



Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
Holy Eucharist, Rite II
St. John's Episcopal Church
February 7, 2021 | 8:45 A.M.

OPENING HYMN | O Bless the Lord, My Soul (v. 1, 3, 6)

Hymn 411

O bless the Lord, my soul!

He will not always chide;

Then bless his holy Name,

His grace to thee proclaim!

he will with patience wait;

whose grace hath made thee whole,

And all that is within me join

his wrath is ever slow to rise

whose loving-kindness crowns thy days:

to bless his holy Name!

and ready to abate.

O bless the Lord, my soul!

ACCLAMATION | *The people standing*

BCP p. 413

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

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

Bishop: There is one Body and one Spirit;

People: **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Bishop: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People: **One God and Father of all.**

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Bishop: Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP p. 216

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 for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING | Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told 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. 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 147:1-12, 21c | *in unison*

BCP p. 804

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!

SECOND LESSON | 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

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 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL HYMN | I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath (v. 1,2)

Hymn 429

*I'll praise my Maker while I've breath,
and when my voice is lost in death,
praise shall employ my nobler powers.
My days of praise shall ne'er be past
while life, and thought, and being last,
Or immortality endures.*

*How happy they whose hopes rely
on Israel's God, who made the sky
and earth and seas with all their train;
whose truth for ever stands secure,
who saves the oppressed, and feeds the poor.
And none shall find his promise vain.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:29-39

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: **Glory to you, Lord 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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL HYMN | I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath (v. 4)

Hymn 429

*I'll praise him while he lends me breath;
and when my voice is lost in death,
praise shall employ my nobler powers.
My days of praise shall ne'er be past
while life and thought and being last,
or immortality endures.*

THE SERMON

The Rt. Rev. Rayford B. High, Jr.

A period of silence for reflection will follow.

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

BCP p. 415

The Bishop says

The Candidate(s) will now be presented.

Presenters: I present Alicia Cecconi, Dante Cecconi, Eduardo Sanchez-Quintanilla, Sing Yue, Jeannette Yue, and Eric Griffin for Confirmation.

and I present Bob Wells, Lisa Wells, David Cecconi, Adrian Quintanilla, and Stacey Griffin to be received into this Communion.

and I present Jim Farrell, who desires to reaffirm his baptismal vows.

The Bishop asks the candidates:

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidates: I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

After all have been presented, the Bishop addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People: **We will.**

The Bishop then says these or similar words

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Bishop: 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.

Bishop: 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.

Bishop: 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.

Bishop: 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.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

Bishop: 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.

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

The Bishop then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of
sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of
your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you have made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Leader Teach them to love others in the power
of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send them into the world in witness
to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your
peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

For Confirmation

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant *N.* with your Holy Spirit; empower *him/her* for your service; and sustain *him* all the days of *his* life. **Amen.**

For Reception

N., we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. **Amen.**

For Reaffirmation

N., may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom. **Amen.**

The Bishop concludes with this prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC | Surely the Presence / He Is Here

St. John's Worship Choir
Soloist, Alicia Cecconi

DOXOLOGY

Hymn 380 v. 3

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below:
Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B; BCP p. 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.**

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.

Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

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:

SANCTUS

Hymn S-130

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.*

(The people stand or kneel.)

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 and 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.

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

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 forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant: 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.

ACT OF RECEPTION PRAYER

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC | Skeleton Bones (5582226) John Mark McMillan

*Peel back our ribs again
and stand inside of our chest.
We just wanna' love you
We just wanna' love you*

*Peel back the veil of time
And let us see You with our naked eyes
We just wanna' love you
We just wanna' love you*

*(Chorus)
Skeleton bones stand at the sound of eternity
On the lips of the found
And gravestones roll
To the rhythm of the sound of you*

*Skeleton bones stand at the sound of eternity
On the lips of the found
So separate those doors
And let the son of resurrection in.
Oh let us adore the
Son of Glory drenched in love
Open up your gates before him
Crown Him, stand Him up*

*We want your blood to flow inside our body
We want your wind inside our lungs
We just wanna' love you
We just wanna' love you*

(Chorus)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BCP p. 365

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

CLOSING HYMN | O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing (v. 1, 3, 6)

Hymn 493

*O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!*

*Jesus! the Name that charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.*

*Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heaven.*

THE DISMISSAL

BCP p. 366

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**



If you are a visitor or guest, we would love to connect with you! Please visit www.stjohnsnb.com/welcome to fill out a visitor card or email office@stjohnsnb.com and Fr. Ripp or Rev. Lucy will contact you.

Sign Up for In-Person Worship

Use the link at stjohnsnb.com to register to attend in-person worship held each Sunday by midnight on the preceding **Wednesday**. Sign ups are required for a variety of reasons and we will not be able to accommodate anyone who arrives on Sunday morning without a reservation. Please arrive and be seated ten minutes before the start of the service.

Procedures in Worship

- All attendees are required to wear a face mask covering the nose and mouth. Face shields alone do not meet this requirement.
- An Usher will guide you to Communion. We are not using the altar rail at this time, so Fr. Ripp or Rev. Lucy will stand at the front to distribute Communion.
- You may drop your offering in the plate during Communion or after worship.
- Exit the sanctuary by guidance from the Usher, starting from the back.
- Please observe a 6-foot space between you and anyone not in your household.
- After worship, in the courtyard, please observe distance.
- If you discover that you have been infected with COVID-19 in the week after worship service, please let us know by calling the church office as soon as possible.

Vestry Meeting | Tuesday, February 9 | 6:30pm via Zoom

Vestry meetings are always open to anyone in the Parish.

Meeting ID: 811 6322 3943 | Passcode: 372316 | Call in (audio only): (346) 248-7799

New to Zoom? Contact Grace at grace@stjohnsnb.com for assistance.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, February 15 in observance of Presidents' Day

WORSHIP

Ash Wednesday Services | February 17 Noon (indoors), 5:30pm (outdoors)

Register to attend using the link on our website. The service at noon will be live-streamed at youtube.com/StJohnsEpiscopalChurch. For those planning to worship online, ashes in individual containers will be available to pick up from the Church Office beginning Monday (2/8) through Ash Wednesday. You can also pick up ashes at the drive through on Sunday, Feb 14 from 12-1:30pm.

Children's Chapel | Sundays during 11am Service

The children attending the service will meet outside (weather permitting) and we will be live on the St. John's Children's Ministry FB page so anyone can join us from home. Masks and social distancing will be in place for in-person attendees.

OUTREACH

Outreach to New Braunfels Winter Shelter Partner Program

The newly launched NB Winter Shelter will be a focus of the Outreach Committee for 2021. Because of COVID restrictions, on-site volunteering will have to wait but St. John's can help now by collecting the following items: travel or regular size toothpaste and toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo, bar soap, disposable razors and new socks. Items may be dropped off at the church office through February, tagged for the Winter Shelter. Please direct your questions to Carrye Franzel 830-237-6370 or Sarah Reeves 830-237-6469

NURTURE

Sacred Ground | Every other Monday on Zoom from 7-8:30pm

Our group continues to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity. Contact Heidi Forgione (heidiforgione@gmail.com) or Renee Wendel (rcjwendel@gmail.com) for more information including Zoom call details.

Children's Sunday School | St. John's Children's Ministry Facebook page

A prerecorded video is on the St. John's Children's Ministry Facebook page now! We are reading a special book about kid's prayers and talking about a Lent challenge.

Valentine Sunday Drive-By | February 14, from 12:00-1:30 pm

Drive by and pick up your Lent/Easter Bag and some Valentine treats! We will be "picking" from the Heart Tree in order to pray for our children and youth.

Youth Group | Biweekly on Sundays at 6pm

Youth Group is meeting biweekly on Zoom (Feb 7, Feb 21, March 7). Zoom details are sent in reminders and weekly emails from emma@stjohnsnb.com. Email Emma if you'd like to be added to her email list!

If you do not receive our weekly eNews via email, please reach out to office@stjohnsnb.com to make sure you're on our list.

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