



St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Piney Parish

The Third Sunday After the Epiphany

January 24, 2021

PRELUDE

In Christ there is no East or West

Dahl

CALL TO WORSHIP

Officiant From God comes my salvation
People **For God alone my soul waits in silence.**

Officiant God alone is my rock and my salvation.
People **God is my fortress; I shall never be shaken.**

Officiant Blessed be the one, holy Living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

PRAYER FOR PURITY

Officiant Let us pray.
All **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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

Hymnal S-280

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Jesus, our Redeemer, give us your power to reveal and proclaim the good news, so that wherever we may go the sick may be healed, lepers embraced, and the dead and dying given new life; for the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

YOUNG DISCIPLES MOMENT

Showing Love

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 =

Today's reading tells of Jonah's obedience to God's second call. As the capital city of Assyria, Nineveh not only posed a political danger, its "wickedness" (1:2) jeopardized Israel's spiritual welfare. The evil of the city and its inhabitants makes even more surprising the belief and repentance with which they respond to the message of this Israelite.

The Lord's word came to Jonah a second time: "Get up and go to Nineveh, that great city, and declare against it the proclamation that I am commanding you." And Jonah got up and went to Nineveh, according to the Lord's word. (Now Nineveh was indeed an enormous city, a three days' walk across.)

Jonah started into the city, walking one day, and he cried out, "Just forty days more and Nineveh will be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God. They proclaimed a fast and put on mourning clothes, from the greatest of them to the least significant.

God saw what they were doing—that they had ceased their evil behavior. So God stopped planning to destroy them, and he didn't do it.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalms 62:6-14

A response to God's aid in time of trouble

For God alone my soul in silence waits; *
truly, there is my hope.

God alone is my rock and my salvation, *
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.

In God is my safety and my honor; *
God is my strong rock and my refuge.

Put your trust in God always, O people, *
pour out your hearts before the One who is our refuge.

Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, *
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.

On the scales they are lighter than a breath, *
all of them together.

Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; *
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

Steadfast love is yours, O God, *
for you repay everyone according to their deeds.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:14-20

Today's gospel recounts the beginning of Jesus' ministry.

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

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

After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, saying, "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!"

As Jesus passed alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," he said, "and I'll show you how to fish for people." Right away, they left their nets and followed him. After going a little farther, he saw James and John, Zebedee's sons, in their boat repairing the fishing nets. At that very moment he called them. They followed him, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired workers.

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Deacon Steve Seely

THE NICENE CREED

The Nicene Creed, the Church's central statement of faith, emerged out of the first four councils of the Church in the 4th century in response to controversies about Jesus' divinity. The Latin root of the phrase "we believe" (credo) means to "give one's heart." The creed is our way of affirming who is deserving of our heart amidst fear and doubt. The term apostolic refers to the historic succession of the apostles (original leaders of the early church) through our bishops. The term catholic refers to the church throughout the world.

Officiant Let us affirm our faith in the Triune God.

All **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

Officiant

Merciful God, you continually call us into the deep, away from lives with no direction. Be present with us as we navigate the waters of faithfulness. Turn us in the direction of your voice and purpose.

Intercessor

Give us the courage to respond to your call and go where you lead us.

And the people say, "Amen."

We are abundantly blessed and praise you for your goodness and care for us.

We come to you with thankful hearts, and the people say, “Amen.”

Equip the leaders of your faithful people to lead with holy vision. We pray for wisdom and stamina for our bishops, priests, and deacons. Guide them as they guide your people. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we lift up St. Paul's Church, Baden and St. Mary's Chapel, Aquasco; St. Paul's Church, Rock Creek; St. Paul's Church, K Street; St. Paul's Church, Piney; the upcoming Diocesan Convention: Bishop Mariann Diocesan Convention Officers, and Clerical and Lay Delegates, (January 30); St. Timothy's Parish and Child Development Center, D.C.

And the people say, “Amen.”

Strengthen our nation's relationship across boundaries and language. Put words of peace on the lips of every world leader. Open the eyes of people everywhere to need of their neighbors.

And the people say, “Amen.”

We lift those who are hurting into your healing presence: for those facing the struggles of illness, uncertainty, broken relationships, and world weariness: **Lorraine, Jason, Sallie, Joan, Barbara, Skip, Re-Gathering Team, Sally, Donna, Diane, Jack & Joyce, Rodgers, Shauna, Margaret, Tom, BJ C., Jerry C., Gayle, Darrel, Gina, Sully L., Jim H., Father Chris J., Dan C., Charlie O., Ben T., Debbie T., Kristen, Danni, Mike G., Cameron, Bebe, Zach, Megan, Casey, Nate, Garrett, Connor, Matt, Chris, Jimmy, James, Kenny, Pat, and Luke.** For those who have died, may it be a holy death and reception into eternal life: Mike Bamber, (Susan Parody's son-in-law's father), Robert Girard, (Susan Parody's uncle), Paul Lewis (father of Paula and Sewell Truitte's nieces), and David Agee (brother-in-law of Diane Hess, our parish administrator)

For whom do you pray?

(Please add your intercessions and thanksgivings, silently or aloud.) The Officiant will add a concluding collect.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant As Christ teaches us, we pray:

All **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 CONFESSION

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **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 ABSOLUTION

Officiant May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

PRAYER FOR A BIRTHDAY

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants *she/he/they* begin another year. Grant that *she/he/they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his/her/their* trust in your goodness all the days of *his/her/their* life(ves); through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ANNIVERSARY

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

HOLY THANKSGIVING

Officiant Let us pray.

People God of Love, we thank you for bringing us together in this place, on this day to honor and to celebrate you and your People, the living, loving Body of Christ. Jesus told his disciples, "Whenever two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Bless this gathering as a sacramental rite, a visible sign of your love for us, and our love for one another. Even in the absence of the bread and the wine, let us feed on You, your Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, in our hearts, with faith and thanksgiving. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Lead on, O king eternal

vv. 1-2

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a corresponding line of lyrics. The first system has two lines of lyrics. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The piece concludes with a double bar line.

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, the day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
hence - forth in fields of con - quest thy tents shall be our home:
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
through days of prep - a - ra - tion thy grace has made us strong,
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy, the heaven - ly king - dom comes.

THE DISMISSAL

Questions for Reflection

Psalm 62 ends by saying, “God, you repay to all according to their work.” Some of us may find that statement unsettling. Would you rather have God treat you with payment you deserve or with the grace that you hope for in Jesus Christ?

Household Prayer: Morning

Loving God, no matter what I am facing today—mourning or gladness, buying or selling—help me to focus on you throughout it all. Then bring me home safely to you. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God, thank you for the assurance that I live forgiven and loved by you. I need your grace and want to share your grace with others. As I face this night, help me to pour out my heart to you and then rest in peace. Amen.

PERMISSIONS

Call to Worship: *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*, Westminster John Knox © 2018

Prayers of the People & Scripture Notes: *Rites and Rituals for Year B, 2020-2021*

Prayer of the Day: *A New Zealand Prayer Book—He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa* © 1988. Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia

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