter Cornelius

Chris Jones, cantor

Three Kings from Persian lands afar
To Jordan follow the pointing star:
And this the quest of the travellers three,
Where the new-born King of the Jews may be.
Full royal gifts they bear for the King;
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

The star shines out with a steadfast ray
The kings to Bethlehem make their way,
And there in worship they bend the knee,
As Mary's child in her lap they see;
Their royal gifts they show to the King;
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

Thou Child of man, lo, to Bethlehem
The Kings are travelling, travel with them!
The star of mercy, the star of grace,
Shall lead thy heart to its resting place.
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;
Offer thy heart to the infant King.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand.

Priest: Let us pray.

Priest and People:

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

Priest: Life is short. And we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

People: Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Puer Nobis Nascitur*

Nicolas Lebègue
(1631-1702)

ASSISTING AT THE 9:00 A.M. SERVICE TODAY: Brandon Montgomery, *Crucifer*; James Doyle, *Lay Minister*; Katherine Kyle, *Flower Guild*; and Chris Danello and Rick Young, *Ushers*.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH are given to the glory of God.



Welcome!

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, we believe Christ is calling us to be a renewed church in a changing world. Empowered by the Spirit of God, we respond to Jesus' call as we deepen our bond with Christ through worship, become a community where all are accepted, and work together as laity and clergy to do God's work in the world.

ST JOHN'S WAS ORGANIZED IN 1815 to serve as a parish church for Episcopalians residing in the neighborhoods in the west end of the District of Columbia. Its cornerstone was laid on September 14, 1815, and it was consecrated on December 27, 1816. Beginning with James Madison, every person who has held the office of President of the United States has attended a service at the church. Several Presidents have been communicants. Thus, St. John's is often referred to as the "Church of the Presidents." Pew 54 is the President's Pew. The architect of the church was Benjamin Henry Latrobe, who assisted in the rebuilding of the U.S. Capitol and the White House after the War of 1812. Twenty-five of the stained glass windows in St. John's were designed and executed by artisans of the noted Lorin firm of Chartres, France.

BROCHURES DESCRIBING PARISH LIFE, the history of St. John's, and the Episcopal denomination can be found in the church entrance. If you are visiting, please fill out the visitor information card found at the end of each pew to enable us to welcome you personally into the life of our parish.

ST JOHN'S WEBSITE WWW.STJOHNS-DC.ORG has up-to-date information about the Church including the weekly calendar, the Sunday service schedule, Speaker Series speakers and topics, the music calendar and newsworthy events.

Vestry

Paul Barkett, *Senior Warden*

Jeff Hantson, *Junior Warden*

Laurie Adams, Andrew Clarke,
Carolyn Crouch, Lauren Edwards,
Martha Ellison, Peter Odom, Anthony
Pegues, Scott Raab, Nora Rigby,
Jessica Sanchez, Desirée Stolar,
and Carl Ward.

Casey Evans, *Treasurer*

Sara McGanity, *Assistant Treasurer*

Andrew Tomlinson, *Secretary*

Christopher R. Wall, *Parish Counsel*

Head Usher

James H. Czerwonky

Staff

Kim Carlson
Director for Operations

Preston Cherouny
Financial Secretary

Sharlyne Griffin
Receptionist

R. J. Gravina
Program Coordinator

Javier Obregon, *Sexton*

GeeGee Bryant and David Gamboa,
Assistant Sextons

Parish House

1525 H Street N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005-1005

Telephone 202-347-8766

Website www.stjohns-dc.org