

The Feast of the Epiphany ~ Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 January 7, 2024 ~ 10 a.m.

## Opening Hymn: #448 "O love how deep, how broad, how high"

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

*People: And blessed be his kingdom now and forever.*

Gloria

BCP page 280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - mighty 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.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

**Collect of the Day: O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.***

**The First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6**

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.      *People: Thanks be to God.*

**The Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7,10-14**

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;**
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice;**

- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.**
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.**
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
like showers that water the earth.**
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace  
till the moon shall be no more.**
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*  
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.**
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, \*  
and all the nations do him service.**
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*  
and the oppressed who has no helper.**
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*  
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.**
- 14 He shall redeem their lives  
from oppression and violence, \*  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.**

### **The Second Lesson Ephesians 3:1-12**

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I

wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.      *People: Thanks be to God.*

### **Sequence Music**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
*People: Glory to you, Lord Christ*

### **The Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking,

"Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord *People: Praise to you, Lord Christ*

**Sermon**

**The Rev. Ronald J. Kolanowski**

**The Nicene Creed**  
**Prayers of the People**

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Presider: As we join the angels and celebrate with joy the birth of the Son of God, let us offer prayers to God who gives new birth to sons and daughters in every place.

Leader: By the birth of the timeless Son of God in the womb of the Virgin Mary.

Silence

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord

***People: Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

Leader: For Jeff and Laura our bishops, Ron our priest, Donna & Marge our deacons and all the presbyters, priests & deacons, and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God.

Silence

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord

***People: Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

Leader: For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, and for peace and justice especially in the Holy Land, Ukraine, Sudan and Yemen.

Silence

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord

***People: Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

Leader: For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, for those in prison, and for the dying and the

dead. Remembering especially those for whom memorials have been given and are listed in our worship bulletin this Christmas season.

Silence

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord

***People: Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

Leader: For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need.

Silence

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord

***People: Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

Leader: Remembering our most glorious and blessed Virgin Mary, Peter, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

Silence

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord

***People: To you, O Lord.***

**Confession**

**BCP p. 360**

**The Peace**

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

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

**Announcements**

# The Holy Communion

## Book of Common Prayer page 361

### The Offertory

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

### Offertory Hymn #128 “We three kings of Orient are”

### The Great Thanksgiving

#### Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP page 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 him thanks and praise.**

### Sanctus: S-125 “Holy, holy, holy Lord”

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



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

**The Lord's Prayer**

**BCP, page 364**

**Breaking of the Bread**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

**Fraction Anthem: S-154**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

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.

**Post Communion Prayer (in unison)**

**BCP, pg. 365**

**The Blessing**

**Closing Hymn #522 "Glorious things of thee are spoken"**

**Dismissal**

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Postlude**

**Legal notice: The Annual Meeting of St. Peter's Episcopal Church will be held on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**



## **Parish Family Remembrances and Thanksgivings for January 7, 2024**

*The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by Stephen and Victoria Fisk, in loving memory of Ruben Paez Vidal*

**We pray for our clergy:** Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop; Jeff & Laura, the Bishops of Connecticut; for our priest Ron; for our deacons Donna & Marge; and for all bishops, priests and deacons;

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer** we pray for St. Peter's, Cheshire; Holy Advent, Clinton; Trinity Church, Collinsville For all immigrants, refugees and the ministries that serve them; The Scottish Episcopal Church.

**In St Peter's Cycle of Prayer,** we pray for all our parish family, especially Judy Knox, Judy, Evan, Jarrod, Mia, Tim, Bill, Herb Altsher, and those on our Continuing Prayer List.

**We pray for those who celebrate their birthdays this week** especially Lianie Gorcenski Unterzuber (1/12), and those celebrating anniversaries.

**We pray for the deceased** remembering especially Ruben Paez Vidal (Victoria Fisk's cousin).

### **Continuing Prayer List**

Andy, Jinny, Alexa, Brett Schulki, Wilson, Jeff Baez, Scott Warren, Ashley Joline; Christine Comeau, Christopher Page, Austin Fritz; Sue & Harry Denaker Chris Bendoraitis; Robert Bouchard, June Beauvais; Star, Laura Beaudoin, Bill, Milton Porter, Steve Dubin, , Peggy Cobb, Ryan, Joan

Hamilton, Ella & Nicole, Roberto Rodegher, Noel, Marlin Corbean; Nelson Moore; Ron Lamp, Brian, Kathryn & Olivia; Tom Robbins & Ti, Caroline, Louis Houle, Aimee Goodrich, Cara Begin, Derek Anderson, Justin, Janet Nixon, Bill., Schluntz; Patricia Angelou, Rina Bettancourt; Susan Hicks & family, Daryl, Scott Goodrich, Ambrosio Vidal & Family, the Farren Family;

### **On Going Activities**

- Balance Class: Mondays 10:00 a.m. \$5 per session.
- Friendship Café (Memory Workshop) Tuesdays 10-2 p.m. - on hiatus until Jan. 30.
- Cub Scouts: 1<sup>st</sup> Mondays 5:30-7 p.m.
- Boy Scouts: Wednesdays, 7 p.m.
- Buildings & Grounds: first Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
- Vestry: Third Thursdays, 7 p.m.
- BNI (Business Networking International): Fridays, 7:30-8:30 a.m.

**Thank you No Freeze Crew** for all of the December contributions to the Saturday meal which was delivered to the No Freeze Shelter in Willimantic. As always, they were very appreciative when we dropped it off. I very much want to thank everyone for the contribution of the Duncan Donuts gift cards, as well, that we were able to include with each meal. What a lovely gift we were able to give during these cold months!

Look for an email next week that gets us started on January's Saturday meal, which will include a special donation surprise from one of our members! To Join this amazing crew, email Carissa Johnson at [dcfamily6@gmail.com](mailto:dcfamily6@gmail.com)

Warmly, Carissa Johnson



## **Celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

Join us for dinner, a reading and reflection on Dr. King's  
Letter from a Birmingham Jail



January 15, 2024 | 6 - 8pm

St. Peter's Church Hall, Church St., Hebron

To register, email: [code.diversity1@gmail.com](mailto:code.diversity1@gmail.com)

Come and join us for dinner on Jan. 15, 6-8 p.m., as we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr., reading and reflecting on his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." The event is free, but to get a headcount for dinner, you need to register:

[code.diversity1@gmail.com](mailto:code.diversity1@gmail.com).