

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
JANUARY 26, 2025 AT 10:15 A.M.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. John's is an Open and Affirming congregation. In faithfulness to Jesus and His commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves, we invite everyone to celebrate with us in the full life and ministry of the Church. We believe strongly in our mission statement to Grow in God, Act in Service, and Witness in Love.

A NOTE ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

Our Rite II service comes from the Book of Common Prayer and is filled with vibrant music, sacred scripture, and the breaking of bread. This service is filled with the joyful sound of children rustling in the pews, anthems sung to the glory of God, and the heartfelt prayers of those gathered. With acolytes and processions, communal singing, and a mission to love and serve our neighbors, this service invites one to participate in the coming of the Kingdom. At St. John's everyone is welcome to the Lord's table.

TO THOSE WHO MAY BE NEW OR ARE VISITING

We are so glad you are here! Ushers are stationed at the back of the church and can answer any questions you may have or please ask a neighbor in the next pew. Restrooms can be found on the other side of the Parish Hall. In addition to worship, opportunities for fellowship exist after the service in the courtyard. A nursery is available every Sunday for our littlest members next to the Parish Hall. Thank you for being here!

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*If you have an announcement, you would like the clergy to share,
please fill out the form on our website or let the office know no later than Thursday.*

PRELUDE *Simple Gifts* Shaker tune, arr. By Barbara Boertje

OPENING HYMN *The Spacious Firmament* **HYMNAL 409**

OPENING ACCLAMATION (*please remain standing as you are able*)

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

COLLECT FOR PURITY **BCP 355**

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 *Gloria in excelsis* **HYMNAL S-280**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*
Celebrant Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON: Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10 (*please be seated*)

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 19

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *

- it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

THE EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the

body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

God Is Love

HYMNAL 577

Verses 1&2 before the Gospel Reading; Verse 3 after the Gospel Reading

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21 (*please remain standing as you are able*)

Celebrant

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE NICENE CREED (*please rise in body or spirit*)**BCP 358**

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. (*pause*)
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.

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; in the Diocesan and Anglican Cycle of prayer we pray for St. Matthew's, Sunbury and The Episcopal Province of Alexandria;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Audrey, our Diocesan Bishop; Amanda and Jen, our clergy; and Emma, our seminarian.
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, especially Donald, our President; Josh, our Governor; Danene, our Mayor; and those serving in the Armed Forces.
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble especially succor Pat Pankey, Nancy Strasburg, Ella, Kevin, Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin, Cheryl & Rhoda, Ted Griswold, Richard Anderson, Collin, Liz Kryder Reid, Eileen Waite, Andrew Wright, Sandy, Marshall, Ann Marie, Dawn, Carol, Kim, and Antonio. We pray for our friends at home especially Ellen Keller, Nancy Nemith, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Al Kuser, Mary Sue Farmer, Ellen Sellers, Edith Kane, Merle Schnee, Carol Greenfield, Sandy Grove, Darlene Bentley, and Peggy Zuke.
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth:
Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your
will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God and our neighbor.

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.*

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the
grace of Jesus Christ, 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.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY

Be Thou My Vision

Carlton Young

PRESENTATION HYMN *Jesus, whom the Gentiles worshiped
at thy glad epiphany,
unto thee, with God the Father
and the Spirit, glory be.*

HYMNAL 127, vs. 5

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, Father Almighty, 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might* **HYMNAL S-125**
 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.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. John all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in
hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who

sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial,
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er,
 and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 364

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

The Episcopal Church invites all who seek God to our Lord's table. Hold out your hands to receive the bread. The wine is administered in two chalices: the common cup for drinking and the intinction cup for dipping your wafer into the wine. If you do not wish to receive the wine, cross your arms over your chest when the wine passes. If you desire a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers are also available. If you are unable to come to the altar, please let an usher know and we would be happy to bring communion to you!

COMMUNION HYMNS

*As We Gather
 O God of Gentle Strength*

**WLP 763
 HYMNAL 771**

SENDING FORTH OF THE EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Celebrant In the name of God and on behalf of this parish, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People *We, who are many, are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

THE BLESSING

May the light of Christ's life be kindled in us, and lead us to the shining truth, of God with us, God for us, God in us; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

Christ for the World, We Sing

HYMNAL 537

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

POSTLUDE

Maestoso

Bryan Kelly

St. John's Traveler Letter:

Did you know St. John's has pilgrims who travel to the places we pray for in the Anglican communion? Follow John as he shares about the church and places he visits:

Dear Pastor Amanda,

Salaam! Peace to you and our St. John's family from the ancient land of Egypt. Most people in Egypt, one of the largest countries in the Arab world, speak Arabic, and "salaam," which means peace, is a common greeting. Egypt is part of the Anglican Province of Alexandria, which extends across North Africa and includes Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Djibouti, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya. One could spend a lifetime exploring this country of more than 107 million people. How I wish I had more time in Cairo, "the City of a Thousand Minarets," which is one of the world's oldest Islamic cities with famous mosques, madrassas, fountains, and enchanting neighborhoods. Gazing at the pyramids in Giza, exploring the ancient temples in Luxor, and encountering the Nile River has been fascinating and awe inspiring.

Egypt is a predominantly Muslim country, and it has a rich Christian history. Being here reminds me that Egypt was a refuge for the Holy Family when they fled from King Herod soon after Jesus's birth. Many believe that St. Mark the Evangelist, Christianity to Egypt in the first century. He also founded the Church of Alexandria, one of the earliest centers of Christian thought and theology. Today, Christianity is the second largest religion in Egypt, and the country is home to the Coptic Christians, one of the world's oldest Christian communities. The first Anglican missionaries arrived in 1819, and the first church building, St. Mark's in Alexandria, was consecrated in 1839. The Jewish people have also had a historical presence, but most have gone to Israel. From time to time, extremists have attacked Christian churches, homes, and communities.

I have spent most of my time in Egypt in the ancient port city of Alexandria, known as the "Pearl of the Mediterranean." Much of the heritage here in Alexandria is a mix of the Greco-Roman tradition, Coptic Christianity, and Arab civilization. Alexander the Great founded this city nearly three hundred years before the birth of Jesus. Alexandria is just over three hours by bus from Cairo, and it is home to historic treasures. Today, I visited the ruins of a Roman amphitheatre and villas, and I explored the Qaitbey Citadel, which is built on the remains of the Alexandrian lighthouse, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. There are great libraries here, reflecting Alexandria's history as a great center of learning in the ancient world and later when it came under Islamic rule. I have enjoyed walking along the Corniche, the city's seafront promenade. Please keep this country and all its people in your prayers. We are all one human family, regardless of religion, race, gender, ethnicity or any other label we use that creates division. Egypt today is facing rapid population growth as well as increasing poverty, and these economic pressures are causing political unrest. Even water in the mighty Nile is diminishing, negatively impacting the amount of arable land available for farming. You may have also heard of Egypt's key role in mediating the crisis in Gaza. God's peace – John Traveler

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S:

TODAY

Coffee Hour to follow each service

- 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I
- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II
- 11:30 AM Newcomer's Brunch

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

- 5:00 PM Stewardship Committee

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

- 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry
- 2:30 PM Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

- 12:00 PM Healing Service
- 2:00 PM Men's Bible Study
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

- 9:00 AM Ministers' Meeting
- 2:30 PM Food Pantry

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

Rector's Day Off

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Special Coffee Hour after worship to give thanks for Jen+ & Heather!

- 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I
- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

MORNING PRAYER WITH BR. DAVID **THURSDAYS AT 9:00 A.M.**

We will continue praying the Daily Office through the season of Epiphany! We will gather every Thursday at 9:00 a.m. in the Saint Mary Chapel. Our Thursday Morning Prayer service will be a 30-minute service of prayer, silence, and scripture readings. You are welcome to join us each Thursday in the beautiful Saint Mary Chapel at St John's.

JEN'S LAST SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 2

Next Sunday, February 2nd please join us as we give thanks for the ministry of Jen+ and Heather. Their ministries have touched the lives of so many over the past three years, let's gather to give thanks for the countless ways we've been blessed by their presence and send them forth with our love and prayers.

WELCOME

Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church! We are glad you are here. Please tell us a little bit about yourself by filling out a pew card and placing it in the offertory plate.

OUR MINISTERS

All Baptized Members

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Audrey C. Scanlan, Diocesan Bishop

The Rev. Amanda Knouse, Rector
amanda@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Jen Trenary, Assistant Rector
jen@stjohns-lancaster.org

VESTRY

Drew Dorgan (*Sr. Warden*), Charles Wear (*Treasurer*), Molly Moyer (*Secretary*),
Liz West, Ted Loose, Kathy Kyper, Gretchen Walden, Penn Glazier,
Mary Huber, Bruce Waskowicz, Sarah Jones

DELEGATES REPRESENTING ST. JOHN'S AT DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Pam Loose, Br. David Rutledge, Joe Way, Drew Dorgan

STAFF

Mark Herr, Minister of Music (*music@stjohns-lancaster.org*)
Dana Sanborn, Bookkeeper (*finance@stjohns-lancaster.org*)
John Knouse, Property Manager (*property@stjohns-lancaster.org*)
Stephanie Cabrera, Custodian
Danielle Hill, Nursery Attendant

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