

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH   
 OF *St. John the Baptist*

*"Where All Are Welcome . . . No Exceptions!"*

**Fifth Sunday**  
**after the Epiphany**  
*February 5, 2023*

**The Holy Eucharist**  
**The Word of God**



#371 | *"Thou, Whose Almighty Word"*

**Prelude** *Prelude on "O Food to Pilgrim's Given"*  
 Johann Gottfried Walther

**Processional Hymn** *(Please stand as able)* *Please see page 8*

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

*People* ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

**Canticle of Praise:** *Glory to God*

*Hymnal S280*

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 - shipyou, we give you thanks, we  
 praiseyou for your glo - ry. 3. LordJe - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord

God, Lamb of God, 4. you take away the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat-ed at the righthand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For  
you alone are the Ho-ly One, you alone 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.

**The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant prays the Collect*

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 forever.

*People* **Amen.**

**First Reading** *(Please be seated)*

*Reader* A Reading from Isaiah:

*Introduction to the First Reading*

*Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, mercy, and help.*

*Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12]*

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

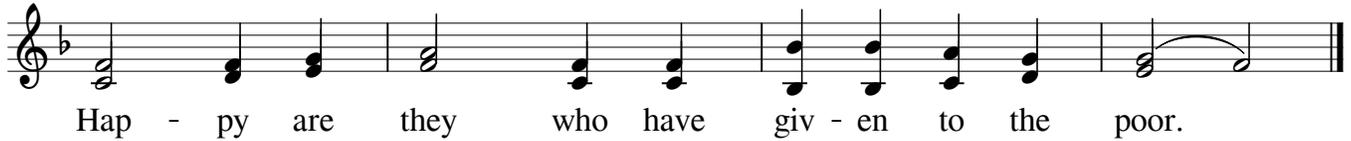
Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

[If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.]

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

## Psalm of the Day |

## Psalm 112:1-10



Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the LORD  
and have great delight in his commandments!

Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last for ever. [ANT.]

Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

It is good for them to be generous in lending  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

For they will never be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance. [ANT.]

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;  
their heart is right;  
they put their trust in the LORD.

Their heart is established and will not shrink,  
until they see their desire upon their enemies. [ANT.]

They have given freely to the poor,  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and pine away;  
the desires of the wicked will perish. [ANT.]

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## Second Reading

*Reader* A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians:

### *Introduction to the Second Reading*

*Though people like the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. The teachings of the Holy Spirit are to be our wisdom.*

### *1 Corinthians 2:1-12, [13-16]*

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

“For who has known the mind of the Lord  
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.”]

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn** (*Please stand as able*) – *Please see page 9*

#126 | *“The People Who in Darkness Walked”*

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew:

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

## The Holy Gospel

*Matthew 5:13-20*

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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

## THE SERMON

**The Nicene Creed** (*Please stand as able*)

*We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.*

*Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

**Anthem - "God of Mercy, God of Grace"**

*Words: Henry Francis Lyte & Music: Jerry F. Davidson*

**The Prayers of the People** *The Leader and People pray responsively.*

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice. Merciful God,  
*receive our prayer.*

Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean to the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Satisfy those afflicted in any way. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The cross and resurrection bring redemption from sin and death. We praise you for all whose unshaken faith in Christ shines forth in their witness. Keep them in our remembrance and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we name in our hearts.

*(The congregation may add their own petitions either silently or aloud after the prayer list is read.)*

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified and risen.

**Amen.**

*(The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.)*

### **The Confession of Sin** *(Please kneel as able or be seated)*

*Reader* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence may be kept)*

*People* Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

### **The Absolution**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### **The Peace** *(Please stand as able)*

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

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

## **The Holy Communion**

*Being seated, we begin with a time of offering, giving money as a sign that our life serves God's purposes and showing our gratitude for God's many blessings.*

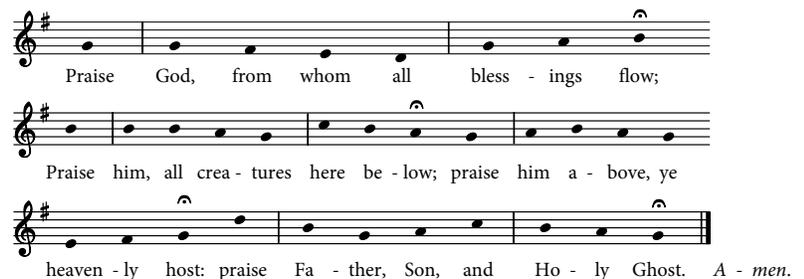
*Your faithful tithes and offerings are much needed and can be sent to:*

*The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, PO Box 441, Milton, DE 19968 OR*

*Securely online through our website - <https://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org/give.html>*

### **Offertory Sentence**

**Doxology** *(The offering is presented as the Doxology is sung. Please stand as able)*



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow;  
Praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

### **Offertory Hymn**

*Please see page 10*

# The Great Thanksgiving

*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.***

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 the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:** *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

*Hymnal S129*

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. Hos - san - na in the High - est.

*The people may kneel as able, or be seated. The Celebrant continues.*

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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

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;***

*The Celebrant continues.*

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 [ 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.***



The Holy Trinity

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1 Thou, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard,  
 2 Thou who didst come to bring on thy re - deem - ing wing  
 3 Spi - rit of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly Dove,  
 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed Three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,

and took their flight; hear us, we hum - bly pray, and, where the  
 heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the  
 speed forth thy flight! Move on the wa - ters' face bear - ing the  
 wis - dom, love, might; bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in

Gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light!  
 in - ly blind, now to all hu - man - kind, let there be light!  
 gifts of grace, and, in earth's dark - est place, let there be light!  
 full - est pride, through the world far and wide, let there be light!

Words: John Marriott (1780-1825), alt.

Music: *Moscow*, Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916,  
 based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

664. 6664

Epiphany

126

1 The peo - ple who in dark-ness walked have seen a glo - rious light;  
 2 To hail thy ris - ing, Sun of life, the ga - thering na - tions come,  
 3 To us the prom - ised Child is born, to us the Son is given;  
 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace for ev - er - more a - dored,  
 5 His power in - creas - ing still shall spread, his reign no end shall know;

1 on them broke forth the heav - en - ly dawn who dwelt in death and night.  
 2 joy - ous as when the reap - ers bear their har - vest trea - sures home.  
 3 him shall the tribes of earth o - bey, and all the hosts of heaven.  
 4 the Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - lor, the might - y God and Lord.  
 5 jus - tice shall guard his throne a - bove, and peace a - bound be - low.

Words: John Morison (1749-1798), alt.; para. of Isaiah 9:2-7

Music: Dundee, melody *The CL Psalmes of David*, 1615; harm. Thomas Ravenscroft (1592?-1635?), alt.

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Holy Eucharist

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1 O Food to pil - grims giv - en, O Bread of life from  
 2 O stream of love past tell - ing, O pur - est foun - tain,  
 3 O Je - sus, by thee bid - den, we here a - dore thee,

hea - ven, O Man - na from on high! We  
 well - ing from out the Sa - vior's side! We  
 hid - den in forms of bread and wine. Grant

hun - ger; Lord, sup - ply us, nor thy de - lights de -  
 faint with thirst; re - vive us, of thine a - bun - dance  
 when the veil is riv - en, we may be - hold, in

ny us, whose hearts to thee draw nigh.  
 give us, and all we need pro - vide.  
 hea - ven, thy coun - te - nance di - vine.

Words: Latin, 1661; tr. John Athelstan Laurie Riley (1858-1945), alt.

Music: *O Welt, ich muss dich lassen*, present form of melody att. Heinrich Isaac (1450?-1517), alt.;  
 harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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Praise to God

1 Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name  
 2 Form - less, all love - ly forms de - clare his love - li - ness;  
 3 His Spi - rit flow - eth free, high surg - ing where it will:  
 4 E - ter - nal life hath he im - plant - ed in the soul;

who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.  
 ho - ly, no ho - li - ness of earth can his ex - press.  
 in pro - phet's word he spoke of old; he speak - eth still.  
 his love shall be our strength and stay while a - ges roll.

The one e - ter - nal God ere aught that now ap - pears:  
 Lo, he is Lord of all. Cre - a - tion speaks his praise,  
 Es - tab - lished is his law, and change - less it shall stand,  
 Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name

the first, the last, be - yond all thought his time - less years!  
 and ev - ery - where a - bove, be - low, his will o - beys.  
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart, on sea, on land.  
 who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.

Words: Medieval Jewish liturgy; tr. Max Landsberg (1845-1928) and Newton M. Mann (1836-1926)  
 Music: Leoni, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, alt.