



# THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

SUNDAY 31 JANUARY 2021

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

9:30 A.M. AND 10:30 A.M.

**Gathering Music** (*The gathering music at 10:30 a.m. will be sung by the soloist; the congregation is invited to listen.*)

O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

*Azmon*

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim  
and spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy Name.

Jesus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

He speaks; and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive,  
the mournful broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; ye voiceless ones, your loosened tongues employ;  
ye blind, behold, your Savior comes; and leap, ye lame for joy!

Glory to God and praise and love be now and ever given  
by saints below and saints above, the Church in earth and heaven.

## Welcome and Announcements

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

### 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.**

**Song of Praise** (10:30 a.m. only. Sung by the soloist; the congregation is invited to listen)

John Rutter

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; \*  
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.  
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \*  
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.  
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths; \*  
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.  
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

**The Collect of the Day**

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.**

**The Lessons**

**A reading from Deuteronomy (18:15–20)**

*Commentary:*

*Moses knew his death was imminent. Deuteronomy records his final addresses to the Israelites as he prepared to transfer leadership to Joshua before the people crossed the Jordan River to enter Canaan. In this passage, Moses predicted that after his death, God would send other prophets to provide guidance for the nation. Prophets would be important mediators between God and His people. The promise of a mediator was ultimately fulfilled by Jesus Christ, who not only revealed God's message, but also provided salvation through His death on the cross.*

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**A reading from 1 Corinthians (8:1–13)**

*Commentary:*

*In these verses, Paul instructed the Corinthians regarding an area of controversy within their church, whether or not it was permissible to eat food that had been sacrificed to idols. The tone of Paul's response indicates the Corinthian Christians valued knowledge more highly than love, a perspective Paul intended to correct. Knowledge without love is incomplete and by itself does not lead to right conduct. The church should be a loving, supportive community, and Paul's concern was that the church not place any barrier in the way of a person's relationship with God. Christ died for the weak believer as well as the strong, so the church's responsibility is to care for, respect and promote spiritual development for all who are united by faith in one Lord.*

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn** (10:30 a.m. only. Sung by the soloist; the congregation is invited to listen)

*Land of Rest*

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;  
brought here together by Christ’s love, by love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear his charity we learn;  
let us with heart and mind and strength now love him in return.

Forgive we now each other’s faults as we our faults confess;  
and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.

Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease;  
be his the glory that we seek, be ours his holy peace.

Let us recall that in our midst dwells God’s begotten Son;  
as members of his body joined, we are in him made one.

Love can exclude no race or creed, if honored be God’s name;  
our common life embraces all whose Father is the same..

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (1:21–28)**

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Nicene Creed**

*Officiant and People together*

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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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.

**Prayers of the People**

*The response to each petition:*

Lord, in your mercy... **Hear our prayer.**

**Confession of Sin and Absolution**

*Officiant 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 Peace

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

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**Offertory Solo:** (10:30 a.m. only. Sung by the soloist; the congregation is invited to listen)

*American Spiritual*

*There is a balm in Gilead,  
To make the wounded whole;  
There is a balm in Gilead,  
To heal the sin-sick soul.*  
Sometimes I feel discouraged,  
And think my work's in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit  
Revives my soul again.

If you cannot preach like Peter,  
If you cannot pray like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus,  
And say He died for all. *Refrain*

Don't ever feel discouraged,  
'Cause Jesus is your friend,  
And if you lack for knowledge,  
He'll not refuse to lend. *Refrain*

### Eucharistic Prayer C

The Lord be with you.  
**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 him thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
**By your will they were created and have their being.**

*The Eucharist Prayer continues overleaf.*

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**By his blood, he reconciled us.**

**By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.  
**AMEN.**

## The Lord's Prayer

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 Fraction

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

## The Communion of the People.

**Communion Music** (10:30 a.m. only. Sung by the soloist; the congregation is invited to listen)

*Ubi caritas (Murray)*

*God is love, and where true love is God himself is there.*

Here in Christ we gather, love of Christ our calling.  
Christ, our love, is with us, gladness be his greeting.  
Let us fear and love him, holy God eternal.  
Loving him, let each love Christ in one another. *Refrain*

When we Christians gather, members of one Body,  
let there be in us no discord but one spirit.  
Banished now be anger, strife and every quarrel.  
Christ, our God, be always present here among us. *Refrain*

Grant us love's fulfillment, joy with all the blessed,  
when we see your face, O Savior, in its glory.  
Shine on us, O purest Light of all creation,  
be our bliss while endless ages sing your praises. *Refrain*

## Post-Communion Prayer (Celebrant and People)

Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
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.

## Blessing

## Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**



*Celebrant: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard*

*The flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of  
James Carroll Fox*

MT. LEBANON CHAPEL

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