

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE EPIPHANY



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
JANUARY 5, 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 *Kings of Orient* Rebecca Groom Te Velde

OPENING HYMN *As with gladness* **HYMNAL 119**

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.

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 for ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 (*please be seated*)

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1-7,10-14

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.

- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
 there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
 and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, *
 and all the nations do him service.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
 and the oppressed who has no helper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
 he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
 and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

THE EPISTLE: Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

We Three Kings of Orient Are

HYMNAL 128

Verses 1&2 before the Gospel Reading; verses 3&4 after the Gospel Reading

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12 (*please remain standing as you are able*)

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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.

People The Gospel of the Lord.
 Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

THE REV. JEN TREARY

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: FORM III

BCP 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; in the Diocesan and Anglican Cycle of prayer we pray for St. Andrew's, Shippensburg and The Church of Wales;
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 Joe, 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 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, and Dawn. 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.*

THE PEACE

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

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts, may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY

Riches Everlasting

Peter Warlock

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

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
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.*

HYMNAL S-125

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.

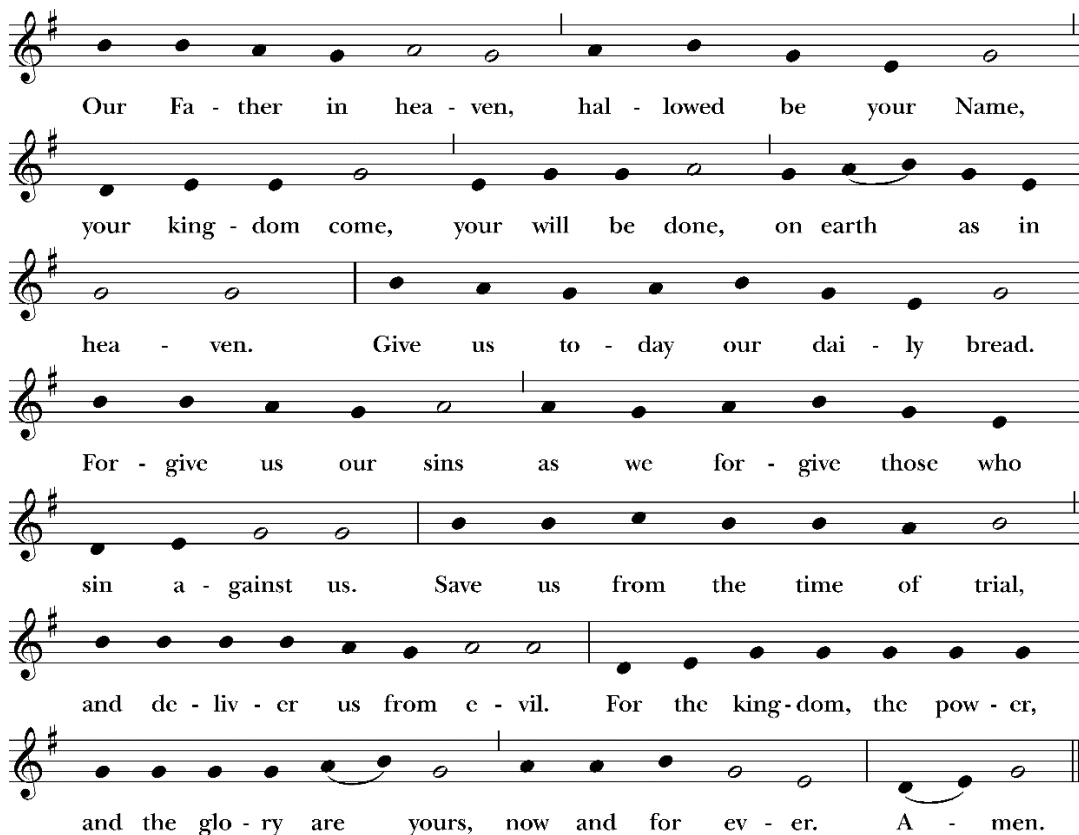
We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put 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 sons and daughters; 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. If you wish to receive, please come forward to the altar rail when the usher indicates. Hold out your hands to receive the bread. For the wine, you can receive by guiding the chalice to your lips or by dipping your wafer into the separate intinction cup. 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. When finished, please exit to your right. Gluten free wafers are also available.

COMMUNION HYMNS

*Brightest and best of the stars
In the bleak midwinter*

HYMN 117

HYMN 112

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

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

HYMNAL 135

THE DISMISSAL

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

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

POSTLUDE

Salzburg

Philip Moore

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 places he visits:

Dear Pastor Amanda,

Blwyddn newydd dda! Can you say that ten times fast? Neither can I, but it is magical to hear this phrase every time! It means "Happy New Year" in Welsh, and I am sending you and our St. John's family warmest wishes for 2025 from the beautiful country of Wales. I traveled by train from London to Cardiff, the capital of Wales on the country's southeastern coast. Cardiff is a bustling community with three colleges, beautiful parks, theaters, and wonderful restaurants. It reminds me a bit of Lancaster! Wales, along with England, Scotland, and Northern Ireland, make up the United Kingdom.

Wales is rich in culture, folklore, myth, and history. It is just west of England, and it is nearly the size of New Jersey. As I look out my hotel window, I can see snow-capped mountains and castles in the distance. Did you know that Wales has more castles per square mile than any other country in Europe? Winter is a quiet time here, and the long evenings set the stage to share legends and folk stories passed through generations. Community is an important part of life here, and nearly every village has its own stories of enchanting lakes and castles. There are wonderful holiday traditions, too. In the 18th and 19th centuries, Welsh churchgoers would leave their houses carrying candles and go to Plygain, a service of carols sung a cappella. A more modern-day tradition is the Welsh winter swim – a Christmas morning or New Years Day event to raise money for charity. Did I mention it is 40 degrees here today? It was great fun to see communities gather and watch brave souls jump joyfully into the very cold water! In other places, children sing or recite rhymes door-to-door in exchange for bread, cheese, or sweets.

History is everywhere you look. This week, I visited St. Padarn's Church, one of the largest medieval churches in central Wales. Many people believe that Christians have worshipped on this site since the sixth century. The building on the site has served as a monastic center, a Benedictine priory, and it has been a parish church since 1538. Today I worshipped at a different St. Padarn's Church in the villages of Llanberies, which sits at the foot of the Snowdonia National Park. I was delighted to hear how a team of parishioners spent Christmas Day preparing dinner for those in need. St. Padarn's also supports a food bank and youth homelessness organization. I enjoyed shared stories of St. John's ministries, including the food pantry and the Community Breakfast.

My heart is full of gratitude as I begin another year in community with the world. It is a constant reminder that we are all part of one family. I wish you all peace and many blessings this New Year and always.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S:

TODAY

Coffee Hour to follow each service

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

- 4:30 PM Trans Loving Community
- 6:00 PM Ministries Council

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

- 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry
- 2:30 PM Food Pantry
- 5:00 PM Executive Committee

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

Rector's Day Off

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

- 12:30PM Citizen's Climate Lobby Group

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

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
- 2:00 PM EfM Class

MORNING PRAYER WITH BR. DAVID

THURSDAYS AT 9:00 A.M.

We will continue praying the Daily Office through Christmas and 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.

WREATH COLLECTION FOR OUR YOUTH

We would like to thank everyone who supported our youth wreath sale this year! If possible, please bring your wreath back to church when you are finished with it to have the metal frames recycled. You can remove the greens, or we will do it for you. Please leave them behind the parish hall kitchen windows or ask one of our youth or leaders where to put them. Thank you!

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, Drew Dorgan, Joe Way

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

GROW IN GOD, ACT IN SERVICE, WITNESS IN LOVE

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