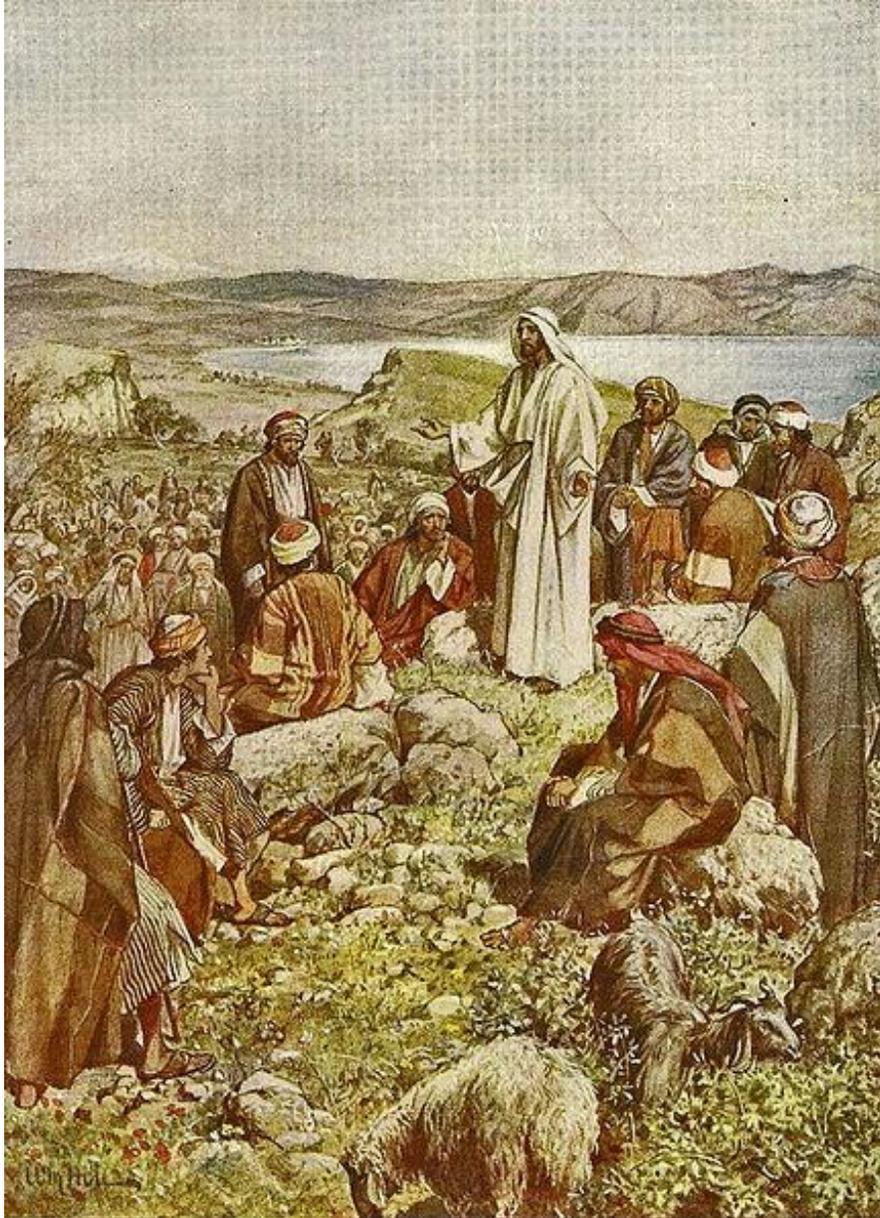


The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 29, 2023

9:15 am



An Order for Holy Eucharist **Trinity Church, Swarthmore**

From today's scriptures...

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

*"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."*

~ 1 Cor. 1:18-19

Welcome! This service is meant to be especially suitable for children and their friends, of any age. There is room in it for interaction and play, as well as unplanned sounds and events! Upon entering, children and invited to **take a plain "Prayer Card" and write or draw a prayer or thanksgiving**, which will be shared with all by the priest during the service. We encourage older persons to help younger persons with **reading (or memorizing) the words in bold**.

The form for worship for this season has been adapted from the "Thanksgiving of the People of God," A New Zealand Prayer Book, pp. 404-429. This service **is not** livestreamed or recorded.

The Ministry of Word and Prayer

The People Gather

We greet one another informally, then warm up our voices and spirits by practicing one or two of the day's songs.

All standing, the presiding priest or minister then says

Grace and peace to you from God our Creator
and our Savior Jesus Christ.

God fill you with truth and joy.

Let us draw near to the light
which has drawn near to us.

Gathering Hymn

"Christ whose glory fills the skies"

Hymnal 1982 #7

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise!
Triumph o'er the shades of night:
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.</p> | <p>2. Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.</p> |
| <p>3. Visit then this soul of mine!
Pierce the gloom
of sin and grief!
Fill me, radiancy divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.</p> | |

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who presides over all things: In your mercy, hear our prayers and share with us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

The Proclamation

From the New Testament letters

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Song of Bringing

“Alleluia”

James Smith

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

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

Matthew 5:1-12

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Word of God.

Praise to Christ, the Word.

Homily

Children are invited forward for a children's homily. After the children's message, they are then asked to return to their seats to continue working on their Prayer Cards.

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,**

**is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the
dead.**

**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. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Allowing silence between biddings, the presiding priest or minister says

- + Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world...
Lord, in the light of your loving-kindness,
Hear our prayer.
- + Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good...
- + Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory...
- + Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us...
- + Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation
- + We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom...

At this time, Prayer Cards are shown and described to the congregation. After intercessions or thanksgivings, the following may be used.

AFTER THANKSGIVING For your love and goodness we give you thanks, O God.	AFTER INTERCESSION God of love grant our prayer.
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The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

Sharing in Christ's Peace

The peace of Christ be with you;
And also with you.

All are invited to share a sign of Christ's peace with one another. Announcements may be offered. As we sing the following song, bread and wine for Holy Communion and financial gifts for the work of the church are brought to the altar. We encourage families to allow children to put in small coins as a lesson in giving to the church for our shared ministries.

Song of Offering

"Ain't a that Good News"

LEVAS #180

1. **I got a crown up in-a that kingdom,
Ain't-a that good news! (x2)
I'm-a gonna lay down this world,
gonna shoulder up-a my cross.
Gonna take it home-a to my Jesus,
Ain't-a that good news!**

2. **I got a robe up in-a that kingdom,
Ain't-a that good news! (x2)
I'm-a gonna lay down this world,
gonna shoulder up-a my cross.
Gonna take it home-a to my Jesus,
Ain't-a that good news!**

3. **I got a Savior in-a that kingdom,
Ain't-a that good news! (x2)
I'm-a gonna lay down this world,
gonna shoulder up-a my cross.
Gonna take it home-a to my Jesus,
Ain't-a that good news!**

The Ministry of the Table: Holy Communion

The offerings of the people are presented. Bread and wine for communion are placed on the table.

The Great Thanksgiving

(New Zealand Prayer Book, Thanksgiving)

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 offer thanks and praise.

The presider tells of God's purpose and work in creation through the gift of Christ, ending

Therefore with the faithful who rest in him, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying/singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

And these words may be added

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

The presider then recounts the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father;
on the night before he died
your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread;
when he had given you thanks,
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:

Take, eat, this is my body
which is given for you;
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
when he had given you thanks,
he gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you,
for this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many

for the forgiveness of sins;
do this as often as you drink it,
to remember me.

Therefore loving God, recalling your great goodness to us in Christ, his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life and this cup of salvation. Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving which we offer through Christ our great high priest.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ:
We remember your death;
We proclaim your resurrection;
We await your coming in glory.
Amen! Come Lord Jesus.**

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive may be to us the body and blood of Christ, and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power, may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.

United in Christ with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

**Blessing, honor and glory be yours,
here and everywhere,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The presiding priest and people then share in receiving communion.

On receiving Communion: *All who are drawn to God in the way of Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the consecrated host in the community of Trinity Church. To receive, please come up the center aisle and stretch out your hands, palms up. Eucharistic wine may be received directly from the common cup or, as a safety measure, from the tray with individual servings. Empty glasses are put on the empty trays at either side aisle. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request of the priest. To receive instead a spoken blessing, simply cross your arms in front of your chest.*

Song during Communion

“Spirit of the living God”

LEVAS #115

**Spirit of the Living God,
Fall fresh on me,
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me,
Fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall fresh on me.**

Silence may be kept.

As Christ teaches us we now pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The priest breaks the bread in silence and then says

The bread we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.
**We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.**

Bread and wine; the gifts of God
for the people of God.

**May we who share these gifts
be found in Christ and Christ in us.**

Prayer After Communion

The priest says

Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.

Dying and living,
he declared your love,
gave us grace
and opened the gate of glory.

May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup
bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights
give light to the world.

**Keep us firm in the hope
you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name.**

A blessing may be given. The service concludes with the dismissal and a song

Let us go forth in the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Sending hymn

"How can I keep from singing"

Robert Lowrey, 1869

My life flows on in end-less song a-bove earth's la-men-ta-tion. I
Whathough my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sa-vior liv-eth. What
5 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a-bove it; And
catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion. No
though the dark-ness ga-ther round Songs in the night he giv-eth. Through
9 day by day this path-way smooths Since first I learned to love it. The
storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing. Since
all the tu-mult and the strife I hear the mu-sic ring-ing; It
13 peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fount-ain ev-er spring-ing! All
Love is Lord of heav'n and earth how can I keep from singing
finds an ech-o in my soul. how can I keep from singing
18 things are mine since I am his! how can I keep from sing-ing?

All are invited to join the various programs and discussions outlined in the announcements.

*Coffee is available at the kitchen window in the Shero Room,
through the interior double doors of our worship space.*

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Assisting this morning:

Altar Guild

AnnMarie Stanton, Mary and Lance Donaldson-Evans, Rich Englebach

Verger

Rich Englebach

Chalice-bearers

Mary Thompson and Suzanne West

The Rev. Dr. Edward ("Fr. Ted") Thompson, preaching and presiding

Vestry Members and Officers

Catherine Gardner (Rector's Warden) * Bill Scarborough (People's Warden)

Jay Gillespie (Treasurer, non-voting) * Sharon Graham (Secretary)

Kristin Cardi * Angela Cimino * Rebecca Clemmer * Mike Donoghue

Jan Dreachslin * John McCurry * Jim Meehan * Andy Millett * Suzanne West

Rector The Rev. Edward E. ("Ted") Thompson, Ph.D.

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