# The Epiphany

# St. George's Church Glenn Dale Parish The Episcopal Diocese of Washington January 7, 2024

#### Opening Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #615 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854). Music: Es flog ein kleins Waldvogelein, German folk song. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



*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.

#### 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 Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

*Celebrant*: Let us pray together the Collect of the Day:

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The people may be seated

#### Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,

the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you,

the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Give the king your justice O God: and your righteousness to a king's son,

that he may judge your people rightly: and uphold the poor with justice.

Let the mountains bring forth peace for the people: and the hills prosperity with justice.

May the king defend the cause of the poor among the people: save the children of the needy and crush the oppressor.

May he live as long as the sun endures: as long as the moon from age to age.

May he come down like rain upon the grass: like showers that water the earth.

In his days may righteousness flourish: and abundance of peace till the moon is no more.

May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute:

the kings of Sheba and Seba bring their gifts.

May all kings fall prostrate before him: and all nations render him service.

He shall deliver the needy when they cry: and the poor who have no helper.

He shall have pity on the weak and the needy: and save the lives of the poor.

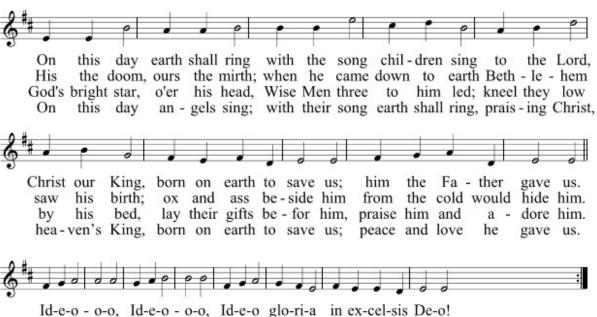
He shall rescue them from oppression and violence: and their blood shall be precious in his sight.

At the conclusion of the psalm, all say together

Glory to God, Source of all being, Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

# Gospel Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #92 On This Day, Earth Shall Ring

Words: *Piae Cantiones*, 1582 Translated by Jane M. Joseph (1894-1929). Music: *Personent hodie* from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

#### Matthew 2:1-15

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.'

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

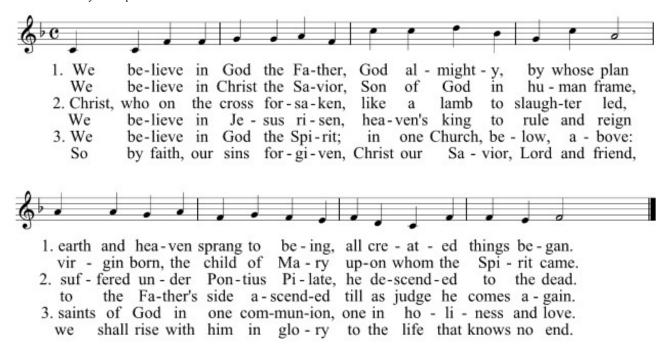
People: Praise to you Lord Christ.



The Sermon: The Rev. Connie Reinhardt

#### The Creed: We believe in God the Father

Words: Paraphrase of the Apostles Creed, Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926). © 1993. Ancient and Modern Hymns, Hope Publishing Company. Music: Stuttgart from Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andachtige und Schone Gesange 1715; adapted by William Henry Havergal (1793-1870) Hymnal 1982 #127. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



# The Prayers of the People

Rejoicing in the Word made flesh and revealed to us, let us pray for the Church, those in need, and all of God's creation, saying **O God of truth and light, hear our prayer.** 

For the church, radiant with joy over the Savior's birth, that we may follow faithfully where you lead us, O God, and serve as your light in the world, we pray. We pray especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Mariann our Bishop, Connie our rector, and for the community of St. George's. We pray: **O God of truth and light, hear our prayer.** 

For all entrusted with authority, that they might be guided by your wisdom and compassion, and seek the welfare of the poor and the oppressed, we pray: **O God of truth and light, hear our prayer.** 

For our country and for other countries and regions of the earth divided by hatred and strife, that they might walk in the light of peace and reconciliation, we pray: **O God of truth and light, hear our prayer.** 

For those experiencing illness or loss, that you, Holy One, may shine upon them with your healing love, and that they might be supported by the care of community. We pray for all of those in need of our prayers, for those on our parish prayer list, and for those we name before you now. *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray: **O God of truth and light, hear our prayer.** 

For all gathered here in your Son's brilliant light, that we may be illumined in our journey of faith this new year, and proclaim your praise in the midst of our daily lives, we pray: **O God of truth and light, hear our prayer.** 

For those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, and for other blessings of this life. *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray: **O God of truth and light, hear our prayer.** 

For those who have died and are now held in Christ's eternal life, that their examples of faith and love may guide us toward your light. *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray: **O God of truth and light, hear our prayer.** 

Lord Jesus, Light of the World, hear our prayers, and make us reflections of your Light, that all may be drawn to you and experience the joy of following you on the way. In the light of your presence, we pray. **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**

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering holy and acceptable to God.

Although St. George's no longer physically "passes the basket" everyone is invited and encouraged to make a financial offering to express your gratitude to God for the gifts we are given and in support of our mission and ministries. We encourage you to give electronically; you can text stgeodragon to 72356. (Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.) Or just use your web browser to go to <a href="www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give">www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give</a>. You may also donate via Zelle to <a href="mailto:donations@stgeorgesglenndale.org">donations@stgeorgesglenndale.org</a>. or Cash App to send your donation to \$StGeorgesGlennDale

# Offertory Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #135 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Words: Sts. 1-3, Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885) at. 4. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984). Music: *Salzburg*, Jacob Hintze (1622-1702); harm. Johan Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



# 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.

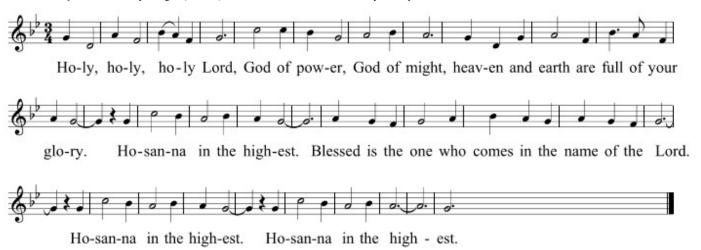
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 in voices of unending praise:

# Sanctus: Gather #144 Holy, holy, holy

Music: Mass of Creation, Marty Haugen (b. 1950) © 1964 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



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:* The Living Christ is in our midst, and so with Christ we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

# The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken. After a time of silence, all sing together

# Fraction Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #S 155 Christ our Passover

Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



*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.

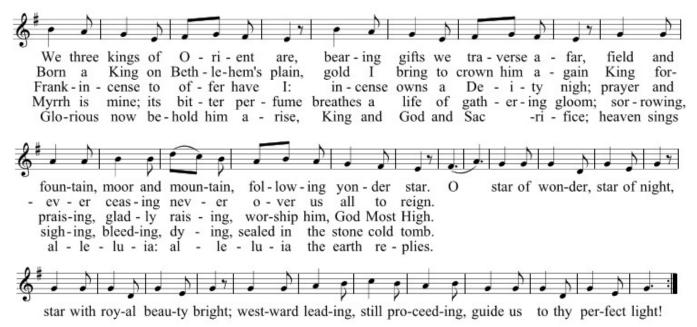
#### The Communion

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.

If you would prefer not to receive the Eucharist, you are welcome to come up for a blessing – cross your hands to your shoulders to indicate this to the priest.

#### Communion Hymn 1: Hymnal 1982 #128 We Three Kings

Words and Music: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891). Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



# Communion Hymn 2: Hymnal 1982 #324 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



# **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

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. **Amen.** May God strengthen you and bless you with peace. **Amen.** 

May Christ Jesus bring justice for you and among you. Amen.

And may the Holy Spirit alight on you and affirm you as God's beloved, this day and always. **Amen.** 

# Dismissal Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #118 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826). Music: Star in the East from The Southern Hymnary, 1835. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



#### The Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God.