

The Last Sunday of Epiphany
St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY
19 February 2023 Year A
10:30 AM

* Indicates please stand

Prelude Air from *Suite No. 1*

Florence Price (1887–1953)

***Processional Hymn** O wondrous type! (*Wareham*)

Hymnal #137

***Opening Acclamation**

BCP 355

***Collect For Purity**

***Gloria**

Hymnal #S-280

The Collect of the Day

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Exodus 24:12-18

The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 2

Quare fremuerunt gentes?



1 Why are the nations | in an | uproar? *
 Why do the peoples | mutter |
 empty | threats?

2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in
 revolt,
 and the princes | plot to- | gether, *
 against the LORD and a- | gainst |
 his A- | nointed?

3 "Let us break their | yoke," they | say; *
 "let us | cast off · their | bonds from
 | us."

4 He whose throne is in | heaven is |
 laughing; *
 the Lord | has them | in de- | rision.

5 Then he speaks to them | in his |
 wrath, *
 and his rage | fills | them with |
 terror.

6 "I myself have | set my | king *
 upon my | holy | hill of | Zion."

7 Let me announce the decree | of the |
 LORD: *

he said to me, "You are my Son;
 this day | have | I be- | gotten you.

8 Ask of me, and I will give you the
 nations for | your in- | heritance *
 and the ends of the | earth for | your
 po- | ssession.

9 You shall crush them with an | iron |
 rod *
 and shatter them | like a | piece of |
 pottery."

10 And now, you | kings, be | wise; *
 be warned, you | rulers | of the |
 earth.

11 Submit to the LORD | with | fear, *
 and with | trembling | bow be- | fore
 him;

12 Lest he be angry | and you | perish; *
 for his | wrath is | quickly | kindled.

13 Happy | are they | all *
 who | take | refuge · in | him!
 !

The Epistle Reading

2 Peter 1:16-21

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Sequence** Christ up on the mountain peak (*Mousley*)

Hymnal #129

***The Gospel Reading**

Matthew 17:1-9

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Megan Castellan

***The Nicene Creed**

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**

Christ appeared to the apostles in the brilliance of heavenly light. Let us pray that his glory may illumine our hearts, as we offer our prayers, responding, “Hear us, God of glory.”

+ That we may be receptive to the power of the Divine Word to transform our lives, reorder our thoughts, give us truer vision, and deepen our desire for God’s truth; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ That we may find in law and prophecy the inheritance of our ancestors, and the freedom to move from the mountaintops of our experience into the marketplace of daily life; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ That as our faith increases, our thoughts and actions may reflect interior transfiguration, and our charity be extended to the poor, the hungry, the outcast, and all for whom our Lord Christ came to give his life; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ That God’s loving embrace may uphold and sustain those we hold in our thoughts, especially all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ In thanksgiving for our common journey in the faith, that we who have received the Word made flesh may embark on the holy road of Lent, and rejoice together in the Paschal mystery to come; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ In thanksgiving for the Body of Christ, and the Cup of Salvation; may it be for us a foretaste of Christ’s heavenly banquet which the faithful departed now enjoy; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ That Michael, our Presiding Bishop, DeDe, Bishop of this diocese, and all who exercise episcopal oversight may live into their office as chief pastors, teachers, and celebrants of the sacraments; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ For Congress to renew Farm Bill programs that address inequities such as the staggering racial imbalance among the current generation of farmers, and permit indigenous communities to administer SNAP and other federal nutrition programs on reservations.

Hear us, God of glory.

May the light of Christ be revealed through us, as we continue our prayers, either silently or aloud.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, and especially for

Joan	Wes	Rebecca	Peter	Deb
Richard	Charles	Strater	Dave	Allison
Shirley	Dick	Penny	Cece	Elizabeth

Katie	Lorraine	Ruth	Julianne	Eleanor
Theodore	Edith	Frank	Faicia	Bob
Carol	Kathryn	Jack	Jim	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:
Rosemary McKee

Confession Of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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.*

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 Peace**

Please remain in your pews. Wave!

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Announcements & Welcome

Offertory Sentence

Anthem O nata lux de lumine

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

O nata lux de lumine,
Jesu redemptor saeculi,
Dignare clemens supplicum
Laudes preces que sumere.

Qui carne quondam contegi
Dignatus es pro perditis.
Nos membra confer effici,
Tui beati corporis.

***Presentation Hymn** Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (*Hyfrydol*)

Hymnal #460

***The Great Thanksgiving**

Expanded Language Prayer A

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: *continuing:* 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:

Holy, holy, holy (*Sanctus*)

Hymnal #S-125

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and became 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 maker of all.

Jesus 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 Savior 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, Jesus 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:

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ.

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 Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Fraction Anthem **Lamb of God** (*Agnus Dei*)

Hymnal #S-163

The Communion of the People

All people are invited to the Lord's Table.

Eucharist will be distributed in the center aisle. Please come forward in a single line to receive.

You may either intinct your wafer in the small chalice, or you may drink from the larger common chalice after consuming the wafer.

Please replace your mask after receiving the sacrament.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Post Communion Prayer

*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.*

Blessing

Recessional Songs of thankfulness and praise (*Salzburg*)

Hymnal #135

Dismissal

Postlude Toccata from *Suite No. 1*

Florence Price

Liturgical Ministers: Ian Lundberg, Stephanie Nevels, Gwen Freeman

Acolyte: Ceril Sandstrom

Virtual Vergers: Sara VanLooy, Virginia McGhee

St. John's extends a warm welcome to visitors!

May you experience the Lord's presence during worship. Please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate and stay for coffee in the parish hall after the service.

LARGE PRINT EDITIONS OF THE SERVICE ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from **One License** with license # **A – 724223**

Organ Music for Black History Month

I am taking this February as an excuse to highlight some of the wonderful – and often underplayed – repertoire written for the organ by Black composers in our preludes and postludes throughout the month. Composers include my own compatriot from England, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor; Pulitzer-prize winning American composer George Walker; composer of the Harlem renaissance William Grant Still; and the incomparable Florence Price (whose bravura music charmed some of you last week... she is a favorite of mine!). This has been an inspiring project for me, and I am keen to share this beautiful music with you over the next few weeks – please do come and talk to me over coffee if you want to find out more!



St. John's Church
210 North Cayuga Street
Ithaca, NY
(607)-273-6532
www.stjohnsithaca.org

Office email: office@stjohnsithaca.org
"Like" us on facebook @ Saint John's Episcopal Church
Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 10–3

The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector

Gwen Freeman, Senior Warden
Parish Administrator, Cathy Wagner
Director of Music/Organist, Dr. Anna Stepler

Beverly Way, Junior Warden
Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

If you need pastoral assistance, or just want to reach out to Mtr. Megan, please call her at 315-757-0251, or e-mail mtrmegan@stjohnsithaca.org.

If you would like to contribute to our ministries, you may make a secure donation at <https://stjohnsithaca.org/donate/>. Thank you!

Sign up for our weekly newsletter [The Fledgling](#) by contacting the church office.

Please Join Us:

Coffee Hour has resumed in the Parish Hall following the service. Please continue to wear your mask when you are not actively eating or drinking.

Morning Prayer Monday – Thursday at 9:30 on Facebook and YouTube. *Forward Day by Day* for **February, March, and April** is available on the table in the rear of the church.

Flowers: If you wish to give candles or Sunday flowers in memory of a loved one, please call the church office (607-273-6532).

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