

The Liturgy of the Word

The 5th Sunday after the Epiphany February 7, 2021 • 10:00 a.m. The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

The people's responses are in **bold**.

The Entrance Rite

The people stand as able. PROCESSIONAL HYMN •135

Songs of thankfulness and praise



Words: Sta. 1-3, Christopher Wordsworth (1897-1885); st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984) Music: Subburg, melody Jakob Hintze (1622-1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be the One Holy and Living God **Glory to God forever 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE • S-280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his 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 Word of God

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The people are seated. THE FIRST READING

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told to you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

Isaiah 40:21-31

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:1-12, 21c (Read in unison)

1 Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

4 He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; there is no limit to his wisdom.

6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the harp.

8 He covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth;

9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve mankind.

10 He provides food for flocks and herds and for the young ravens when they cry.

11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, in those who await his gracious favor.

21 Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may

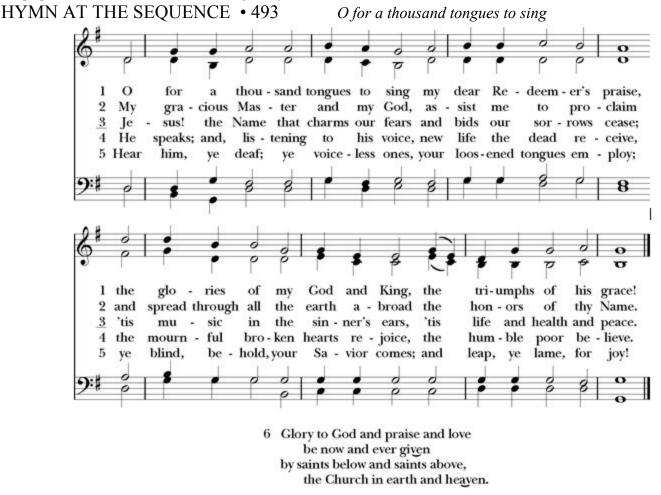
1 Corinthians 9:16-23

make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able at the introduction of the hymn.



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music; Azmon, Carl Gotthilf Gläser (1784-1829); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark (1:29-39). Glory to you, O Christ.

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Allison Sandlin Liles

THE NICENE CREED

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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Presider Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Almighty God, grant that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; Scott, our bishop; and for all bishops, ministers and lay leaders. Christ, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace, especially Joe, our president; Kamala, our Vice President; Greg, our governor; and Betsy, our mayor; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Christ, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Christ, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for 4Saints Episcopal Food Pantry, Eastside Ministries, and other non-profit organizations caring for your beloved. Christ, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Joy of human hearts, heal our communities, especially those where your word is not heard, or where neglect, violence, greed, and warfare increase the suffering and need of people and other creatures. Protect and guide those who serve in the military, and those who are first responders. Christ, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Comforter of all the earth, bless those worshiping with us today and any looking for a place to belong; sustain the people who need your presence and help especially those we now name ______. Christ, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Christ, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Presider 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 Savior. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Let us pray also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful God; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, together we pray,

All 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 PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you. And also with you.

THE BLESSING

And the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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