



Welcome to St. John's Church

The Second Sunday After the Epiphany

January 17, 2021

The health and safety of our congregation and community is the highest priority for St. John's. As long as the Town of Washington and surrounding villages are in a Red Zone for new virus infections, we will close the church to the public and "live stream" our 10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship on the St. John's YouTube page, at: [St.John'sYouTubePage](#)

Organ Prelude

Siciliano
Flute piece
Adagio

John Alcock, Jr.
William Hine
John Bennett

The Word of God

Opening Hymn

Christ whose glory fills the skies

*1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise!
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.*

*2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by you;
Joyless is the day's return,
Till your mercy's beams I view;
Till they inward light impart,
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.*

*3 Visit then this soul of mine!
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!
Fill me radiancy divine;
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more yourself display,
Shining to the perfect day.*

The Celebrant begins

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

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant may say

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.***

When appointed, the following hymn or some other song of praise is sung or said, all standing

The Trisagion

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

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.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Lessons

INTRODUCTION: After many years of childlessness, Hannah has been given a son. In return, she has brought her son, Samuel, to the temple at Shiloh, saying, "For this child I prayed: and the Lord granted me the petition I made to him. Therefore I have given him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD." Samuel has entered the service of Eli, the priest.

A Reading from the First Book of Samuel (3:1-20):

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the

LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” Then the LORD said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever.”

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” He said, “Here I am.” Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, “It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him.”

As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

After each Reading, the Reader may say
The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Silence may follow.

A Psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each Reading.

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

***1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.***

***2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.***

***3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.***

***4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.***

- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.*
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.*
- 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.*
- 14 My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.*
- 15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book; *
they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them.*
- 16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
how great is the sum of them!*
- 17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.*

INTRODUCTION: The city of Corinth was known in the Greco-Roman world for its licentiousness. Paul has written: "It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you. . . ." Using quotations from his opponents, he shows that there are limits on liberty in the Christian life.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians(6:12-20):

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

*After each Reading, the Reader may say
The Word of the Lord.*

*People **Thanks be to God.***

Gradual Hymn *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*

*1 Holy God, we praise thy Name,
Lord of all, we bow before thee;
all on earth thy scepter claim,
all in heaven above adore thee;
infinite thy vast domain,
everlasting is thy reign.*

*2 Hark, the loud celestial hymn
angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim,
in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heavens with sweet accord:
holy, holy, holy Lord!*

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

INTRODUCTION: On the previous day, Andrew and an unnamed apostle, both disciples of John the Baptist, had become followers of Jesus, invited by him to “Come and see.” Andrew first went and called his brother Simon Peter. Now we hear how Nathanael, a religious Jew, comes to believe in Christ.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according John (1:43-51)

*People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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

On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows

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

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, we who have found him about whom Moses in the law and prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth, to whom we offer our prayers, responding to each petition by saying, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

+ In this time of great need and suffering, we give thanks for all those who joyfully embrace lives of prayer and simplicity, and share their blessings with those in need; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ That we may honor our bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit, not succumbing to the values and prejudices of our culture, but respecting ourselves and all others as vessels of divine presence and beloved children of God; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ That we may follow Jesus’ great commission to heal the sick and preach the word, bearing witness to others of the fruits of a lively faith, and the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives and actions; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ For all those essential workers that provide for our needs in this time of pandemic, that they may be protected in their work, and return safely to waiting families and friends; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ That our leaders may commit themselves to forming bonds of peace, that violent struggle may cease in this nation, so that the most needy will have the security and resources that lead to an abundant life; remembering especially Antonio, Secretary General of the United Nations, Donald our President, Joe, our President-elect, Ned our Governor, James, the First Selectman of the town of Washington, for the members of our Congress and Courts; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ That those who have died may pass over to eternal life, especially the more than 375,000 Americans who have fallen victim to this pandemic, for their families and friends, for our beloved ones who have passed before us, for the benefactors of this church, and for Colonel Jay Lafleur who was buried last week with full military honors; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Guided by the light of Christ shining in our hearts, let us remember the more than 135,000 Americans now lying in hospital with the corona virus, and also those who have commended themselves to our prayers, Mary Jo Keating, Joan Beattie, Heather, Marlene and Chris Smith, Tom Witt, Ed and Zemma White, Kathy Coe, Bob Cole, MB's sister and her husband Tony, Jacinto Malaquez, and all who are housebound especially Janet Chenery and Ken Hecken, and pausing now that everyone may add their own prayers and petitions, either silently in our hearts or aloud in our midst.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion upon the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which sometimes infect our hearts; break down the walls that often separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations, races, peoples and tongues may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, 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.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Hymn *“I Come,” The Great Redeemer Cries*

- 1 “I come,” the great Redeemer cries,
“to do thy will, O Lord!”
At Jordan’s stream, behold! He seals
the sure prophetic word.*
- 2 “Thus it becomes us to fulfill
all righteousness,” he said.
Then, faithful to the Lord’s commands,
through Jordan’s flood was led.*
- 3 Hark, a glad voice! The Father speaks
from heaven’s exalted height:
“This is my Son, my well-beloved,
in whom I take delight.”*
- 4 The Savior Jesus, well-beloved!
His Name we will profess,
like him desirous to fulfill
God’s will in righteousness.*
- 5 No more we’ll count ourselves our own
but his in bonds of love.
Oh, may such bonds for ever draw
our souls to things above!*

The Great Thanksgiving

The Celebrant faces the congregation and sings or says

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 him 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. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

Celebrant and People

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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;***

The Celebrant continues

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 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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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 cannot now receive you physically, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. 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.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.

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

Earth Has Many A Noble City

- 1 Earth has many a noble city;
Bethlehem, thou dost all excel:
out of thee the Lord from heaven
came to rule his Israel.***
- 2 Fairer than the sun at morning
was the star that told his birth,
to the world its God announcing
seen in fleshly form on earth.***

*3 Eastern sages at his cradle
make oblations rich and rare;
see them give, in deep devotion,
gold and frankincense and myrrh.*

*4 Sacred gifts of mystic meaning:
incense doth their God disclose,
gold the King of kings proclaimeth,
myrrh his sepulcher foreshows.*

*5 Jesus, whom the Gentiles worshiped
at thy glad epiphany,
unto thee, with God the Father
and the Spirit, glory be.*

The Celebrant, dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Organ Postlude

Fugue in d minor

William Boyce

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
78 Green Hill Road
Washington, CT 06793

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Celebrant*

Jon Lafleur, *Organist*

Madison LaFontan, *Soloist*

Laura Daly, *Reader*

Larry Littlefield, *Veejay*

Joseph Claro, *Assistant Veejay*

Susie Markert *Altar Flowers*

MB Witt, *Altar Guild*

Parish Office Telephone: (860) 868-2527

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

St. John's Website:

<http://stjohnswashington.com/>

St. John's Facebook Page:

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

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