

# ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa



## THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 at 10.15 am

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### PRELUDE

*O God, Thou Faithful God (Flor Peeters)*

### OPENING HYMN 643

*Holy Spirit, Come with Power*

### THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Dear friends, we gather this morning on the traditional territory of the Algonquin Nation, and we recognize the continuing presence of First Nations, Métis and Inuit in this region.

**May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.**

Here let heaven and earth embrace;  
**here may God's people find home.**

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

Friend of Moses, strength of Elijah, you go with your people and give them your Spirit: may the Child of your heart transfigure the moral world, so that love may know no bounds; through Jesus Christ, the beloved one. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST READING

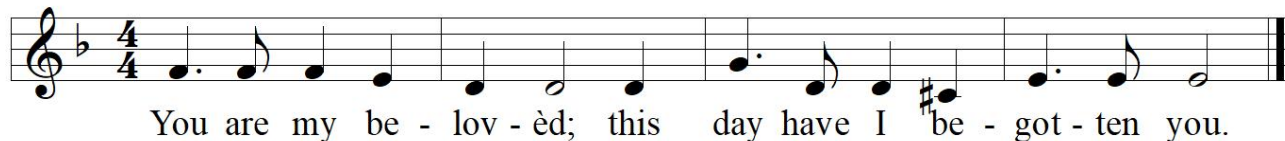
*Exodus 24:12-18*

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 2



Why are the nations in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together,

against the Lord and against his Anointed?

"Let us break their yoke," they say;

"let us cast off their bonds from us."

He whose throne is in heaven is laughing;

the Lord has them in derision.

Then he speaks to them in his wrath, and his rage fills them with terror.

"I myself have set my king upon my holy hill of Zion."

Let me announce the decree of the Lord:

he said to me, "You are my Son; this day have I begotten you.

Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.

You shall crush them with an iron rod  
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."

And now, you kings, be wise;  
be warned, you rulers of the earth.  
Submit to the Lord with fear,  
and with trembling bow before him;  
Lest he be angry and you perish; for his wrath is quickly kindled.  
Happy are they all who take refuge in him!

## **THE SECOND READING**

*2 Peter 1:16-21*

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GRADUAL HYMN 169**

*Jesus, on the Mountain Peak [Tune: #239]*

## **THE GOSPEL**

*Matthew 17:1-9*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

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

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured

before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of Christ.

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

## **HOMILY**

## **ANTHEM**

*Beatus vir, from Solemn Vespers (W.A. Mozart)*

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Let us confess our sins, for the Holy One delights in blessing those who seek to walk with God.

*Silence is kept.*

Gracious God,

**we have not done what is blameless and right, nor spoken truth from the heart with love. We do not keep your word, and at times, our words and deeds cause pain. Forgive us by the power of your mercy, that we might stand in the goodness of Christ and walk in the light of his love. Amen.**

Your sins are forgiven ✕ by the faith of Christ, who chose love over hatred and forgiveness over blame. Rejoice and be glad, for God's mercy is great; Jesus brings healing, justice, and peace. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

Peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

# OFFERTORY HYMN 433

*Lord, You Give the Great Commission*

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Holy God, receive all we offer you this day, and bring us to that radiant glory which we see in the transfigured face of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Lord is here

**God's Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish.

You give us sun and moon and star-lit sky, everything that gives us light, light for our eyes, our hearts, our minds.

You give us the fish in the sea, the birds of the air, and every plant and tree; the life that sleeps in the winter earth, and awakens again in the spring.

You give us friends and families, busy streets for young and old, the life of an earthly city fulfilled in your city to come.

You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with the angels and sing your praise:

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Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might, heav-en and earth are  
full of your glo-ry. \_\_\_\_ Ho- san - na in the high-est. \_\_\_\_ Bless ed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. \_\_\_\_ Ho- san - na in the high-est, \_\_\_\_ ho- san - na in the high - est.

We thank you, loving God, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

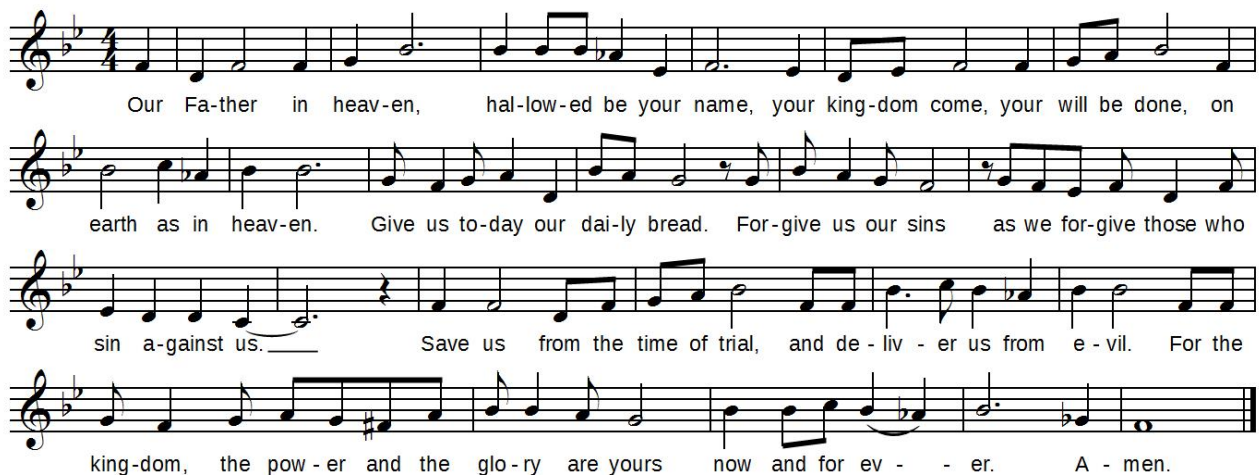
After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So gracious God, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, ✠ and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms. And now with Saint John the Evangelist and all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, we pray:



Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-low-ed be your name, your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en. 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

*Silence is kept.*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## COMMUNION

*Ave verum corpus (W.A. Mozart)*

*Please request a gluten-free wafer if required or a blessing if desired.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. May we who are partakers of his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ,

**you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew us, and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING

May the wisdom of God, the love of Christ, and the peace of the Spirit, bless you ☩ and shine brightly in your lives this day and always. **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN 565

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

## DISMISSAL

Go in the power of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Sonata in B-flat, K.68 (W.A. Mozart)*

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*Presider & Preacher*      The Reverend Canon Beth Bretzlaff  
*Deacon*                      The Reverend Dr Caroline Ducros  
*Organist & Choirmaster*    Dr Gordon Johnston

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To find out what is happening in the parish, please see This Week at St John's (TWSJ) on our website ([www.stjohnsottawa.ca](http://www.stjohnsottawa.ca)) or pick up a hard copy on the table at the Elgin Street entrance.

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