

Welcome to St. John's Church



THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 29, 2023
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**78 Green Hill Road
Washington, CT 06793**

Parish Office Telephone: (860) 868-2527

Parish Office Hours: *Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*

St. John's Email: stjohnschurch@snet.net

St. John's Website: <http://stjohnswashington.com/>

St. John's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchWashingtonCT>

St. John's YouTube Page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqIRss4BT8VwFul4qg>

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*The Liturgy for the Proclamation of the Word of God
and the Celebration of the Holy Communion*

*Children's activity bags are available on the bench by the Baptistry.
Please return them after the Service.*

Choral Prelude

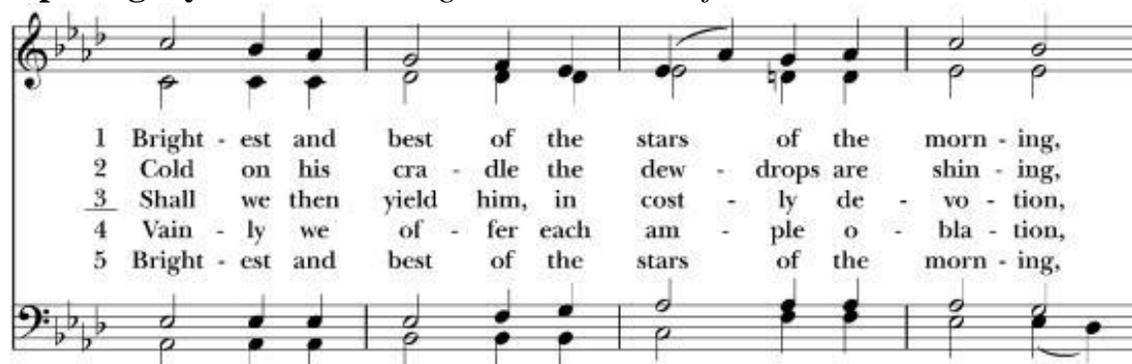
Cantate Domino

Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)

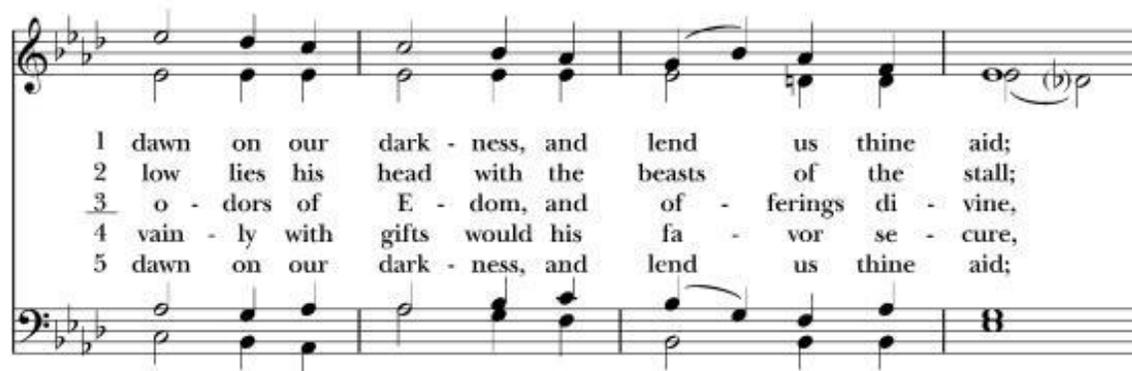
Translation: O sing unto the Lord a new song; let the congregation of saints praise him. Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: and let the children of Zion be joyful in their King. Let them praise his Name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with tabret and harp.

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

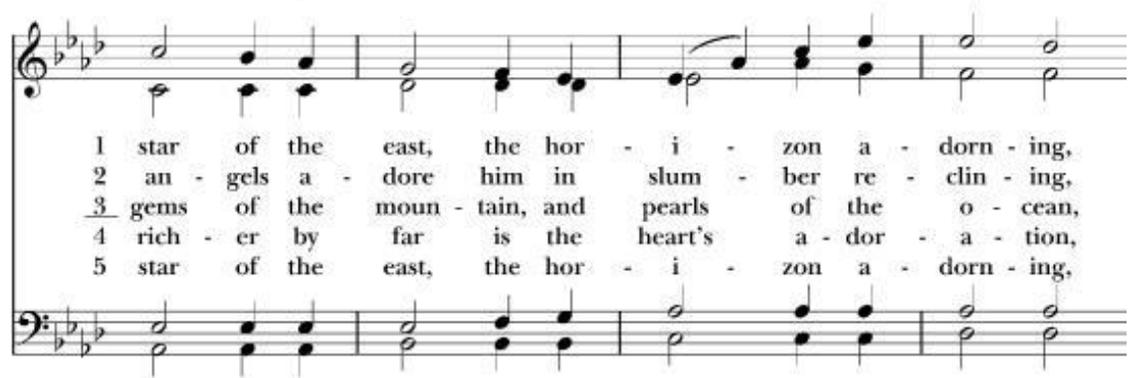
Opening Hymn # 117 *Brightest And Best Of The Star*



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing,
3 Shall we then yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple o - bla - tion,
5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



1 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;
2 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
3 o - dors of E - dom, and of - ferings di - vine,
4 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure,
5 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;



1 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,
2 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
3 gems of the moun - tain, and pearls of the o - cean,
4 rich - er by far is the heart's a - dor - a - tion,
5 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,

1 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
 2 Ma - ker and Mon - arch and Sa - vior of all.
 3 myrrh from the for - est, and gold from the mine?
 4 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
 5 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

The Word of God

The people standing, the Celebrant may say

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

The Celebrant says

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.***

The Gloria S # 278

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
 might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
 praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
 on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -



ceive our prayer. 6. For



you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

The Lessons

INTRODUCTION: Our Hebrew scripture reading reminds God's people of the saving acts done for them and instructing them in the good that God expects.

A Reading from the Book of the prophet Micah (6:1-8)

Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD. With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15

the congregation is invited to join the Refrain

Refrain

The right - eous shall a - bide up - on God's ho - ly hill.

- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
who speaks the truth from his heart.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; *
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
but he honors those who fear the LORD.

5 He has sworn to do no wrong *
and does not take back his word.

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

7 Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

INTRODUCTION: In this reading, St. Paul directs the Corinthians' attention to God's way of using what is weak and lowly – even what the world regards as foolish – to accomplish God's purposes.

A Reading from the First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians (1:18-33)

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn # 440

Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.
God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.
Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

INTRODUCTION: Our gospel passage is the opening sayings of the Sermon on the Mount, words of both comfort and challenge.

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St. Matthew (5:1-12)**

People Glory be to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman

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

Let us offer our prayers to God, who calls us to do justice, and to love kindness, and to humbly walk in his footsteps, responding, “Hear us, O God of Glory.”

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the Prayers and Confession

+ For the grace to balance worldly life with divine wisdom, seeing in holy foolishness the strength and conviction that overpowers our attachments to false treasures; let us pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ For those who are prisoners throughout the world, especially in our community; those whom society has spurned; those in the darkness of despair; all who are living with disease and pain; and those who are unable to share burdens too deep to reveal, that God’s love may be found by all who wait in hope; let us pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ That we will open our hands and hearts to do God’s work, reaching out to others so that God’s love is revealed through our ministry and devotion; let us pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ For our President, those who serve in our national and local legislative bodies, and those who sit on courts of justice, that they may be given godly wisdom and insight for those decisions which fall into shadows of uncertainty; let us pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ For those considering the rites of baptism and confirmation during the season of Easter, that they may consider seriously what it means to be transformed by God's word, revealed through holy scripture and the Church; let us pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+In thanksgiving for the new life that awaits all who engage in the daily reality of death and resurrection, remembering all who have died, especially Deb Forese and Carolyn Stockwell; let us pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

In purity of heart and generosity of spirit, let us continue our prayers either silently in our hearts or aloud in our midst

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the confession

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 Priest, stands and says

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, but also time for true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences of Scripture.

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and make good thy vows unto the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

Offertory Anthem *Blessed Are The Pure In Heart*

Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)

The Great Thanksgiving

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 God.

People ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 *Missa Prima Sexti Toni*

Giovanni Croce (c. 1557-1609)

Translation: *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:*

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Glory be to you, O Lord Most High.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the consecration prayer

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to

be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

***We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;***

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, our Patron, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

***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 S # 154

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Agnus Dei *Missa Prima Sexti Toni* Giovanni Croce (c. 1557-1609)

*Translation: O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, grant us your peace.*

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

Behold 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 baptized Christians of all ages and denominations are welcome to receive Communion in this place. This is God's house and the Lord's table, not ours

Those wishing to receive Communion should come forward to the Altar rail as directed. The Celebrant will intinct the wafer in the chalice and place the consecrated host in the open hands or upon the tongue of the communicant, as desired.

Gluten free wafers are available. Just ask at the altar rail if you wish one.

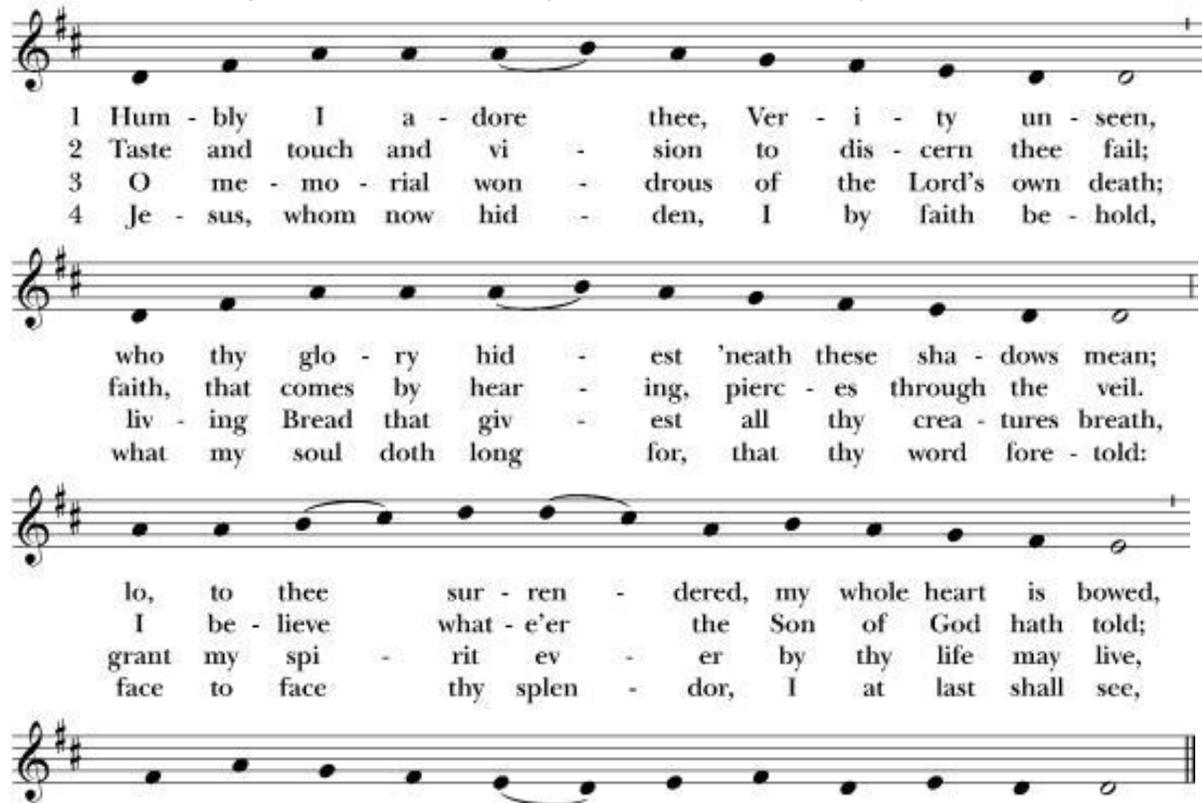
If you need to receive Communion in the pews, just let the ushers know

for online worshippers, and for those who for other reasons choose not to receive, here is a Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer our praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest desire that we may always be united to you. And since we are not now receiving you physically, we ask you to come into our hearts spiritually. We embrace you with all the affections of our souls, confident that nothing can ever separate us from the love God, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Communion Hymn # 314 *Humbly I Adore Thee, Verity Unseen*



1 Hum - bly I a - dore thee, Ver - i - ty un - seen,
2 Taste and touch and vi - sion to dis - cern thee fail;
3 O me - mo - rial won - drous of the Lord's own death;
4 Je - sus, whom now hid - den, I by faith be - hold,
who thy glo - ry hid - est 'neath these sha - dows mean;
faith, that comes by hear - ing, pierc - es through the veil.
liv - ing Bread that giv - est all thy crea - tures breath,
what my soul doth long for, that thy word fore - told:
lo, to thee sur - ren - dered, my whole heart is bowed,
I be - lieve what - e'er the Son of God hath told;
grant my spi - rit ev - er by thy life may live,
face to face thy splen - dor, I at last shall see,
tranced as it be - holds thee, shrined with - in the cloud.
what the Truth hath spo - ken, that for truth I hold.
to my taste thy sweet - ness nev - er - fail - ing give.
in the glo - rious vi - sion, bless - ed Lord, of thee.

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this 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.

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn # 657

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us bc; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Organ Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman: *Celebrant*

Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*

Tom Hollinger: *8:00 Reader*

Michael Del Nin: *10:00 Reader*

Sara Coles: *Chalicer*

Joseph Claro: *Veejay (VJ)*

Natalie Dyer, Bob Futh: *Usher*

MB Witt, Sara Coles: *Altar Guild*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

78 Green Hill Road

Washington, CT 06793

Staff

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Priest-in-Charge*

Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Dawn Rosiello, *Parish Administrator*

Joan Burgess, *Foundation Administrator*