

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany
St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY
11 February 2024 Year B
10:30 AM

* Indicates please stand

Prelude Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier (*Dearest Jesus, we are here*), BWV 731 J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

***Processional Hymn** Jesus shall reign wher'er the sun (*Duke Street*) **Hymnal #544**

***Opening Acclamation** **BCP 355**

***Collect For Purity**

***Gloria** **Hymnal #S-279**

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

2 Kings 2:1–12

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

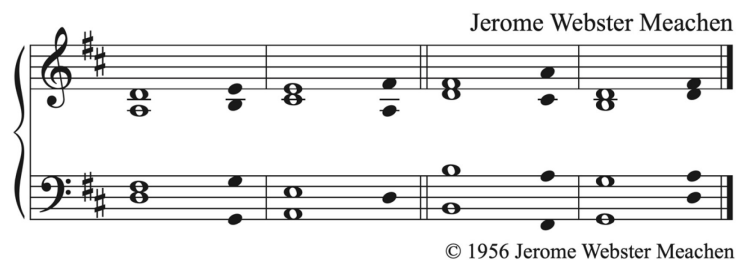
Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 50:1–6

Deus decorum



- 1 The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; *
he has called the earth from the rising
of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *
God reveals himself in glory.
- 3 Our God will come and will not keep
silence; *
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.
- 4 He calls the heavens and the earth from
above *

- to witness the judgment of his
people.
- 5 "Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant
with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."
- 6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of
his cause; *
for God himself is judge.

The Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 4:3–6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Sequence** O splendor of God's glory bright (*Splendor paternae gloriae*)

Hymnal #5, vs. 1–2

***The Gospel Reading**

Mark 9:2–9

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

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud

overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

***Sequence** O splendor of God’s glory bright (*Splendor paternae gloriae*)

Hymnal #5, vs. 3–4

The Sermon

The Rev. Taylor Daynes

***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**

Beholding God’s glory in the world about us, and in the faces of our sisters and brothers, we offer our prayers, responding, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

+ Word made Flesh, enlighten the world with the fruits of your peace, that all your children may be fed, educated, sheltered, and loved; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Bearer of the Cross, strengthen us to pick up the gods of this world, and dispel their power, that we may live according to your commandments, and in the liberty of the Holy Spirit; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Rabbi and Teacher, empower your priests to preach the gospel and to live its message, proclaiming to others your forgiveness and love, your eternal generosity and daily presence in our lives; let us pray.
Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Son of God, transfigure your Church by giving us the faith and courage to choose those things that bring spiritual life to the community, and to let go of those things which drain energy and joy; let us pray.
Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Rock of our Salvation, strengthen those who work in the service industry, help them deal with difficult people and situations, and empower their employers to provide fair wages and safe working environments; let us pray.
Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Bread of Life, may this Eucharistic Meal nourish us with thanksgiving and gratitude; let us pray.
Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Incarnate One, be with those who have departed this life in your faith and fear, that their souls and the souls of all the faithful may rest in peace and rise in glory; let us pray.
Lord, hear our prayer.

With the light of Christ to reveal the glory of God, we continue our prayers.

We pray without ceasing for justice, reconciliation, peace, and an end to hatred and war. We also pray for God to change the hearts of all the leaders and decision-makers in our countries and around the world. For we are in dire need of hearts that love, show mercy, and are willing to live in unity with others; hearts that respect human dignity and choose life rather than death.

God of peace and justice, hear our prayers. Amen

God of mercy and compassion, who wept with Rachel as she lamented over her children—be with us, who lament the plague of gun violence that lies heavy over our land. Open our eyes to see the ways we might transform the shadow of strife and death into the way of love and peace. Strengthen us to tirelessly care for one another, that we may truly find our security in the boundless love you call us to, and lead us all to your promised future, where no sword will be drawn against another, and no power known but the power of love. All this we ask through the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

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

Joan	Richard	Theodore	Avery	Sandy	Mary Beth
Charles	Linda	Lorraine	Nathan	Amelia	Jack
Wes	Jim	Edith	Jane	Michael	Julianne
Virginia	Gerald	Kathryn	Chris	Susan	
Shirley	Cece	Sarah	Carole	Jeff	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:
Susan Dunlop, Alexander Ciccone, Kalena Henry, Eric Blair-Joannou, Erik Wagner

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 pew. Wave!

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

Announcements & Welcome

Offertory Sentence

Anthem Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

George Oldroyd (1886–1951)

***Presentation Hymn** Lead us, Heavenly Father (*Duke carmen*)

Hymnal #559

*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-130

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-161

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.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Hymn My God, thy table now is spread (*Rockingham*)

Hymnal #321

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

Hymnal #460

Dismissal

Postlude Praeludium No. 1, BWV 553

J. S. Bach

Acolyte:

Liturgical Ministers: Ian Lundberg, Stephanie Nevels, Gwen Freeman

Virtual Vergers Matthew Sanaker, Amber Massa

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God in Memory of Col. Richard Comstock by Richard Comstock, Jr.

*This morning we welcome the Rev. Taylor Daynes as our guest celebrant and preacher.
This morning we welcome Elisabeth Wang as our guest organist*

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 BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER ARE AVAILABLE
IN THE NARTHEX**

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– 724223**

HYMNS

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun (*Duke Street*)

Hymnal #544

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
doth his successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his Name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.

3 People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his Name.

4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

5 Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honors to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

**O Splendor of God's glory bright (*Splendor
paternae gloriae*)**

Hymnal #5

1 O splendor of God's glory bright,
O thou that bringest light from light,
O Light of Light, light's living spring,
O Day, all days illumining,

2 O thou true Sun of heavenly love,
pour down thy radiance from above:
the Spirit's sanctifying beam
upon our earthly senses stream.

3 With prayer the Father we implore:
O Father, glorious evermore,
we plead with thee for grace and power
to conquer in temptation's hour.

4 to guide whate'er we nobly do,
with love all envy to subdue,
and give us grace our wrongs to bear,
to make ill fortune turn to fair.

Lead us, heavenly Father (*Dulce carmen*)

Hymnal #559

1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee,
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.

2 Savior, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us;
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
yet unfearing, persevering,
to thy passion thou didst go.

3 Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy;
love with every passion blending
pleasure that can never cloy;
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

**My God, thy table now is spread
(*Rockingham*)**

Hymnal #321

1 My God, thy table now is spread,
thy cup with love doth overflow;
be all thy children thither led,
and let them thy sweet mercies know.

2 O let thy table honored be,
and furnished well with joyful guests:
and may each soul salvation see,
that here its sacred pledges tastes.

3 Drawn by thy quickening grace, O Lord,
in countless numbers let them come
and gather from their Father's board
the Bread that lives beyond the tomb.

4 Nor let thy spreading Gospel rest
till through the world thy truth has run,
till with this Bread shall all be blessed
who see the light or feel the sun.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (*Hyfrydol*)

1 Alleluia! sing to Jesus!
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone;
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion

thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2 Alleluia! not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received him,
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
"I am with you evermore"?

3 Alleluia! Bread of Heaven,
thou on earth our food, our stay!
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day:
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,

where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own:
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest:
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the eucharistic feast.

5 Alleluia! sing to Jesus!
his the scepter his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone;
Hark! the songs of holy Zion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood



St. John's Church
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"Like" us on facebook @ Saint John's Episcopal Church

Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 10–3

Rector

Beverly Way, Senior Warden
Parish Administrator
Director of Music/Organist

Pamela Talbott, Junior Warden
Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

If you need pastoral assistance, please call or text the Senior Warden at 607-232-4465.
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. Masks are optional when you are not actively eating or drinking.

Ash Wednesday Services are at 7 am, 12:15 pm, 7 pm.

Compline at St. John's, Thursday, Feb 15 from 8–8:30 pm. Join us for this tranquil, candlelit service that invites peace and rest at the end of the day. St. Luke's choir will chant parts of the service and sing other portions to choral music.

Lenten Soup Supper: Please join us for our Lenten program of reflection and spiritual connectedness that will begin on Friday, February 16. We will begin with soup supper at 6:00 followed around 6:30 by the adult forum based on Richard Rohr's *Wondrous Encounters for Lent*.

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 Sunday flowers in memory of a loved one, please call the church office (607-273-6532).