



EPIPHANY

The Fifth Sunday After Epiphany *February 7, 2021*

**St. George's Church ☩
Glenn Dale, Maryland
The Episcopal Diocese of Washington**

Welcome to St. George's! We are glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. This service booklet has everything you need to participate in today's worship service, including scripture readings as well as prayers and music.

Prelude: *O Rest in the Lord* from Elijah by Felix Mendelssohn

O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him,
and He shall give thee thy heart's desires:

Commit thy way unto Him, and trust in Him;
and fret not thyself because of evil doers.

Opening Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #401 *The God of Abraham Praise*

Words: Thomas Olivers. Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove; An-cient of ev - er-
He by him-self hath sworn: we on his oath de-pend, we shall, on ea-gles'
There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right-eous-ness, tri - um-phant o'er the



- last - ing days, and God of love; The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-
wings up-borne, to heaven a-scent: we shall be-hold his face, we shall his power a-
world and sin the Prince of Peace; on Zi - on's sa-cred height his king-dom he main-



- fessed: we bow and bless the sa - cred Name for ev-er blest.
- dore, and sing the won-ders of his grace for ev-er-more.
- tains, and, glo-rious with his saints in light, for ev-er reigns.

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.

All pray together: 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.

Gloria: *The Light of Christ from My Heart Sings Out #80*

Words and Music: Donald Fishel © 1974 Word of God Music. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano and Alto, in 2/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "The light of Christ has come in - to the world. The light of Christ has come in - to the world. light of Christ has come in - to the world. world. The light of Christ has come come." The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating long notes.

The light of Christ has come in - to the world. The
The light of Christ has come in - to the world.
light of Christ has come in - to the world. world.
The light of Christ has come come.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together the Collect of the day: **Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Prayer for Our Country

O God, we pray for your presence with us and with our country and ask that you give us the strength and courage we need to rise to the challenges that we face. We pray that those who lead may have resolve, wisdom, and integrity in the exercise of their duties, and that they and we be committed to truth in both word and deed. Pour out your healing on our country and its people and strengthen our commitment to the common good, that we may have patience and grace to bridge what divides us and so be bearers of your peace and good will, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Isaiah 40:21-31

Read by Alix Volel-Stech

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of

the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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

Psalms 147: 1-12, 21c

Praise the Lord, for it is good to sing praises to our God:

how pleasant and seemly it is to praise the Most High.

You Lord are rebuilding Jerusalem: **and gathering the scattered exiles of Israel.**

You are healing the broken-hearted: **and binding up their wounds.**

You count the number of the stars: **and call them all by their names.**

Great are you O Lord, and mighty your power: **yes, and your wisdom is infinite.**

You raise up the lowly: **and bring down the wicked to the dust.**

Sing to the Lord in thanksgiving: **make music on the harp to our God,**

who covers the sky with clouds, and prepares rain for the earth:

making the hills green with grass and with plants for human use.

You O Lord give the cattle their food: **and the young ravens when they call to you.**

You set no store by the power of a horse: **nor by the strength of a warrior's thighs.**

But your delight is in those who revere you: **in those who rely on your mercy.**

Praise the Lord O Jerusalem: **O holy city, praise your God. O praise the Lord.**

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

Mark 1:29-39

Jesus left the synagogue at Capernaum, and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

The Sermon: The Rev. Connie Reinhardt

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,
The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People *Led by Terry Doyle*

O God of light and life, our prayers rise before you this day in hope and faith. As we celebrate the Christ who brings your light to all people, we offer you our thanks, our praise, and the concerns of our hearts, saying **Light of the world, hear our prayer.**

God of light and life, the sun and moon and stars shine with your love for all you have made. That our life together may be a celebration of your good creation, we pray:
Light of the world, hear our prayer.

God of light and life, we are grateful that you continue to pour out the gift of your Spirit on your church, even in these challenging times. For Michael our presiding bishop, Mariann our bishop, Connie our rector, and the community of St. George's, that we may embody the presence of your Son Jesus, we pray: **Light of the world, hear our prayer.**

God of light and life, we live in a time of division and fear, yet we know that your light shines on all people. That you would fuel our passion to challenge injustice and violence and to pursue peace and reconciliation on behalf of all, we pray: **Light of the world, hear our prayer.**

God of light and life, We pray for the leaders of our country and for all nations. That our elected officials speak the truth, lead with compassion, and act with justice, we pray:
Light of the world, hear our prayer.

God of light and life, you bring healing where there is illness, hope where there is despair, life where there is death. For those who are sick and those who care for them, for those who are out of work and those without shelter or enough to eat, and for all who are in any need, we pray: **Light of the world, hear our prayer.**

God of light and life, you make for each of us a dwelling place eternal with you. For all those who have died, and especially for the over 445,000 in our country and the more than 2.2 million around the world who have died of Covid-19, we pray: **Light of the world, hear our prayer.**

God of light and life, because of your grace we have much to celebrate. We thank you for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, and for all of the gifts and blessings we experience. For all that we have and all that we are, we give thanks to you as we pray: **Light of the world, hear our prayer.**

O God who shines in the darkness, receive these prayers and all of the prayers of our hearts, in the name of the one who brings your light, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements and Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

The celebrant then offers the following prayer for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries:

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) and anyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this week as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



The Offertory

The Celebrant says

Do good works and share what you have, for these are the sacrifices pleasing to God.

Traditionally this would be the time for the basket to be passed to receive financial donations from those worshipping in person. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible. You can use your phone to text stgeodragon to 72356. Or just use your web browser to go to www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give.

If your bank offers Zelle, you can use your banking app to send a donation via Zelle to donations@stgeo.comcastbiz.net. Many thanks for your financial support of St. George's.

Offertory Hymn: Wonder, Love & Praise #779 *The Church of Christ in Every Age*

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The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by change but spi - rit
A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims of in - jus - tice
Then let the ser - vant church a - rise. A car - ing church that longs to
For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the fe - ver in our
We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o - be - dience to our



led, must claim and test its her - i - tage and keep on ri - sing from the dead.
cry for shel - ter and for bread to eat and nev - er live un - til they die.
be a part - ner in Christ's sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
blood. And teach us how to share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
Lord: to care for all with - out re - serve. And spread Christ's lib - er - a - ting word.



The Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

S 130 Holy, holy, holy Lord ~ Sanctus

from *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert; arr. Richard Prouls. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

hea-ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho-

- san - na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-

- san - na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues:

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, O Holy One, for in Jesus the Messiah you have come to us as the Word made flesh. Our hope is built on him in whom you are well pleased, your beloved Son, who brings us into new life and calls us to follow him.

Declaring the nearness of your kingdom, Jesus forgave sinners, cast out demons, raised the dead, and restored those in need of healing. He gathered disciples to continue to declare the good news in word and deed, bringing light to the world in the power of your Holy Spirit.

And so we remember that on the night he was betrayed, Jesus gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Calling them to his table, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way after supper he took the cup, saying "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command O God,

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

Made one with Christ and one with each other, we now offer you these gifts, O gracious God, and with them we offer ourselves, as a holy and living sacrifice. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and that we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your kingdom.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours Holy One of Blessing, now and forever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now in the Light of Christ, we pray,

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. 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 Celebrant says

Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and silence is kept

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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

The Communion

Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe, know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.

Communion Hymn: Voices Found #91 *Heal Me, Lord*

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Heal me, Lord, Heal me, Lord, Heal me,
am, here I am, here I
you, touch - ing you, touch - ing
Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you,
in your mer - cy in your mer - cy
in your mer - cy in your mer - cy
in your mer - cy in your mer - cy
for your mer - cy for your mer - cy

Lord, am, you, Lord, Heal me, Lord, Here I
am, here I am, touch - ing
you, touch - ing you, Thank you,
Lord, thank you, Lord, Oo

in your mer - cy, heal me, Lord, in your mer - cy
in your mer - cy, here I am in your mer - cy
in your mer - cy, touch - ing you, in your mer - cy
Lord, thank you Lord. Oo

Post- Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray: **Holy and Eternal God, 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.

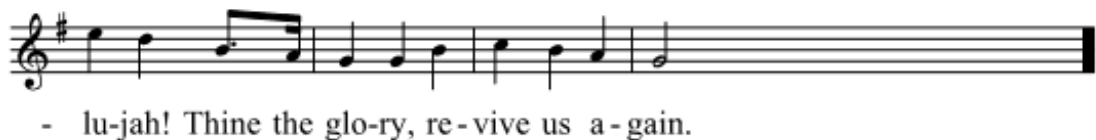
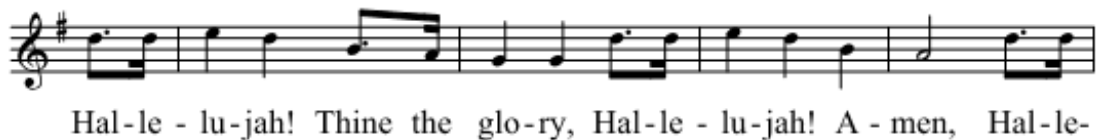
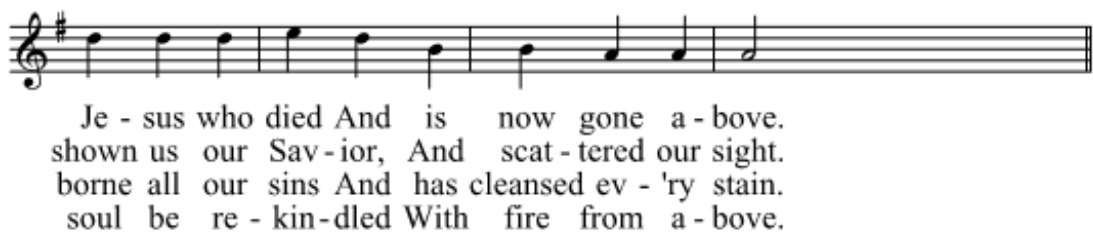
The Blessing

Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us, so be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And may the blessing of the God who created us, Christ Jesus who brings us new life, and the Holy Spirit who guides and sustains us, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**



Dismissal Hymn: LEVAS #157 Revive Us Again

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Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the Light of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: *The God of Abraham Praise* arr. Lyndell Leatherman (b. 1953)