



## *St. Thomas' Episcopal Church*

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# The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

February 14, 2021

## Morning Prayer: Rite Two

**Prelude**

*When Morning Guilds The Skies*

Laudes Domini

**Opening sentence**

p. 76

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth. *Isaiah 49:6b*

**Confession of Sin**

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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

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.**

## The Invitatory and Psalter

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

p. 80

*People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant and People*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lord has shown forth his glory: **Come let us adore him.**

**The Jubilate** (all recite in unison)

p. 82

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.**

**Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

**For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

**Psalm 50:1-6** (*read responsively by whole verse*)

<sup>1</sup> The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; \*  
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

<sup>2</sup> **Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, \*  
God reveals himself in glory.**

<sup>3</sup> Our God will come and will not keep silence; \*  
before him there is a consuming flame,  
and round about him a raging storm.

<sup>4</sup> **He calls the heavens and the earth from above \*  
to witness the judgment of his people.**

<sup>5</sup> "Gather before me my loyal followers, \*  
those who have made a covenant with me  
and sealed it with sacrifice."

<sup>6</sup> **Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; \*  
for God himself is judge.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

A reading from the Second Book of Kings.

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

*Lector* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

## The Second Lesson

## 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

*Lector* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

### **Canticle 11 The Third Song of Isaiah** *(all recite in unison)*

p. 87

*Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19*

**Arise, shine, for your light has come, \***  
**and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.**  
**For behold, darkness covers the land; \***  
**deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.**  
**But over you the Lord will rise, \***  
**and his glory will appear upon you.**  
**Nations will stream to your light, \***  
**and kings to the brightness of your dawning.**  
**Your gates will always be open; \***  
**by day or night they will never be shut.**  
**They will call you, The City of the Lord, \***  
**The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.**  
**Violence will no more be heard in your land, \***  
**ruin or destruction within your borders.**  
**You will call your walls, Salvation, \***  
**and all your portals, Praise.**  
**The sun will no more be your light by day; \***  
**by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.**  
**The Lord will be your everlasting light, \***  
**and your God will be your glory.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \***  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A-men.**

## The Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Lector The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

## Diocesan Convention Report

### The Apostles' Creed

p. 96

*Officiant and People together*

**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

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

p. 97

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

*Officiant* Let us 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.**

*Then follows one of these sets of Suffrages*

**B**

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. **We praise your name for ever.**

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. **For we put our trust in you.**

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

*The Collect of the Day*

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

p. 98

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

p. 99

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for Mission

p. 101

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

**Anthem**

*O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair*

Wareham

For the Human Family

p. 815

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that 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 and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For the Sick

p. 459

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants **Ashley Burnett, Jeanine Wilson, Al Coward, Randy Tyler, Ben Procter, Joan Leggett, Kay Barnacascel, Becky Godwin, John Tolbert, Coley McCally, Karen Gudiksen, Bobbie and Rendol Cobb, Libby Smith, Marian Watts, Lena Evans, Charles Taylor Spruill, Larry Watson, Julia Credle, Joey Ezelle, Racheal Coward, Peggy Parker, Sylvia Dawson, David Dunn, Elsie Benson, Riley Raines, Andy Walker, Will Copeland, Mary Gillam, Rita Hoggard, Thomas Roach, those with COVID-19, and others known to us, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.****



For the Diocese

p. 817

O God, by your grace you have called us in this Diocese to a goodly fellowship of faith. Bless our Bishop Rob and other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For our Country

p. 820

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.*

**The General Thanksgiving**

p. 101

*Officiant and People*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

***A Prayer of St. Chrysostom***

p. 102

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

*The Officiant may then conclude with the following*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Romans 15:13*

**Postlude**

*Alleluia! Sing To Jesus*

Hyfrydol

**MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY**

**Officiant:** The Rev. Bonnie Smith

**Organist:** Tom Parker

**Altar:** Marti Tyler, Agnes Powell, Alice Pittman, Rosanna Rhea

**Lector:** John Tyler

**Soloist:** Marti Tyler

**Money Counters:** John Tyler, Tra Perry

**Hostesses:** Pat Ivey, Emily Wilson, Grace DeMajewski

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Weather permitting, we will continue with outdoor worship next Sunday at 11:00 a.m., with video on Facebook.

Unfortunately, there will not be a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper this year.

An outdoor modified Ash Wednesday liturgy is planned for February 17 at 5:30 p.m., weather permitting. A Facebook Live video will be available rain or shine.

Mite boxes will be available for your Lenten devotion this year. Proceeds will go to Trinity Center.