

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 2018 DEWITT TERRACE,
LINDEN, NJ 07036

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER
THE EPIPHANY
JANUARY 28, 2024

ALL ARE WELCOME!

CELEBRANT - THE REV. ANGIE CIPOLLA

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Prof. Richard Alston

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birthdays: Genevieve LaForge – 1/6 Eileen TiamFook – 1/16 Richard Alston – 1/17 - Goldie Bronson – 1/18 Mother Angie – 2/20 - & Jessie Cipolla – 2/25

Annual Meeting January 28, 2024

The Annual Meeting will happen on today, in person, following the Holy Eucharist. There will be two (2) sign-in sheets available. Please be sure to add your name.

Offering Envelope Books

If you have not received an Offering Envelope Book or would like to receive one, please contact Amanda Thorn.

Women's Group News

The next meeting of the Women's Group will be on Thursday, February 29th.

Mother Angie can be reached at 908-986-3354 or MotherAngie.StJohn.Linden@gmail.com.

Parish Office Hours from September thru June: Mon thru Fri - 9AM to 12 Noon. Please call 908-925-1535 before coming.

Sanctuary Lamp - \$10 & Flowers: \$25 – please send payment two weeks prior when requesting a Sunday & call/email the office two weeks prior to date of requested Sunday.

Hymns are located in the blue *Hymnal 1982*, or when specified ("O") in the red hymnal, *One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism*.

The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

2018 Dewitt Terrace, Linden, NJ 07036

Phone: 908-925-1535 – www.lindenepiscopal.org www.facebook.com/stjohnslinden - e-mail:

st.johns.linden@verizon.net

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild: Kathie Simon & Jacqueline Hooper

Acolyte: Nancy Wall

Readers:

1* Reading& Psalm: Dulce DiGrado

2nd Reading & Prayers of

the People: Patricia St. Clair

Usher: Carolyne Baykowski

Greeter: Barbaranne DiMarco

Eucharistic Minister: Marcia Eversley

Videographer Howard Whitmore

Vestry

Howard Whitmore, Sr. Warden Marcel Vaughn-Handy, Jr. Warden

Carolynne Baykowski Barbaranne DiMarco

Patricia St. Clair Amanda Thorn Elaine Sugzda Nancy Wall

THE WORD OF GOD

PROCESSIONAL: "O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING" HYMN #493

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

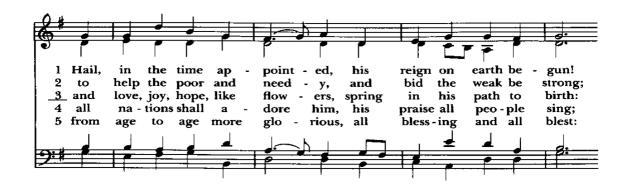
THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:

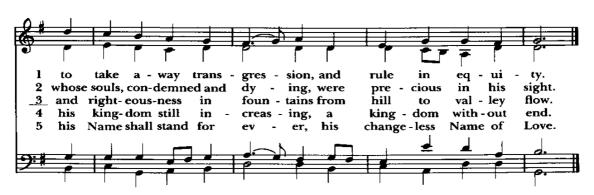
Celebrant and People: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



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Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72

Music: Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein, German folk song; adapt. and harm.

A Student's Hymnal, 1923, after Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

THE LESSONS

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said: The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

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

Psalm Psalm 111

1 Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, * in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are the deeds of the LORD! *

they are studied by all who delight in them.

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, * and his righteousness endures for ever.

4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *

the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

5 He gives food to those who fear him; *

he is ever mindful of his covenant.

6 He has shown his people the power of his works * in giving them the lands of the nations.

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *

all his commandments are sure.

8 They stand fast for ever and ever, * because they are done in truth and equity.

9 He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever; * holy and awesome is his Name.

10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; * those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise endures for ever.

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

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

The people stand

"O LOVE HOW DEEP, HOW BROAD, HOW HIGH" HYMN #448

Gospel Mark 1:21-28

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

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

THE SERMON

The 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

Let us pray to God, our only defense and refuge against evil saying, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Grant to the Church the voice of prophecy, to proclaim your word and lead the world into the way of truth.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Give power to those who preach, that they may be confident in the name of Christ by whose authority they speak.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Let your call come to the rulers of nations and leaders of peoples throughout the world, so that they may know that true power is from you alone. Bless those who work to make your word known In all lands.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant that we may have wisdom and opportunity to speak of our faith to others. Make us instruments of your peace to our families and friends, our neighbors and those with whom we work. Give new light to those who do not know you.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Have mercy on those who are in the power of evil. Heal and restore all whose minds have been disturbed through occult practices. Draw back into the way of truth those who are slipping into dangerous paths.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us offer our prayers for those no our parish prayer list this morning.....

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have passed from death into eternal life. Grant them peace as they rest from their labors.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Continued Next Page

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Sally, our Bishop, for all bishops, priests, deacons and all leaders in your church, that that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you, we pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Holy God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring healing to all wounds, make whole all that is broken, speak truth to all illusion, and shed light in every darkness, that all creation will see your glory and know your Christ.

People: Amen.

The Peace

The Congregation Stands As Able

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

People: And also with you.

Birthday and Anniversary Prayers

For a Birthday

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N*. as *he* begins another year. Grant that *he* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*. BCP p. 830 #50

For an Anniversary

O Lord, our God, you have given us all good things for our salvation. You commanded us to love one another and to bear with one another's weakness. You yourself are the lover of humankind. To these your servants who love each other in the love of the Spirit grant eternal devotion and true love. We ask this in the Name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen. (Based on Eastern Rite prayer of 9th or 10th Century)

For Travelers

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* BCP p. 831 #53

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "MORNING HAS BROKEN"

THE PRIEST GOES TO THE COMMUNION RAIL TO RECEIVE THE OFFERINGS AND BREAD AND WINE.

OFFERTORY HYMN: "YIELD NOT TO TEMPTATION"

Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer 2) Enriching Our Worship

HYMN #0540

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

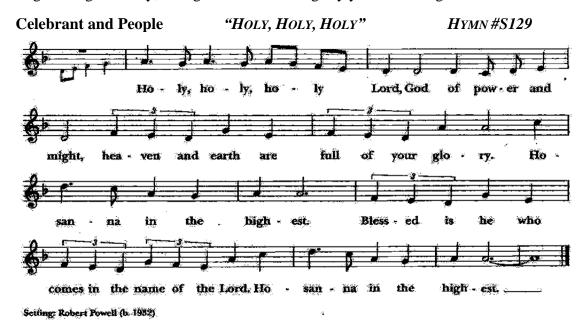
People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

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. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:



The people kneel as able.

Celebrant: Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now Gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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 are bold to say:

People and Celebrant:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen. Padre Nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre, venga tu reino. hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos A los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria, ahora y por siempre. Amén.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.



Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION Christ Church Cathedral Oxford (Church of England)

For those who prefer not to receive Holy Communion and for those participating through Facebook Live and Zoom, we shall pray the prayer of Spiritual Communion.

Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock. You wait for me and only I can let you in. I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill me with presence. Since I cannot receive the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, spiritually feed me with your body and unite me in your blood, that I may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN: "JUST AS I AM" HYMN #0385

MEDITATION HYMN: "THANK YOU, LORD

- v1. Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.
- v2. Been so good, been so good, been so good, I just want to thank you, Lord.
- v3. Been my friend, been my friend, been my friend, I just want to thank you, Lord.

The Prayer After Communion (Enriching Our Worship)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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 (Enriching Our Worship)

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

RECESSIONAL

"WE'RE MARCHING TO ZION"

HYMN #0620

The Dismissal