



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY BAPTISM OF OUR LORD JANUARY 12, 2024 YEAR C

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: ***Glory to God for ever and ever.***

The 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.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father;

receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

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

Presider Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

The Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth-- everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29

Afferte Domino

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; *
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD *
all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

The Lesson: Acts 8:14-17

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

The Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.

And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased. "

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord

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

The Homily

The Rev. Michael Dunnington

The Baptismal Covenant

Presider: Dear People of God: In Holy Baptism we have become part of that great fellowship of believers in all times and places: the Communion of Saints. In baptism God has adopted us as children and made us members of Christ's body and inheritors of God's kingdom with the saints in light. Let us now renew the vows of our baptism by which God has made us a holy people.

Deacon: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: ***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***

Deacon: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: ***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.***

Deacon: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: ***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.***

Presider: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: ***I will, with God's help.***

Presider: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: ***I will, with God's help.***

Presider: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: ***I will, with God's help.***

Presider: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Presider: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

May Almighty God, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, and called us to ministry in Jesus Christ, keep us in eternal life by his grace; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Prayers of the People

Leader In the waters of baptism, we were called to be God's children and to minister to one another. Let us therefore pray for ourselves, for one another, and for all those in need of our prayers, saying, "***Glory and praise to you, O living God.***"

For all who have been baptized into this family of faith, that our lives reflect the forgiveness and love which was first shown us, let us pray,

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the church throughout the world, that we may stand fast in the faith to which we have been called;

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Deon our Bishop, for Michael, Teresa, and Jerre our clergy, for Delaney our Rector-elect, and for all the holy People of God; In the Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the people and ministry of Grace Episcopal Church in Kirkwood; and we pray for our companion congregation of St. John and St. James in Sullivan;

In the Anglican Cycle, we pray for The Church of the Province of West Africa; In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for Mision San Juan Apostol y Evangelista in Yauco;

We pray for our Jubilee Ministry partner Isaiah 58 Ministries and our outreach partner Doorways Interfaith Housing;

We give thanks on their birthdays with Tom Bradley, Lucy Danieleley, Michael Dunnington, Erica White, Lynn Heritage and Dean Borowiak. Let us pray,

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, let us pray,

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the world, that our conflicts may cease, and that peace and justice may reign in this new year, praying especially for the people of Ukraine, Sudan, and the Middle East, let us pray,

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For immigrants and refugees, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry, homeless, and the oppressed, and for the lonely and those in prison, and those affected by the wild fires in California, let us pray,

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need;

We pray for those on our Parish Prayer list, and those whom we name, either silently or aloud [pause];

We pray for all who struggle with addiction, that God may strengthen them in their recovery;

We pray for those serving in the armed forces; let us pray,

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the dying and the dead, that they may be uplifted by light eternal, let us pray,

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

The Presider offers this concluding collect.

Draw your Church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving him in his mission to the world, and together witnessing to his love. ***Amen.***

Confession and Absolution

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God.

Presider and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen

Presider

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 Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

*The Congregation greets one another with the peace of Christ.
Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Prayers*

The Lord's Prayer

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

People and Celebrant

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.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you, and, since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you, and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Blessing

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to proclaim the Word made flesh.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Lector: Susan Goen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Meeting



This year's Annual Meeting will be on January 26th. We welcome all to attend. Those who submit reports for the Annual meeting the cut-off date for submissions is January 20th. I will be sending a reminder email to all of you. Childcare will be available.

2025 ST.MARK'S DIRECTORY

The new directory will be available after the Annual Meeting so all new vestry and delegate information can be included. If you have had any changes to address, telephone or email since January 2024 please provide that information to the Parish Office parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org or call 314-832-3588.

Michael's Last Sunday

Please join us next week to celebrate Michael's last Sunday on January 19th. There will be a small reception after the service. Let's show Michael our appreciation for all he's done for us and celebrate his upcoming "retirement".

Thank you!

Many thanks to St. Mark's for your very generous Christmas gift! I very much appreciate your kindness and support. Happy New Year to everyone! Barbara Raedeke

We Pray for Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Deon our Bishop, for Michael, Teresa, and Jerre our clergy, for Delaney our Rector-elect, and for all the holy People of God;

In the Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the people and ministry of Grace Episcopal Church in Kirkwood; and we pray for our companion congregation of St. John and St. James in Sullivan;

In the Anglican Cycle, we pray for The Church of the Province of West Africa;

In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for Mision San Juan Apostol y Evangelista in Yauco;

We pray for our Jubilee Ministry partner Isaiah 58 Ministries and our outreach partner Doorways Interfaith Housing;

We pray for those who are ill, in trouble or distress of any kind, especially the Anderson family, Lynn Kiamie Bianchini, Jim Blum, Cherie Blumenkamp, Tom Bradley, Bruce Bramoweth & family, Raphael Bundage, Yulia Borjte, Joan Cap, John Carrol, Steve Chamberlin, Janet Chance, Alicia Crowe, John and Carol Dequire and Sophia, Kayla Deguire, Donna Duffy, The Rev. Michael Dunnington, Candace Farmer, Mary Carol Fischer, Don Frank, Carol Garbs, Jeanne Gardener, Sue and Ty Garrett, Robin Harris, Allan Harvard, Anne Hennig, Rob Heritage, Sherry Hicks and family, Carol Hohenberger and her mission team, Cindy Hooks, Margaret and Sandy Hvatum and their family, Tor Hvatum, Doug Jeffery, Jodi Keuney, Jane Kozielc, Richard Liermann, Kathy Lynch, Guy Medley, John Meyer, Donna Musgrave, Francis Neuner, Nina Olmsted, Betty Orlando, Scott Schmidt, Joan Schneider, Becky Schroeder, Cheryl Schulz, Blair Schrautemeier, Rick Schubert, Mitchell and Tracy Shelton, Tim Smith, Jeanette Swallow, Bonnie Tesson, Scott Thomas, Kathy Tracy and family, Marilyn Wiethop, Justin and Lindsay Williams, Hulene Woody, Walter Zimmerman, Eric, Elizabeth, Leo, Marian, Jim.

We give thanks on their birthdays with Tom Bradley, Lucy Danielely, Michael Dunnington, Erica White, Lynn Heritage and Dean Borowiak.

We pray for those serving in the armed forces, especially Jesse Foy, Robert McCarthy, Brandon George, Jon Moore, Paul Malabar, Logan.

SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson	Bishop of MO	Barbara Raedeke	Organist and Choir Director
The Rev. Michael Dunnington	Interim Priest in Charge	Celeste Kocot	Youth Christian Formation
The Rev. Jerre Birdsong	Deacon	Melissa Engle	Parish Administrator
The Rev. Dr. Teresa K.M. Danielely	Priest Associate		