

The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

January 29, 2023

St. George's Church, Glenn Dale Parish Episcopal Diocese of Washington

Welcome to St. George's! We are glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. Zoom participants are welcome to leave your video camera on; at certain points during the service participants in the sanctuary will see the gallery view of those taking part in the service via Zoom.

Prelude: His Name is Wonderful

Opening Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #441 *In the cross of Christ I glory*

Words: John Bowring (1792-1872) Music: Rathbu, Ithamar Conkey (1815-1867) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing o'er the wrecks of time;
When the woes of life o'er-take me, hopes de-ceive, and fears an - noy,
When the sun of bliss is beam-ing light and love up - on my way,
Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea-sure, by the cross the san - ti - fied;
In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing o'er the wrecks of time;



all the light of sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub-lime.
nev - er shall the cross for - sake me: lo, it glows with peace and joy.
from the cross the ra - diance stream-ing adds new lus - ter to the day.
peace is there that knows no mea-sure, joys that through all time a - bide.
all the light of sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub-lime.

Opening Acclamation and Prayer

Celebrant: Christ is our everlasting light.

People: And God is our glory.

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.

Song of Praise: Gloria - My Heart Sings Out #80 *The Light of Christ*

Words and Music: Donald Fishel (b. 1950) © 1974 Word of God Music admin. T.C.C. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

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.

The image shows a musical score for the song 'The Light of Christ'. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system has lyrics 'The light of Christ has come in - to the world. The'. The second system has lyrics 'The light of Christ has come in - to the world.'. The third system has lyrics 'light of Christ has come in - to the world. world.' and 'The light of Christ has come come.' with first and second endings indicated by '1.' and '2.' above the notes.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together the Collect for the Day:

Foolish God, Shaming the strong through the weakness of love; turning upside down the wisdom of the world: may your blessing dwell with the poor and hungry, the grieving and abused; may your peaceful revolution be our joy and our reward through Jesus Christ, the power of God. Amen.

The people are seated for the readings.

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.**

Psalm 15

Lord, who may be a guest in your house:

or who may dwell on your holy mountain?

One who leads a blameless life:

who does what is right, and speaks truthfully from the heart,

whose tongue is free from malice, who never wrongs a friend:

and utters no reproach against a neighbor,

who does not honor the unworthy:

but makes much of those who hold the Lord in awe

Such a one stands by a promise given:

though it be at personal disadvantage,

and will not take interest on a loan:

nor accept a bribe to testify against the innocent.

Whoever does all this:

shall never be overthrown.

Gospel Hymn: LEVAS #216 *In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified*

Words and Music: Bob Kirkpatrick (b.1952). © 1978 Bob Kirkwood Music. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



In my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;
In my song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;
In your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;



In my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.
In my song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.
In your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mathew. **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: **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

The Sermon: The Rev. Connie Reinhardt

The Creed: *We believe*

Words: Terry Doyle, TSSF paraphrase of the *Apostles Creed*. Music: *Omni die*, from *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, 1631.

Harmony, William Smith Rockstro (1823-1895). Wonder, Love and Praise #742. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



We be - lieve God, our Cre - a - tor makes our world and calls it good,
We be - lieve God be - came hu - man when the Word em - braced our flesh.
We be - lieve that Je - sus gave all, dy - ing on a cross for love.
We be - lieve that Christ in glo - ry comes a - gain to be our judge,
We be - lieve God is e - ter - nal, Spir - it, Word and Cre - a - tor;



form - ing heav - ens, earth and crea - tures, each a mir - ror of God's love.
Child of Ma - ry from the Spir - it, Je - sus humb - ly walked on earth.
Then Christ rose to con - quer all death, and as - cend - ed, One with God.
re - con - cil - ing with for - give - ness, bring - ing peace to all on earth.
and the dead are raised to new life, liv - ing in God's end - less love.



The Prayers of the People

Let us pray to God who is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, saying **Christ the true light, shine on us.**

As the prophet Isaiah sang out, "Arise, shine; for your light has come," we pray O God that you empower your Church to sing out the Good News of the Light of your son Jesus, which pierces even the deepest darkness. We pray especially for Michael our presiding bishop, Mariann our bishop, Connie our rector, and the people of St. George's, as we say:

Christ the true light, shine on us.

As a star rose high into the nighttime sky to draw the nations to the Christ child, we pray that you send your blessing, O God, on this nation, and every nation, and draw the whole world to your peace and truth. We pray especially for refugees and for others caught in the violence of war, as we say: **Christ the true light, shine on us.**

As John the Baptist guided throngs of people to the edge of the wilderness and baptized Jesus in the River Jordan, we pray O God that you would guide our country and our leaders to the ways of justice and righteousness, as we say **Christ the true light, shine on us.**

As Jesus climbed the mountaintop and proclaimed blessings on the people of the world, we pray for all people in need of Christ's blessings and his healing grace, including those who are hungry, those who are cold and lack a safe place to sleep, and those who are out of work. We pray especially for the children and families of Gaywood Elementary School, for the guests of the Warm Nights program, and for those served by the Bowie Food Pantry. We pray for those on our parish prayer list, and for those we name before you now. *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray, saying **Christ the true light, shine on us.**

In the spirit of the Magi who traveled from afar to bring gifts and celebrate the Savior's birth, we pray O God for those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries, and we give thanks for all of the blessings of our lives, saying **Christ the true light, shine on us.**

As Jesus called his disciples to leave their nets and boats and follow him, we pray O God for those who have answered your call to a new life with you on the other side of death; may they go from strength to strength in your heavenly reign, saying **Christ the true light, shine on us.**

Lord Jesus, Light of the World, hear our prayers and make us reflections of your light and grace. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Now let us confess our sins to God. *Silence is kept.*

All pray together **God of steadfastness and mercy, we confess that we love the works of darkness more than your light. We have sought to satisfy our deepest longings through material things of creation rather than through you, our Creator. We are quick to judge others, yet we fail to see our own failings. We ignore the cries of the poor, and grow weary of working for justice. Forgive and restore us, O God; let your Holy Spirit move in us and inspire us to walk in the light of Christ, this day and always. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

Blessings for Birthdays & 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

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

Offertory Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #556 *Rejoice ye pure in heart* verses 1-4

Words: Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891) Music: *Marion*. Arthur Henry Messiter (1834-1916) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Re - joi - ce, ye pure in heart! Re - joi - ce, give than - ks, and sing!
With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints of earth,
Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le - lu - ias loud;
Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go,
Your glo - rious ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
while an - swer - ing ech - oes up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.
from youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.
Re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce, give than - ks, and sing.

Many thanks for your financial support of St. George's. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible. Text stgeodragon to 72356. Or just use your web browser to go to www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give. You may also donate via Zelle to donations@stgeorgesglennedale.org. Baskets at the doors of the Sanctuary may be used for donations of checks or cash.

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.

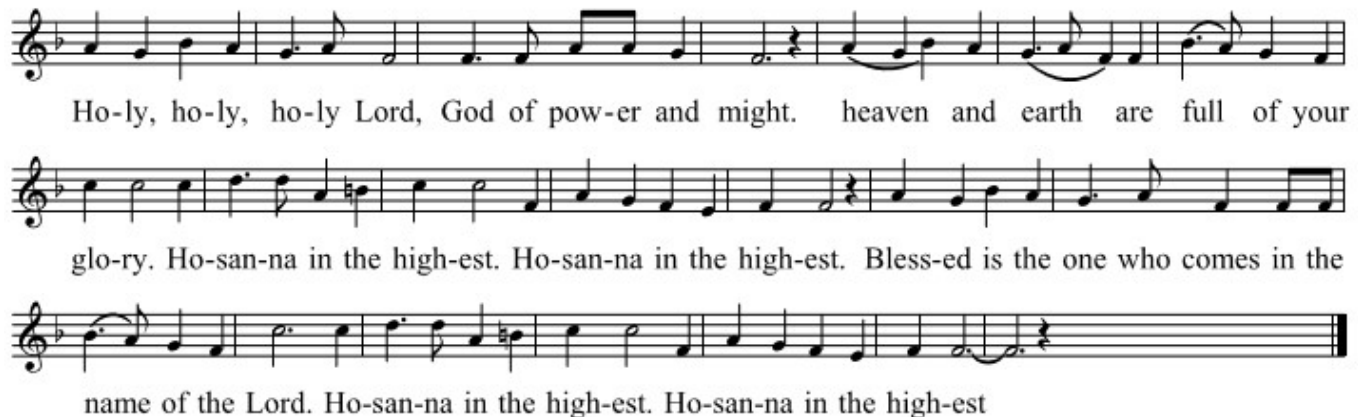
People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues:

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 in voices of unending praise:

Sanctus: Hymnal 1982 #S 125 *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Setting from *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



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. Bless-ed is the one who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est

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 Jesus.

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 to remember me."

In the same way after supper he took the cup, saying "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember 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, and with them ourselves, a holy and living sacrifice. And now most gracious God, 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.
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 bread is broken and silence is kept

Fraction Anthem: Gather #247 May We Be One

Words: Rory Cooney (b. 1952) Music: Gary Daigle (b. 1957). © 1993 G. I. A. Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



When we eat this bread and drink this cup we pro-claim your death, Lord Je - sus.



So as we share this feast may we be come, heal-ing and light and peace. May we be one.

Celebrant: 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.

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 1: LEVAS #152 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

Traditional Spiritual Arr. Carl Haywood from *The Haywood Collection* © 1992 Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun, Oh Lord, have mer - cy on me.



3. Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees. Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun, Oh Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Communion Hymn 2: Gather #542 *In Christ There Is a Table Set for All*

Words and Music: Robert J. Stamps. Tune title CENEDIUS, Irregular © 1972 Dawn Treader Music. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Wel - come, all you no - ble saints of old. As
El - ders, mar - tyrs, all are fall - ing down; Re-
Beg - gars, Lambs, and har - lots al - so here; Re-
Who is this who spreads the vic - t'ry feast?
Here he gives him - self to us as bread:
Wor - ship in the pres - ence of the Lord. With
When at last this earth shall pass a - way. When



now be - fore your ver - y eyes un - fold. The
Pro - phets, pa - tri - archs are gath - 'ring 'round. What
pen - tant pub - li - cans are draw - ing near;
Who is this who makes our war - ring cease?
Here, as wine, we drink the blood he shed
joy - ful songs and hearts in one ac - cord. And
Je - sus and his bride are one to stay. The



won - ders all so long a - go fore - told:
an - gels long to see now we have found.
Way - ward sons come home with - out a fear.
Je - sus, ris - en Sav - ior, Prince of Peace. In Christ there is a ta - ble set for all.
Born to die, we eat and live in - stead!
let our host at ta - ble be a - dored.
feast of love is just be - gun that day.

Post- Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray: **Generous and nourishing God, in word and bread and wine we have celebrated the mysteries of your love: As we go forth into the world, we ask you to assist us with your grace, that we may live as signs of your wonders in the world, loving one another and sharing your light wherever we go, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Announcements

The Blessing

Let us go forth in light to honor our God and share what we know of the risen Christ.
And now may God strengthen you and bless you with peace;
May Christ Jesus bring justice for you and among you;
And may the Holy Spirit alight on you and affirm you as God's beloved, this day and always.
Amen.

Dismissal Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #594 *God of grace and God of Glory*

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969) Words: *Cum Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy power; crown thine an - cient
Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways! From the fears that
Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton,
Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore; let the gift of



Chur - ch's sto - ry; bring her bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom grant us cour - age
long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise: Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour,	for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days,	for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss thy king - dom's goal,	lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
serv - ing thee whom we a - dore,	serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude: *For the Beauty of the Earth*