

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY

January 26, 2025 Year C

10:30 am

* indicates please stand

Prelude Fugue in C minor, BWV 546

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

***Processional Hymn** O Zion, haste (*Tidings*)

Hymnal #539

***Opening Acclamation**

BCP 355

***Collect For Purity**

***Gloria**

Hymnal #S-280

Collect of the Day

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson

Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19:1–8*Sung by the choir**Caeli enarrant*

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to
another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language,
*
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the
world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for
the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of

- his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its
course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of
the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes.

The Epistle**1 Corinthians 12:12–31a**

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***Gradual** O Christ, the Word Incarnate (*Munich*)

Hymnal #632 vv. 1–2

***The Gospel**

Luke 4:14–21

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

***Sequence** O Christ, the Word Incarnate (*Munich*)

Hymnal #632 v. 3

The Sermon

The Rev. Kit Tobin

***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**

On this holy day, the day of Sabbath and the feast of resurrection, let us offer our prayers to the Lord, responding to each petition saying, "Hear us, God of glory."

+ That the Holy Spirit may always descend upon us, giving us the conviction to proclaim the truth of the gospel, the courage to reach out to those who differ from us, and the willingness to open our hearts and minds to the painful truths of our daily lives; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ That there may be a more just balance of the world's resources, providing opportunity for the poor to eat, the unemployed to use their skills, and the oppressed to find avenues to liberation; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ That we may hold fast to the eternal truths of our tradition while allowing the character and ministry of the Church to evolve so that the message of holy scripture and the truth of Jesus may be authentically expressed for our time and culture; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ That our President, and all who offer counsel in the chambers of government may share a global vision and a local commitment to the economic and social needs of people across all social, and tribal differences; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ That our bishops, priests, and deacons may guide the Church to spiritual rebirth, and open the eyes of people to understand the saving message of Christ, and our role in his ministry of salvation; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

+ That those who have died may obtain the riches of everlasting life; for this we pray.

Hear us, God of glory.

The weak and the strong are one, the lowly are granted honor, and there is charity amongst those who now continue their prayers in the faith and unity of the Church.

Dear Lord, Almighty God, we pray for all indigenous children who were in residential and boarding schools in Canada and the United States. Some died there; we ask that you give assurance to their descendants that their souls are with you and their ancestors. Some survived there; we ask that you give your healing grace to all who endured hardship while there and are still struggling with those memories. Lastly, we ask you to help us guard our children against harm in this world. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

God grant us the conviction to measure our strength in how we treat the poor and persecuted and not in how we wield power and prestige. God grant us the guidance and the grace to seek our greatness in welcoming the outcaste and the ostracized and not in how we seek to offend or oppress. God grant that we might be prophets of hope, perfecters of mercy, and practitioners of compassion; for the sake of your Love. *Amen. Bishop Deon K. Johnson*

From fire and flame, from smoke and smog, from fear and falsehood, from desperation and despair; Good Lord, deliver us. *Amen. Bishop Deon K. Johnson*

For the special needs and concerns of our congregation, and especially for:

Roger	Bev	Howard	Jane	Lorraine
Charles	Virginia	Miranda	Jack	Edith
Wes	Cece	Cathey	Julianne	Terry
Shirley	Linda	Joan	Ted	Olivia

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:

Charlie Clark, Nathanael Roman, Kristen Park, Brigitte Wilkin, Mary Beth James

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

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

Announcements & Welcome

Offertory Sentence

Anthem With a voice of singing Martin Shaw (1875–1958)

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia!
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia!
O be joyful in God, all ye lands
O sing praises to the honor of His name, make His praise to be glorious

***Presentation Hymn** Rise up, ye saints of God (*Festal Song*)

Hymnal #551

*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-129

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

Michael McCarthy (b. 1955)

The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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 or you may drink from the common chalice after consuming the wafer.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Music 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** Hail to the Lord's anointed (*Es flog ein...*)

Hymnal #616 vv. 1-3

Dismissal

Postlude Praeludium in G minor

Johann Krebs (1713-80)

Liturgical Ministers: Lisa Tatusko, Beverly Way, Sally Clayton

Virtual Vergers: Sara VanLooy, Michael Roman

Today we welcome the Rev. Kit Tobin as celebrant and guest preacher.

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.**

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from
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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
Ilze Lemesis, Parish Administrator
Timothy E. Smith, 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.

Forward Day by Day for **February, March, and April** is available on the table in the rear of the church.

Please Join Us for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall following the service.

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

End Child Hunger: Bread for the World

Nearly 1 in 10 people around the world goes to bed hungry, and 1 in 5 children in the U.S. faces food insecurity—but world hunger *is* solvable. You can be part of a national effort to end child hunger in the U.S. and around the world by getting involved with Bread for the World; a national, ecumenical, anti-hunger advocacy organization. *Nourish Our Future* is Bread for the World's new advocacy campaign, focused on policies to end child hunger in the U.S. and abroad. Join in by registering for Bread's national online meeting to launch the campaign, happening on **Tuesday, February 4 at 7pm**. Sign up at tinyurl.com/NourishOurFuture Be part of the chorus of Christians around the country insisting that we don't want any of God's children to go hungry.

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 26, 2025 Year C

Hymns

O Zion, haste (*Tidings*) Hymnal #539

1 O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling,
to tell to all the world that God is Light;
that he who made all nations is not willing
one soul should fail to know his love and
might.

Refrain:

Publish glad tidings: tidings of peace,
tidings of Jesus, redemption and release.

2 Proclaim to every people, tongue, and
nation
that God, in whom they live and move, is
Love;
tell how he stooped to save his lost creation,
and died on earth that all might live above.
[Refrain]

3 Send heralds forth to bear the message
glorious;
give of thy wealth to speed them on their
way;
pour out thy soul for them in prayer
victorious
till God shall bring his kingdom's joyful day.
[Refrain]

4 He comes again! O Zion, ere thou meet
him,
make known to every heart his saving grace;
let none whom he hath ransomed fail to
greet him,
through thy neglect, unfit to see his face.
[Refrain]

O Christ, the Word Incarnate (*Munich*) Hymnal #632

1 O Christ, the Word Incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth, unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky;
we praise thee for the radiance
that from the scripture's page,
a lantern to our footsteps,
shines on from age to age.

2 The Church from our dear Master
received the word divine,
and still that light is lifted
o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass
that o'er life's surging sea,
mid mists and rocks and quicksands,
still guides, O Christ, to thee.

3 O make thy Church, dear Savior,
a lamp of purest gold,
to bear before the nations
thy true light as of old;
O teach thy wandering pilgrims
by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended,
they see thee face to face.

Rise up, ye saints of God (*Festal Song*) Hymnal #551

1 Rise up, ye saints of God!
Have done with lesser things,
give heart and soul and mind and strength
to serve the King of kings.

2 Rise up, ye saints of God!
His kingdom tarries long:
Lord, bring the day of truth and love
and end the night of wrong.

3 Lift high the cross of Christ!
Tread where his feet have trod;
and quickened by the Spirit's power,
rise up, ye saints of God!
Words: Used by permission of The Presbyterian Outlook,
Richmond, VA.

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.

Hail to the Lord's anointed
(Es flog ein...)
Hymnal #616

1 Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

2 He comes with succor speedy
to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

3 He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.