

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 31, 2021 · 9:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST

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

PRELUDE: *Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele*, BWV 654
(Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness)

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

RECTOR'S WELCOME

HYMN 448

O love, how deep, how broad, how high

Please stand as the procession enters.



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
 4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
 5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
 6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
 3 dai - ly works he wrought; by words and signs and
 4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
 5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
 6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
 3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
 4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
 5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
 6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

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: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt.
 Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.;
 harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949)
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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: 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 READING

Please be seated.

Read by Richard Doege.

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

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: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 111

Read by Allie Raether.

- 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 for ever.
- 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 for ever;
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 for ever.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Tone VI

Alleluia.
I will worship toward thy holy Temple
and praise thy name.
Alleluia.

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

The Rev. Savannah Ponder

Please be seated.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM IV)

Led by Clark Ervin.

Please stand.

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 *St. Thomas' 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 *Joseph*, our President, the leaders of *Congress*, the *Supreme Court*, and for all who serve our country. Lord, in your mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

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

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.**

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 *Thomas Arrasmith, Susanna Blair, Justin Bouma, Gloria Burkhardt, Audrey Wood Corcoran, David Dawson, George Ehrich, Elijah Greene, Lisa Kirchenbauer, Jimmy Lowe, Jim Mullins, Kristina Pasqualone, Michael Waltz, Brenda Wolter, and Harrison Yi*; for those celebrating an anniversary this week, especially *Sharon and Randy Deangelis, Marisol and Jeffrey Lovelace, and Brittany and Will Rabbe*; and in thanksgiving for *Bianca Celeste Hillery Gaziano* who was born January 14. 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 ANTHEM

There is a balm in Gilead — Spiritual

arr. Robert Poovey

Tory Wood, cantor

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole.
There is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sinsick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged,
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again. *Refrain*

If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus,
who died to save us all. *Refrain.*

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.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. 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.

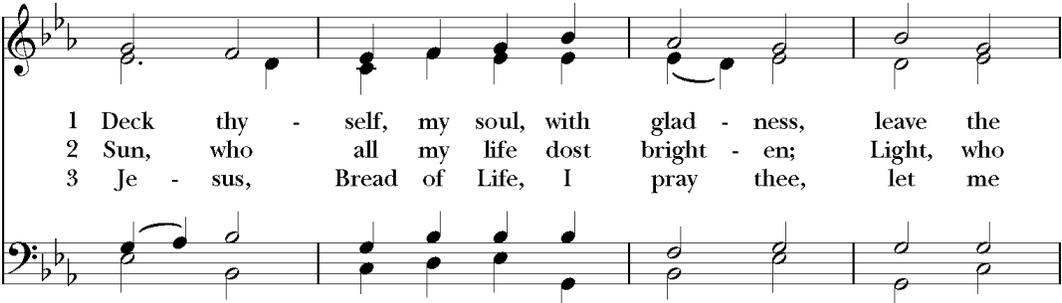
After drinking the wine, place the cup in the basket at the end of the line.

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

Hymn 339

Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness



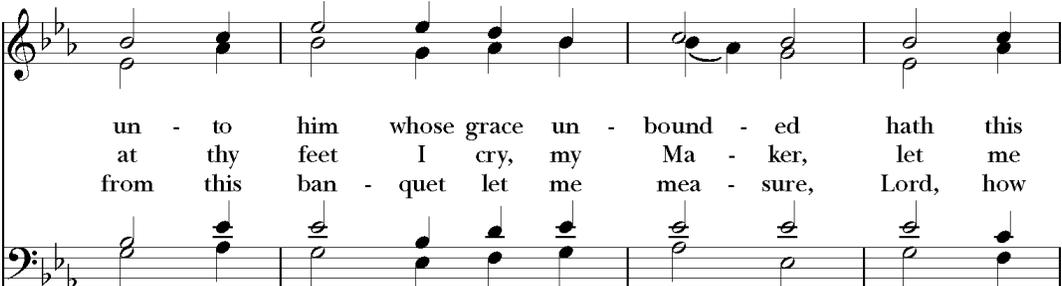
1 Deck thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness, leave the
2 Sun, who all my life dost bright - en; Light, who
3 Je - sus, Bread of Life, I pray thee, let me



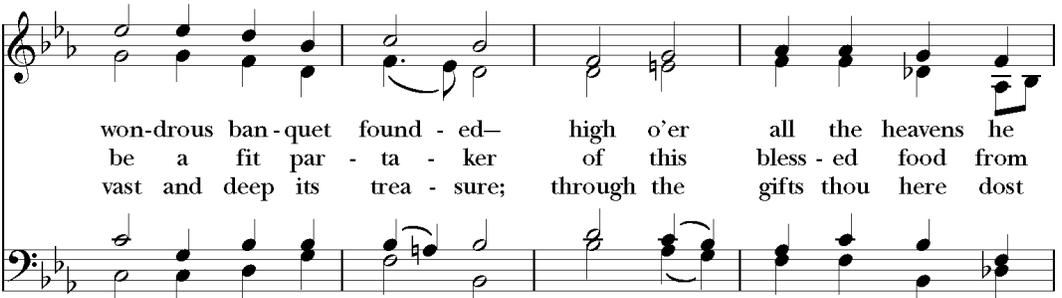
gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's
dost my soul en - light - en; Joy, the best that an - y
glad - ly here o - bey thee; nev - er to my hurt in -



splen - dor, there with joy thy prais - es ren - der
know - eth; Fount, whence all my be - ing flow - eth:
vit - ed, be thy love with love re - quit - ed;



un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed hath this
at thy feet I cry, my Ma - ker, let me
from this ban - quet let me mea - sure, Lord, how



won - drous ban - quet found - ed - high o'er all the heavens he
be a fit par - ta - ker of this bless - ed food from
vast and deep its trea - sure; through the gifts thou here dost

reign - eth, yet to dwell with thee he deign - eth.
 hea - ven, for our good, thy glo - ry, giv - en.
 give me, as thy guest in heaven re - ceive me.

Words: Johann Franck (1618-1677); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.
 Music: *Schmücke dich*, melody Johann Crüger (1598-1662); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906
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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, saintbe 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: *Wir glauben all an einen Gott*, BWV 680
 (We all believe in one God)

J.S. Bach

ASSISTING AT THE 9:00 A.M. SERVICE TODAY: Andrew Hunt, *Crucifer*; Debby Hailey, *Lay Minister*;
 Katherine Kyle, *Flower Guild*; and Robert Carroll, *Usher*.

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

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