Welcome to St. John's Church



The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany February 9th, 2020

We are delighted that you have decided to worship with us this morning. We know that you have other choices on Sunday mornings. We pray that you will find in us a warm and welcoming group of Christians who seek to serve God in Christ Jesus in this place.

Thank you for blessing us with your presence this morning.

Please ask the Greeters if you have any questions or need any assistance.

A NOTICE ABOUT THE READINGS: The Scripture Readings have been removed from our bulletins. Web links to the Readings are included in the Friday e-blast for those who want the lessons beforehand. A brief written introduction is included in the bulletins to help provide context for the listeners. Meanwhile, the Prayers of the People will now be read from the midst of the people. Please be patient as we 'try on' these new formats. Thank you.

Upcoming Christian Education Events

Christ in Crisis: Why We Need to Reclaim Jesus Friday Mornings, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Fr. Hahneman, our Priest-in-Charge, will lead an Adult Class reading Jim Wallis' new book about the Reclaiming Jesus Movement. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry wrote the foreword. Get your book now and start reading! For more information, see the Priest-in-Charge.

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

On Saturday, February 15th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Library, Fr. Geoff, our Priest-in-Charge, will meet with all interested persons to talk about forming a Pastoral Care Committee, as part of his Saturday morning 'training' sessions. The primary ministry of this group is organizing care and concern for members of the parish. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, mark your calendars now! Among the possibilities are:

- Maintaining a Prayer List for the parish (and calling those on the list to see how they are doing and reassure them of our prayers and concern)
- Praying regularly for the people on the Prayer List in their own private devotions (shut-ins of the congregation are often asked to assist with items # 1 & # 2 here as a way to involve them in the ministry of the parish)
- Leading the Prayers of the People at Sunday Services (probably 10:00 only?)
- Delivering Altar Flowers to the sick and shut-in of the parish
- Developing Pastoral Visitors (who are trained and licensed by the Diocese to visit shut-ins and the hospitalized in the name of the parish) Safe Church Training is required.
- Training St. Stephen's Ministers (Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers Ministers—to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting)
- Training Grief Counselors
- Developing Eucharistic Visitors (who are trained and licensed by the Diocese to take Holy Communion to shut-ins and the hospitalized in the name of the parish) Safe Church Training is required.
- Comfort Food (preparing and delivering meals and foodstuffs to those who are mourning or recently hospitalized)
- Holy Rollers (offering rides to church or medical appointments for our housebound parishioners) Safe Church Training is required.

Which and how many of these ideas, and others, are organized will depend upon the energy and interest and talents of the people involved. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, mark your calendars now!

WINTER FILM SERIES: February 15th, 6:30pm Spit Fire Grill (1996)

Fr. Hahneman will lead an informed conversation following the viewing of popular films on Saturday evenings this winter. All interested persons are welcome to join in these discussions. Bring your own popcorn!

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany:

February 9th, 2020

Order of Worship

We invite you to join us as an active participant in the worship of God during this morning's services. Page numbers (BCP) in the bulletin refer to The Book of Common Prayer (red book), which are located in the pews. Hymn numbers in this bulletin, and on the hymn board, refer to The Hymnal 1982 (blue book). Service Music (S- followed by a number) is found in the front half of the Hymnal and hymns in the second half. Please ask the Greeters if you have any questions or need any assistance.

PRELUDE

Fugue in C Abraham van der Kerckhoven (1627-1702)

Air in F Samuel Wesley (1766-1837)

Récit tender pour le nasard Gaspard Corette (1671-1733)

Dorian Echo Fantasy Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621)

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION

Christ, whose glory fills the skies

HYMNAL 7

BCP, p. 323

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Celebrant People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

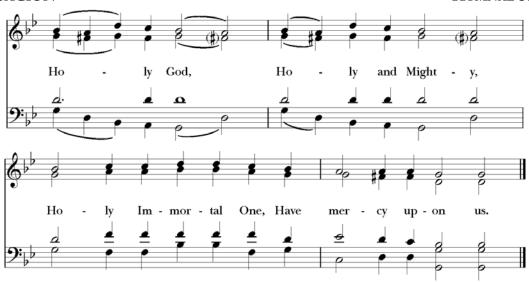
BCP, p. 323

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

BCP, p. 324

THE TRISAGION

HYMNAL S102



THE COLLECT

BCP, p. 216

Celebrant The Lord be with you. People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH [58:1-12]

This passage is a denunciation of the injustices of those who only act at their religion. There is a promise of the Lord's favor for those who genuinely repent and care for the needy. Fasts and many prayers are of no purpose and may be misused if they do not involve the liberation of the oppressed and help for the weak and afflicted. When there is justice and sharing, then the light of the Lord will rise out of darkness and all the ruins will be rebuilt.

Reader The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

The congregation is invited to join in chanting the psalm.



1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the / Lord * and have great delight in his com-/mandments! 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the / land; * the generation of the upright will be / blessed.

- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their / house, * and their righteousness will last for / ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness for the / upright; * the righteous are merciful and full of com-/passion.
- 5 It is good for them to be generous in / lending * and to manage their affairs with / justice.
 6 For they will never be / shaken; * the righteous will be kept in everlasting re-/membrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil / rumors; * their heart is right; they put their trust in the / Lord.
 8 Their heart is established and will not / shrink, * until they see their desire upon their / enemies.
- 9 They have given freely to the / poor, * and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up their head with / honor. 10 The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine a-/way; * the desires of the wicked will / perish.

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS [2:1-16]

In this reading Paul teaches the Corinthians that the wisdom of God is very different from the wisdom for which humans pride themselves. Some of the Corinthians were apparently boasting of their Christianity as though it were powerful in terms of worldly wisdom. They even made fun of Paul for his lack of eloquence. The true power of God is, however, hidden from the ruling forces of the world, for it is discovered in a crucified Lord. This is revealed through God's own Spirit

Reader The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God (verses 1-2)

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW [5:13-20]

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In the gospel lesson we learn that disciples are like salt and as light to the world. They are to live even more righteously than the pious scribes and Pharisees. Like a city set on a hill or a lamp on a stand, Jesus' followers must show forth their good works to the glory of God. Jesus has not come to abolish the law and the prophets but to fulfill their purpose. Only those who go beyond the keeping of the law and are wholly committed to God's will can enter the kingdom of heaven.

Celebrant The Gospel of our Lord.
People: Praise be to thee, O Christ

THE SERMON

Fr. Geoff, Priest-in-Charge

HYMNAL 505

GRADUAL HYMN O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God (verses 3-4) HYMNAL 505

THE NICENE CREED BCP, p. 326

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Congregational response: "Hear us, God of glory""

THE CONFESSION BCP, p 331

THE ABSOLUTION BCP, p. 332

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY How bright appears the morning star J.S. Bach

DOXOLOGY HYMNAL 380 (verse 3)

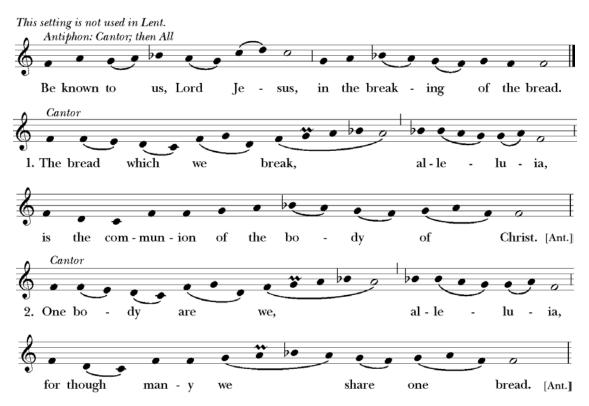
EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II BCP, P. 340

SURSUM CORDA HYMNAL S112

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS HYMNAL S117

THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP, p. 336

FRACTION ANTHEM HYMNAL S171



THE INVITATION

All Baptized Christians are welcome and encourage to come forward to receive Communion, If you do wish Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing, by crossing your arms over your chest at the Altar Rail.

If you wish Communion brought to you at your seat, please notify a greeter.

HYMNS AT THE COMMUNION Thou who at thy first Eucharist HYMNAL 315

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER BCP, p. 339

THE BENEDICTION

HYMN AT THE RECESSION Immortal, invisible, God only wise HYMNAL 423

THE DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE Fugue in C (The Jig) Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Please join us in the Parish House following the 10 am service for refreshments and fellowship.

From the Church Calendar

February 13: Absalom Jones, Priest, 1818

Absalom Jones was born a house slave in 1746 in Delaware. He taught himself to read out of the New Testament, among other books. When sixteen, he was sold to a store owner in Philadelphia. There he attended a night school for Blacks, operated by Quakers. At twenty, he married another slave, and purchased her freedom with his earnings.

Jones bought his own freedom in 1784. At St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church, he served as lay minister for its Black membership. The active evangelism of Jones and that of his friend, Richard Allen, greatly increased Black membership at St. George's. The alarmed vestry decided to segregate Blacks into an upstairs gallery, without notifying them. During a Sunday service when ushers attempted to remove them, the Blacks indignantly walked out in a body.

In 1787, Black Christians organized the Free African Society, the first organized Afro-American society, and Absalom Jones and Richard Allen were elected overseers. Members of the Society paid monthly dues for the benefit of those in need. The Society established communication with similar Black groups in other cities. In 1792., the Society began to build a church, which was dedicated on July 17, 1794.

The African Church applied for membership in the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania on the following conditions: i, that they be received as an organized body; z, that they have control over their local affairs; 3, that Absalom Jones be licensed as layreader, and, if qualified, be ordained as minister. In October 1794 it was admitted as St. Thomas African Episcopal Church. Bishop White ordained Jones as deacon in 1795 and as priest on September 21, 1802.

Jones was an earnest preacher. He denounced slavery, and warned the oppressors to "clean their hands of slaves." To him, God was the Father, who always acted on "behalf of the oppressed and distressed." But it was his constant visiting and mild manner that made him beloved by his own flock and by the community. St. Thomas Church grew to over 500 members during its first year. Known as "the Black Bishop of the Episcopal Church," Jones was an example of persistent faith in God and in the Church as God's instrument.

A RESTROOM is located at the bottom of the stairs in the Church undercroft. In the Parish House, there is a unisex restroom adjacent to the Choirmaster's office that is more handicapped accessible and Men's and Women's restrooms across from the kitchen next to the Parish Office.

Celebrant Fr. Geoff Hahneman

Music Director Dr. Marguerite Mullee

Organist Jon Lafleur

Lectors John Magee (8am)

Justin Ormand & Holly Flor (10am)

Eucharistic Minister MB Witt
Acolyte Laura Daly
Crucifer Bob Futh

Altar Guild Joanne Bauer (8am)

Douglas Holtquist (10am)

Greeter MB Witt

Coffee Hour Hosts Mary Davis & Tillie Page Laird

Staff

Priest-in-Charge Fr. Geoff Hahneman Music Director Dr. Marguerite Mullee

Parish Administrator Jon Lafleur Foundation Administrator Joan Burgess

Vestry

Warden David Gillespie Warden Susan McFeely

Clerk Joan Beattie Treasurer Larry Littlefield

Assistant Treasurer Hunter Brown

Class 2020
Rebecca Lambert
Darcy Campbell
Charles Dubow

Class 2021
Robert Futh
Larry Littlefiel
MB Witt

Class 2022 Sara Coles

Robert Futh Sara Coles
Larry Littlefield Mary Davis
MB Witt Andris Kalnins

Office Hours and Emergencies

The Parish Office is OPEN Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10:00AM to 3:00PM. If you have a pastoral issue, please call the Parish Administrator who will arrange for someone to meet your needs.

Voice: 860-868-2527 Fax: 860-868-2823 stjohnschurch@snet.net stjohnswashington.