

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany:

January 29, 2023

THE HOLY EUCHARIST (RITE II)

10:00 am

THE GOSPEL  
OF THE POOR  
THE MEEK  
THE HUNGRY  
THE LOST  
THE LEAST  
THE LONELY

**The Word of God**

**Prelude**

*How Brightly Shines the Morningstar*

D. Buxtehude

*Please stand as you are able as the bell is rung.*

## Opening Hymn 427 When morning gilds the skies

*Laudes Domini*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God; Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

### The Collect for Purity

**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 Collect of the Day

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.**

*Please be seated for the scripture appointed.*

## The Lessons

### Micah 6:1-8

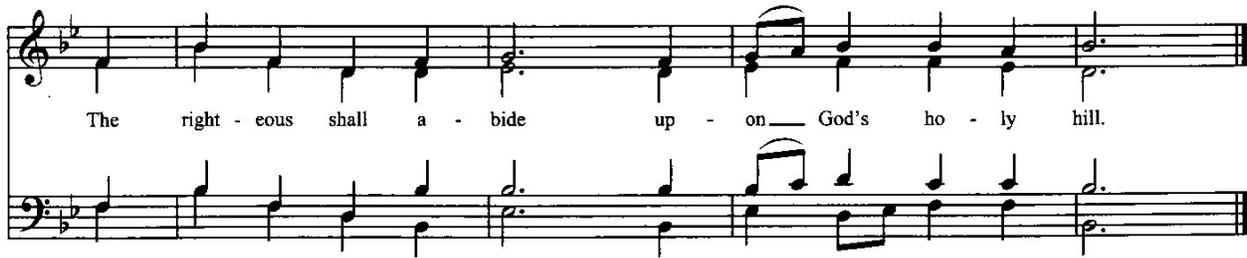
Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“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?

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



## Psalm 15

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.

**Refrain**

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.

**Refrain**

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.

**Refrain**

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

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 the 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."

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

*Please stand as you are able for the sequence hymn and the reading of the gospel.*

**Sequence Hymn 605 What does the Lord require**

*Sharpthorne*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People*     **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**Matthew 5:1-12**

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.”

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Patrick C. Ward

*Please stand as you are able for the creed; you may sit, stand or kneel for the prayers as your personal piety guides you.*

## **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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. 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], who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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**

In the light of this season, we bring our prayers before God.

For the Holy Church of God throughout the world, that we may be witnesses of Christ's Gospel of love to all people.

**Enlighten the Church, O God.**

For Alan, our Diocesan Bishop; for Gayle our Bishop Suffragan, and Carol, our Assisting Bishop; and for all Bishops, that they may shine as beacons of hope to a sometimes hopeless world.

**Enlighten our Leaders, O God.**

For all who minister in and from the church, that they may proclaim with zeal and pastor with tenderness. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer, we remember St. John's Church, Jamaica Plain, Northeastern University Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry, St. Cyprian's Church and St. John & St. James Church, Roxbury, and Veterans Ministries. In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for all who as teachers and mentors in our children and youth ministries.

**Enlighten our Ministers, O God.**

For Joe, our President, and Maura, our Governor; that they and all persons in public authority may be people of trust and serve the common good.

**Enlighten our State, O God.**

For ourselves, that we may take to heart the plight of those who are poor and the outcast, those who are homeless and destitute, and any who suffer due to human greed.

**Enlighten our Conscience, O God.**

For those who live in fear for their lives, their families, and their homes, that their cries for mercy may be heard and their lives of dignity restored. We hold before you especially this week all who have died or been injured from gun violence, and all who grieve them.

**Enlighten our World, O God.**

For those among us who are sick and infirm, especially Don Beal, Robert Blanchet, Pat Carroll, Ed Mason, Diana Oliveira, Jennifer Peters, Joan Proctor, Helen Richardson, Linda Staab, Bill Wahlquist and those we now name silently or aloud (*pause*), that they may be delivered from their pain and distress and restored to wholeness of life.

**Enlighten our Darkness, O God.**

For those who have died, especially Peg Skelly and for those we now name silently or aloud (*pause*), that they may know God's peace and perfect freedom in a kingdom that is forever.

**Enlighten our Hopes, O God.**

That God's light may shine in the hearts of all people, that our hearts may be turned to one another, and that your name may be glorified not only with our lips but in our lives.

**Enlighten our Hearts, O God.**

As you were manifested in a stable stall, as you were manifested in a miracle of water and of wine, as you were manifested in the radiance of the transfiguration,

**Enlighten our Lives and be manifested to the world through us.**

## **Concluding Collect**

Almighty and Everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and on earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful God; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Absolution**

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.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## The Peace

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

## Greeting and Announcements

### The Holy Communion

#### Offertory

#### *Shines the Light*

Lee Dengler

Text: On the edge of a night lit with hope and promise, all the heavens are filled with the glory of God. From a rough wooden bed in a stable in Bethlehem shines the light of the world. Alleluia! For the child that is born here is sent from above to show us freedom and peace and love. From the life that he lives as he walks among us, shines the light for our pathways. Alleluia! On the edge of a day dimmed with grief and sorrow, though the dark would consume that radiance so bright. From a rough wooden cross on a hillside called Calvary shines the light that is Jesus. Alleluia! For the man that hangs there is sent from above to bring us freedom and peace and love. From the life that denied the grave its power shines our light, our salvation. Alleluia!

*Please stand as you are able as our offering is presented.*

*Celebrant* All things come of thee, O Lord.

*People* **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

#### The Great Thanksgiving

#### *Eucharistic Prayer A*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your Christ to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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 S-125 Holy, holy, holy Lord

Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*You may remain standing, sit or kneel for the continuation of the Eucharistic prayer.*

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become 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 Father of all.

He 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 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Lord God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 him. 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 your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

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

### Hymn S-155

Near

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.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died and rose for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### **Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

**Holy Jesus, Redeemer of the World, we believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament of this altar. Even while some of us are unable to receive you in the elements of bread and wine, we invite you to enter our hearts and be our companion along the way. Awaiting in hope, we know that you are present in every moment of our lives and will never leave us comfortless. For all good things come from you O Lord, and from that goodness, lead us to the love of others. For you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.**

*All are welcome to receive communion. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available; please make your needs known to the person serving you.*

### **Communion Hymns**

**Hymn 560 Remember your servant Lord**

*Beatitudes*

**Hymn 656 Blessed are the pure in heart**

*Franconia*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Please stand as you are able.*

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, by grace you accept us as living members of your Son Jesus Christ, and feed us with spiritual food in this sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace to do your work of reconciliation as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To Him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit may all creation sing hymns of thanks and praise. Amen.**

### **Epiphany Blessing**

May Almighty God, who led the Magi by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. **Amen.**

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the River Jordan, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. **Amen.**

May God, who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn 490 I want to walk as a child of the light**

*Houston*



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## **THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

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### **Parish Mission Statement**

**We proclaim Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord,  
welcome all people, and serve one another with love.**