

*Celebrating Christ's Presence
In a Changing World*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church



*The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
February 7, 2021*

10:30 am

(The words to the hymns are printed on the last two pages of this bulletin.)

Prelude: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

Welcome by the Rev. Sarah Hurlbert, Rector

Opening Hymn: Worship & Rejoice Hymnal #419
My Faith Looks Up to Thee

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. 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.**

Hymn of Praise *God is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him*

**God is Love: let heav'n adore him;
God is Love: let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him,
and exalt him with one voice.
God who laid the earth's foundation,
God who spread the heavens above,
God who breathes through all creation,
God is Love, eternal Love.**

-The Hymnal 1982 #379 (verse.1)

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you

People **And also with you**

Celebrant Let us pray

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.**

A Reading from the Prophet 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
People*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People
Thanks be to God

Psalm 147:1-12, 21

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!

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the 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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People
People **Thanks be to God**

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark 1:29-39
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 Christ.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon **The Reverend Sarah Hurlbert**

Nicene Creed

**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.**

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor Please respond to each petition with “Hear our prayer.”

Intercessor As the prophet Isaiah proclaimed, “Arise, shine; for your light has come”; empower your Church, O God, proclaim the Good News of the Light of your son Jesus, which pierces even the deepest gloom. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor As a star rose high to draw the nations to the Christ-child; send your blessing, O God, on this nation, especially our first responders, and teachers, and draw the whole world to your peace and truth. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor As John the Baptist guided people to the edge of the wilderness and baptized Jesus in the River Jordan, we pray that you would guide our country and our leaders to the ways of justice and righteousness. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Like the Magi who traveled from afar to bring gifts and celebrate the Savior’s birth; we pray for this church, the discernment of our own gifts and how best to use them. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor As Jesus climbed the mountaintop, and proclaimed blessings upon all people; we pray for the sick, the distressed and the poor in our community (especially----); and all residents of our local shelters. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Lord you wept at the death of your friend Lazarus, be with us when we mourn. We pray for those who have died (especially.....) that they are at peace. Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor As Jesus called his disciples to leave their nets and boats and follow him; we pray for those who have answered your call to follow Jesus in ministry, presiding Bishop Michael, Bishop Bonnie, Sarah our Rector, Melissa our Curate, and our Vestry. Give them your peace. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant & People to say together:

(Howard Thurman)

**Lord, Open unto me – light for my darkness.
Open unto me – courage for my fear.
Open unto me – hope for my despair.
Open unto me – peace for my turmoil.
Open unto me – joy for my sorrow.
Open unto me strength for my weakness.
Open unto me – wisdom for my confusion
Open unto me – forgiveness for my sins.
Open unto me – love for my hates.
Open unto me – thy Self for my self.
Lord, Lord, open unto me!**

Announcements:

Birthdays: Casandra Lagow, Joyce Grace, Nathan Randall, Lillie Wells, Loren Swanson, Mishele Wilkins, Harry Strait, Evelyn McCann, Valerie Rowley, Marianne Kincaid, Donna Kurcz, Diane Worthing, and Chris Scheele

Anniversaries: Rev. Melissa & Tammy, Rev. Sarah & Dee, and Elaine & Benjamin Themm

Christian education: Christian education for children and youth will take a break from our 6PM evening sessions this evening. Instead we will be sledding as a group this afternoon at 2PM at Cascades Park.

Ash Wednesday & Shrove Tuesday announcements...

Join Pastor Sarah each Wednesday at 8pm on Facebook live for the service of Compline.

Please remember to call or email Pastor Sarah with news of anyone who is sick in our congregation and reach out for help when you need it. Diana Sinclair is gathering our prayer requests each week so make sure you email or call her with your requests.

Thanks to all who are helping make this worship happen and thank you all for being here!
The Peace of the Lord be always with you!

Meditation: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

Benjamin Culli (1975-)

The Holy Communion

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth filled with your glory:
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life. *

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues,

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with St. Paul and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,
Our Father...

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

Celebrant Behold what you are. Become what you receive; the body and blood of Christ.

Communion Hymn: Worship & Rejoice Hymnal #695
As We Gather At Your Table

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

We pray with those worshipping with us online and here with us:

Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing:
Life is short...

Closing Hymn: Worship & Rejoice Hymnal #591
Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

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

Postlude: “As We Gather at Your Table”

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

- ❖ ALTAR FLOWERS for today are given TO THE GLORY OF GOD and IN LOVING MEMORY of my grandparents Nancy & Ray Hartsuff and IN COMMEMORATION of their wedding on February 3, 1951 by Jadon.
- ❖ THE AUMBRY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK IN RECOGNITION of the Ordination to the Priesthood in 2013 of the Rev. Jadon Hartsuff by Cheryl Gumper.

Worship Ministers: The Reverend Sarah Hurlbert; The Rev. Dcn. Melissa Congleton

Julie Baglien, Organist; Christy Randall, vocalist;

Natalie Magnusson, 1st Reader; Zoë Magnusson; 2nd Reader & acolyte; Melaina Magnusson, Intercessor & Acolyte

Special thanks again go to our tech team for their faithfulness & expertise!



*And he went throughout
Galilee, proclaiming
the message...*

MARK 1:39, NRSV

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The hymns for today are from the Worship & Rejoice Hymnal

Opening Hymn: #419

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

1 My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day
be wholly thine!

2 May thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me,
O may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be,
a living fire!

3 While life's dark maze I tread,
and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day,
wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray
from thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream,
when death's cold, sullen stream
shall o'er me roll;
blest Savior, then, in love
fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above,
a ransomed soul!

Words: *Ray Palmer, 1808-1887*
Music: *Lowell Mason, 1792-1872*

Communion Hymn: #695

“As We Gather At Your Table”

1 As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's victory known.

2 Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.

3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy bind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.

Words: *Carl P. Daw, Jr. 1944-*
Music: *BEACH SPRING; B. F. White, 1800-1879*



Closing Hymn: #591
“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”

1 Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife
we hear your voice, O Son of Man!

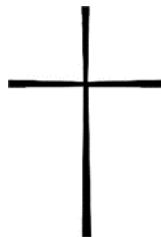
2 In haunts of wretchedness and need,
on shadowed thresholds fraught with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed
we catch the vision of your tears.

3 The cup of water given for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view
the strong compassion of your face.

4 O Master, from the mountainside,
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide,
O tread the city’s streets again,

5 Till all the world shall learn your love
and follow where your feet have trod:
till glorious from your heaven above
shall come the city of our God.

Words: *Frank Mason North, 1850-1935*
Music: *William Gardiner's Sacred Melodies, 1815*



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