



St. John's Episcopal Church

1623 Carmel Road * Charlotte, NC 28226

StJE.org * 704-366-3034

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 & 10:15 a.m.

January 28, A.D. 2024

Welcome to worship! We pray that our time of worship will express praise and thanks to God for the gift of Christ, and help you live a more faithful and abundant life.

If you are a visitor, please know that we are delighted that you are here. We know that following the beautiful and ancient worship of the Episcopal Church is not always easy for those unfamiliar with the Anglican tradition. Please do not feel obligated to do anything but to enjoy the service reverently and expectantly.

We invite newcomers to fill out a visitor's card, found in the pew rack, and place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of our ushers or clergy.

If you have young children, please know they are more than welcome at St. John's. Changing stations are available in the bathrooms. A nursery for children ages 3 and younger is available on the lower level if needed on Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Please see an usher to help you locate the nursery.

Hearing assistance devices are also located at the rear exit of the church. Please see an usher if you need assistance. Audio-induction hearing loops are available for use with hearing aids.

Please be advised that the 10:15 Sunday Service is live-streamed to St. John's web site, Facebook and YouTube accounts.

8:00 & 10:15 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Word of God

Organ Voluntary

In thee is joy

J. S. Bach

Hymn 544

Jesus shall reign where're the sun

Duke Street

Acclamation and Collect for Purity

Book of Common Prayer, Page 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant 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 in excelsis

Setting: William Mathias, Hymnal S-278 (spoken at 8:00)

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1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -



might - y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,



on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

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The Collect of the Day

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. 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.**

Old Testament Lesson: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

NRSV

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.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: Psalm 111 *Confitebor tibi*

(spoken at 8:00)

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- 1 Hallelujah!
 I will give thanks to the LORD with my /whole heart, *
 in the assembly of the upright, in the conger/gation.
- 2 **Great are the deeds of the /LORD! ***
 they are studied by all who de/light in them.
- 3 **His work is full of majesty and /splendor, ***
 and his righteousness endures for /ever.
- 4 **He makes his marvelous works to be re/membered; ***
 the LORD is gracious and full of com/passion.
- 5 **He gives food to those who /fear him; ***
 he is ever mindful of his /covenant.
- 6 **He has shown his people the power of his /works ***
 in giving them the lands of the /nations.
- 7 **The works of his hands are faithfulness and /justice; ***
 all his commandments are /sure.
- 8 **They stand fast for ever and /ever, ***
 because they are done in truth and /equity.
- 9 **He sent redemption to his people;**
 he commanded his covenant for /ever; *
 holy and awesome is his /Name.
- 10 **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of /wisdom; ***
 those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
 his praise endures for /ever.



New Testament Lesson: I Corinthians 8:1-13

NRSV

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

(8:00) Gospel Alleluia 

Sung by all

(10:15) Hymn 536

Open your ears, O faithful people

Torah Song

The Holy Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

NRSV

Deacon 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.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Peter M. Floyd

The Nicene Creed

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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.

The Prayers of the People: Form VI

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In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Sam and Jennifer, our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins. *Silence may be kept. The people kneel.*

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that 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.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

(All gathered may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.)

Birthday/Anniversary Prayer—**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) as *they* celebrate(s) another year. Grant that *they* may continue to grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(10:15) Children's Sermon

The Holy Communion

(10:15) Offertory Anthem *God so loved the world*

Bob Chilcott

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whoso believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.—*John 3:16.*

Madeline Seconi, soloist

Hymn 380, st. 3

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Old Hundredth

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A *The people stand.*

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

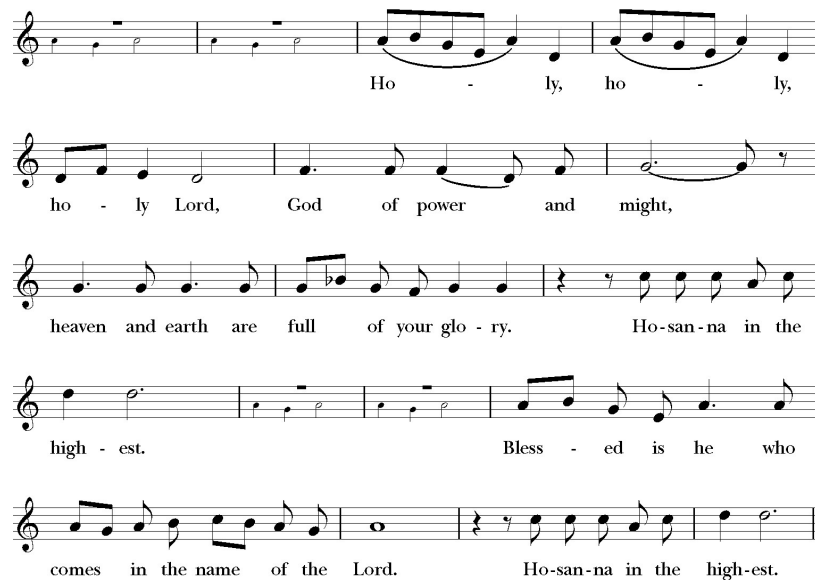
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. . . . 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:



Hymnal S-128 by William Mathias. Copyright ©1976. Oxford University Press. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-711238.

The people stand or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.**

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

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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 Breaking of the Bread

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Fraction anthem: My flesh is food indeed (Ray W. Urwin, Hymnal S-169)

The musical score is written on four staves. The first staff is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the lyrics 'My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -'. The second staff has two parts: '1 All' with lyrics 'deed, says the Lord. My Lord.' and '2 Cantor or Choir' with lyrics 'Those who eat my'. The third staff is labeled 'All' and contains the lyrics 'flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. My'. The fourth staff contains the lyrics 'flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.'

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Invitation to Communion

All baptized Christians, including children, are invited to receive Communion. Please stand or kneel to receive Communion. The bread will be placed on your palm. Then you may arise or wait to receive the cup, grasping the base to guide it to your lips. If you want the minister to dip the wafer in the wine, please keep the bread in your hand, and s/he will dip the wafer and place it between your fingers or on your tongue. Those who do not wish to receive Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. If you would like to receive gluten free bread, please tell the priest.

(10:15) Communion Hymns

Hymn 339	<i>Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness</i>	Schmücke dich
Hymn 414	<i>God my King, thy might confessing</i>	Stuttgart
	<i>The Gift of Love</i>	Hal H. Hopson
Hymn 711	<i>Seek ye first the kingdom of God</i>	Seek ye first

Postcommunion Prayer

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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 Celebrant may bless the people. . . . Amen.

Hymn 473

Lift high the cross!

Crucifer

The Dismissal: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Trumpet in D major

Jeremiah Clarke

PARISH LIFE at St. John's

News and Announcements

Priceless!

Annual Meeting of the Parish, today, 9:15 a.m. in the parish hall.

Each Sunday Breakfast is offered 8:45-9:45 a.m. Christian Education for all ages is offered at 9:15 a.m.

Children (age 3 to first grade) are invited to meet in the Children's Chapel. **Explorers** (grades 1-5) meet in Room 208. Both groups meet at 10:10 a.m. and join the service in the church during the Peace each Sunday.

The Way Forward Presents Forward Facts: "Yes, if you want to say I was a drum major, say that I was a drum major for justice, say that I was a drum major for peace, I was a drum major for righteousness, and all the other shallow things will not matter"—*Martin Luther King, Jr.* The Way Forward meets in Room 204/205 6:30 p.m. Feb. 21. Zoom link at online-church page of StJE.org

Wednesday Night Supper!—Jan. 24. Menu: meat loaf, mashed potatoes, dessert. Supper is served 5:00 to 6:30

Hagar's Basket—Prep Day, Thursday, Feb. 15, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Pantry Day Wednesday, Feb. 21, 8:00-11:00 a.m. Please continue to donate hygiene items like diapers, sanitary pads, cleaning supplies, shampoo, and \$\$\$. More volunteers are needed at tinyurl.com/pum7zk3f We served 147 families last month!

Centering Prayer meets in person Mondays, 3:30 p.m. in the chapel and Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. in Room 312.

The New Year is a great time to join a choir! St. Nicholas Training Choir, PK3-grade 2, Wednesdays, 4:30-5:00 p.m. Treble Youth RSCM Choir, treble voices grades 3-12, Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m. St. John's Choir for SATB teens and adults meets Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Handbell choirs meet on Wednesday evenings. Contact Alan Reed in the church office for information about a choir for you or your child. Come join us!

Lectio Divina Bible study meets via Zoom each Thursday, 9:00-10:00 a.m. The Zoom link is in the weekly announcements.

Trinity Capital Campaign—Join us for the kickoff in the parish hall Sunday, February 11, 11:30 a.m. Learn about the campaign and plans for the future. Appetizers and beverages will be served.

Save the date! Party with a Purpose, Saturday, March 23 to support the youth mission trip to Belize in July. Ticket sales coming soon!

Save the dates, Kanuga Parish Retreat, April 26-28.

Save the dates: Vacation Bible School, June 17-21.

In case of emergency Heart-start defibrillators are available in the hallway between the Children's Chapel and the kitchen and behind the door under the balcony in the Nave. Instructions are printed inside the box.

Let Us Pray - The Intercessory Prayer Team would love to pray for you! Fill out a prayer card from the church pews or contact the church office. All requests are confidential. New team members are always welcome.

How to Receive Communion

To receive the bread alone.



To drink from the chalice, please help guide it to your lips.



To receive a blessing only (no bread or wine) or to decline the chalice.



For Intinction

Please leave the bread in your hands. The chalice bearer will take it from you dip it in the wine, and return it to you. Do not attempt to dip the bread in the chalice yourself.



To receive gluten free bread, just ask the priest.



Clerics

The Rev. Peter M. Floyd, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Brad Smith, Senior Associate Rector
The Rev. Wendy Merrill, Deacon

Musicians

Mr. Alan C. Reed, Organist and Choirmaster
Ms. Angela Swicegood, Assisting Organist
Ms. Tracy Reed, Assistant for Children's Choirs
Ms. Madeline Seconi, Soprano Section Leader
Mr. Greg McAbee, Master of the Choirs of Bell and Chime
Mr. Jamey Graves, Associate for Technology and Music

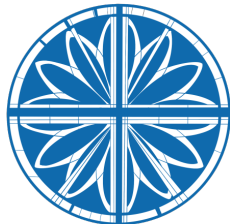
If you would like to contribute digitally to the general offering, just scan the QR code below with your smart phone.



You may also pay from our web site or mail a check to the church office.

Vestry

Fred Alexander (Sr. Warden), Shirley de la Canal, Brian Emigh, Bill Grant, Grant Hawgood, John Horn (Jr. Warden), Greg McAbee, Steve Nason, John Newton, Erin Richardson (Clerk), Toni Robinson, Clayton Watkins (Endowment Rep.)



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