

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, February 7, 2021 at 11am

Livestreamed worship available at [facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk/videos](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk/videos).

St. Paul's on the Green | 60 East Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06851

THE GATHERING RITE

Gathering Music *Theme and Variations in D* by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

The Opening Acclamation

The people's responses are in bold.

Blessed be God, who is the light of the world.

**Blessed is the One who scatters the darkness before us,
that we may walk in newness of life.**

O God of love, you are the true sun of the world, evermore risen and never going down: We pray you to shine in our hearts and drive away the darkness of sin and the mist of error. We pray that we may this day and all our lives long, walk without stumbling in the way you have prepared for us, Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God in glory everlasting. **Amen.** —Erasmus of Rotterdam, 15th c.

Song of Praise

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

setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)
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The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Out of your power and compassion, O God, you sent your Son into our afflicted world to proclaim the day of salvation. Heal the brokenhearted; bind up our wounds. Bring us health of body and spirit and raise us to new life in your service. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Lesson *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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The Response *sung by the choir*

O Savior of the World, who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us,
save us and help us, we humbly beseech Thee, O Lord.

Amen.

words: Antiphon for the Visitation of the Sick
music: John Goss (1800-1880)

The Gospel *Mark 1:29-39*

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

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 Sermon *The Rev. Louise Kalemkerian, Associate Priest*

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

The Creed and Baptismal Covenant

Creed is translated "I believe" though it is rooted in an ancient word for heart, and carries the sense "I give my heart to." Ours is more than a statement of mental or doctrinal belief; this is an invitation to embrace the mystery of divinity in all things, the flow of the Trinity's self-giving love at the heart of all creation.

In Epiphanytide this year we will use the Church's earliest creed, the Apostles Creed, which was used in the primitive church especially at baptisms, as it still is today. As part of our weekly credal statement we will include the baptismal promises that follow it in the prayer book, which articulate our intention to live our lives following the way of Jesus.

As we renew this covenant during the six weeks of Epiphanytide, allow it to lead you more deeply into your own self offering, and ponder specific ways God may be calling you into further action through this renewal.

The Celebrant says

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

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

I will, with God's help.

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

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?

I will, with God's help.

The Prayers of the People

Our version of the Prayers of the People this week is adapted from Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Commitment Card" for the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights.

The intercessor says

Grant, Almighty God, that we be united in your truth, as we walk and talk in the manner of love; for God is love.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, that we may honor one another and serve the common good, observe with both friend and foe the ordinary rules of courtesy and sacrifice personal wishes as our lives are used by You so that all may be free.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Guide us as we strive to be in good spiritual and bodily health and comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For those who rest in the peace of Christ, and for all the departed.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; eradicate the violence of fist, tongue, or heart; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Bring to mind always that the non-violent movement seeks justice and reconciliation — not victory.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The people add their own prayers aloud, silently, or via a Facebook comment.

The Celebrant concludes the prayers with a Collect.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Please share the peace wherever you are: with a comment posted on Facebook, a bow to those nearby, or some other distanced gesture of peace.

The Announcements available at stpaulsnorwalk.org/sundaymorning

GIVING TO ST. PAUL'S

Now more than ever, the work and mission of St. Paul's depend on the generous support of its friends and members.

Please consider making an offering to St. Paul's by credit card. Visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/givebycard, or use the QR code to the right.

For other means of giving, visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/donate.

Thank you for your generous support!



THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Offertory

The Altar-Table is prepared with gifts of bread and wine for Communion. During this time, give thanks for all the ways God blesses you, and consider ways you can extend that blessing to others. Learn more ways to give in the "Giving to St. Paul's" box above.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Your light has shone throughout the world and brought all nations to feast at your Table. Daily we are baptized into new life; daily we see your miracles among us. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow - er and might, — hea - ven 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.

setting: Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)
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The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, for the birth of creation. Blessed are you, in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you, for the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you, for signs and wonders we see of your work in the world. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our brother Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

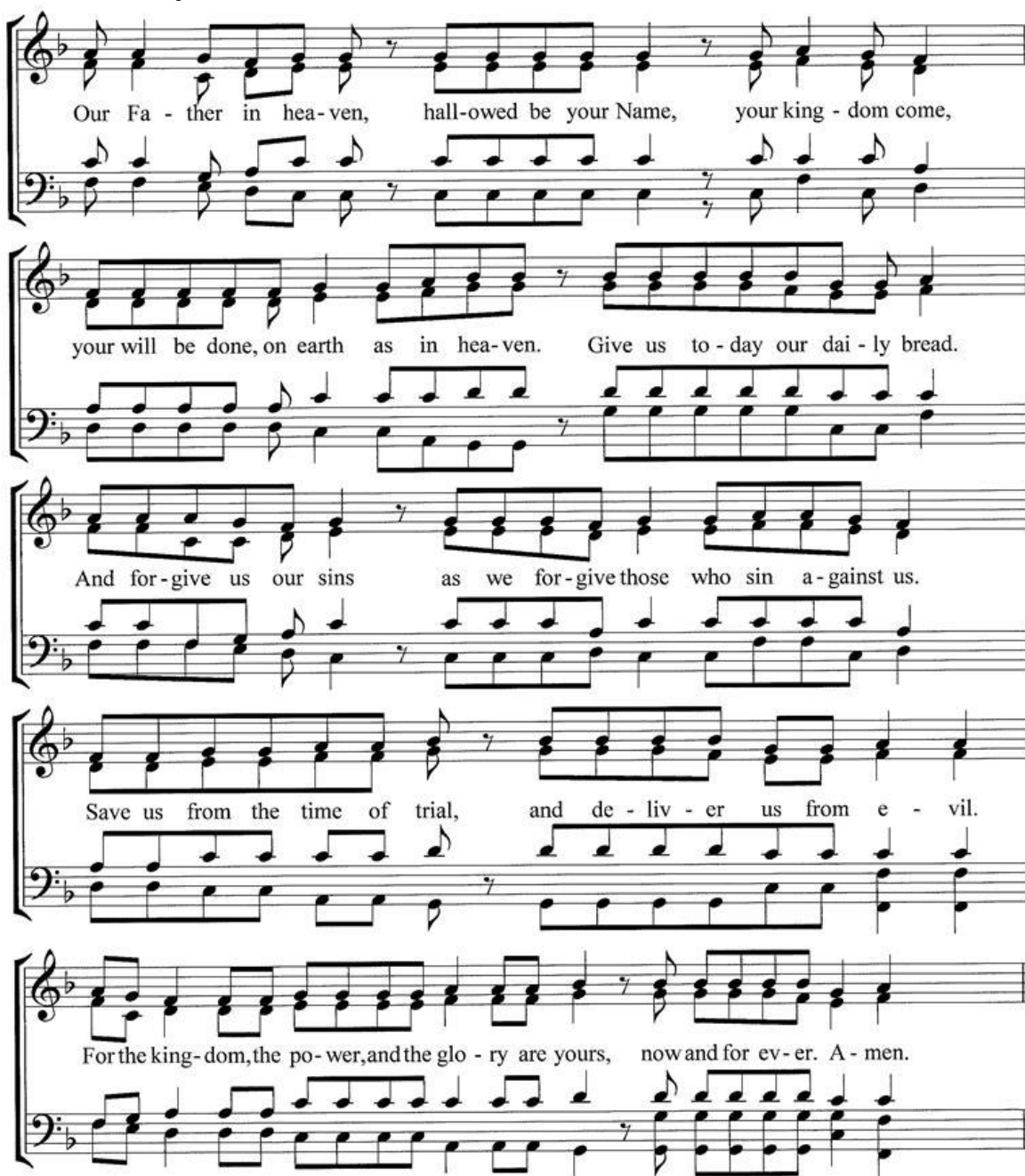
Christ will come in glory.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word, dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We rejoice in the miracle of God-with-us.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us and bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people; fill us with your light. Bring us the gift of peace on earth.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, One God, now and forever. AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer



Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hall - owed be your Name, your king - dom come,
your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
And 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 po - wer, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

setting: Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908); adapted.

The Communion

Bread of life, nourish our souls.

Light of the world, shine in our hearts.

Hymn at the Communion

1. O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for
4. In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og -
5. Grant that we all, made in one faith, in your com -

health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to
nize the world's dis - ease; our com - mon life de -
mu - ni - ty may find the whole - ness that, en -

be re - stored, when reached by love that nev - er ends?
clares our ills: is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

words: Fred Pratt Green (b. 1903-2000)
music: *Kedron*, melody att. Elkanah Kelsay Dare (1782-1826)
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After a period of silent reflection, all pray the following prayer together

O God, in love you have called us out of darkness into light, and in love we have shared this holy meal. By it, rekindle the flame of your love in our hearts, and may its light guide us on our journey and shine out in our lives, now and forever. AMEN.

THE SENDING RITE

The Blessing and Dismissal

The Light of Christ be in our hearts: the small light that becomes a burning flame; the warm light that grows into a great love; the bright light that leads us on our way.

And the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you now and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Let us go forth into the world to share the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Fuge in C* by Johann Eberlin (1702-1762)

THE WORSHIP IS OVER. THE SERVICE BEGINS.

[Click here](#) to join in small group conversation and catching up on Zoom!

St. Paul's on the Green
The Rev. Daniel Simons, *Priest-in-charge*
60 East Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06851
stpaulsnorwalk.org | info@stpaulsnorwalk.org