

The joy of the Lord is your strength.

Nehemiah 8:10b

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
The Epiphany
Morning Prayer
January 27, 2019, 10:30 am

We worship today, except as noted below, according to the appointed order for Morning Prayer, Rite Two, beginning on page 75 of the Book of Common Prayer.

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

Processional Hymn: *Hail To the Lord's Anointed (we stand)*.....616

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence We stand or kneel

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.

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

The Invitatory and Psalter (*we stand*)

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

The Lord has shown forth his glory: Come let us adore him.

Jubilate – Psalm 100.....Songsheet

The Psalm – Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

**One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

**Their sound has gone out into all lands,
and their message to the ends of the world.**

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun;
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

The law of the Lord is perfect
and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
**The statutes of the Lord are just
and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes.**

The fear of the Lord is clean
and endures for ever;
the judgments of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.
**More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.**

By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.
**Who can tell how often he offends?
cleanse me from my secret faults.**

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.
**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lessons (*we sit*)

The First Lesson – Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the

men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Canticle 9 – The First Song of Isaiah.....SH 18

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second

prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Canticle 19 – The Song of the Redeemed

**O ruler of the universe, Lord God,
great deeds are they that you have done,
surpassing human understanding.
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth,
O King of all the ages.**

**Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,
and sing the praises of your Name?
for you only are the Holy One.
All nations will draw near and fall down before you,
because your just and holy works have been revealed.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Gospel Lesson – Luke 4:14-21

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Homily

Mike Harber

The Apostles' Creed *(we all stand)*

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

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Gathering Hymn: *This Little Light of Mine (we sit)*.....SH 60:1

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The Offering

Presentation Hymn: The Doxology *(we stand)*.....380:3

The Prayers *(we stand or kneel)*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

**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.**

Suffrage

Show us your mercy, O Lord;
And grant us your salvation.
Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
Let your people sing with joy.
Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
For only in you can we live in safety.
Lord, keep this nation under your care;
And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
Let your way be known upon earth;
Your saving health among all nations.
Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
Create in us clean hearts, O God;
And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Renewal of Life

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning; Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings – (from *Planning for Rites and Rituals: Year C*, p 75-76)

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. Empowered by the Spirit, let us pray together saying, “We bless you, Lord our God. Amen.”

Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.

Silence

We bless you, Lord our God. Amen.

By the spirit of the Lord, may we, your Church, carry on the work of Jesus. Open our hearts to the poor and the captives, to the blind and to the oppressed.

Silence

We bless you, Lord our God. Amen.

The heavens declare your glory, Great Creator, and the firmament shows your handiwork. We praise you and we thank you for the beauty and majesty of your creation.

Silence during which we add our own thanksgivings

We bless you, Lord our God. Amen.

We thank you, O God, for the many members that make up your body; for the gifts, the work, and the prayers we share. We ask you to bless especially our leaders, lay and ordained. Give us wisdom and guide by your spirit.

Silence

We bless you, Lord our God. Amen.

We pray for those who are sick or sorrowful. When they suffer, we suffer with them. Revive and heal them, we pray. May your joy be their strength.

Silence during which we add our own intercessions

We bless you, Lord our God. Amen.

O God, you have formed an eternal bond with us in baptism. Whether living or dead, bless and keep your children forever.

Silence

We bless you, Lord our God. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn: *Christ for the World We Sing*537

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

We will gather this evening at 5:30 pm at Christ the Redeemer Episcopal Church in Montgomery (6801 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL). The Right Rev. John McKee Sloan will celebrate the Holy Eucharist. At the service, we will confirm Dana Barlow and receive Brian Hudson into the Episcopal Church. You won't want to miss this!

On Tuesday, January 29, the Episcopal Church celebrates the Feast Day of Andrei Rublev (approx. 1365-1430), a Russian monk and iconographer, generally considered to be the greatest medieval Russian painter of icons and frescoes. According to *Holy Women, Holy Men*, Rublev viewed producing icons as a spiritual exercise. As he worked, it was his habit to repeat the Jesus Prayer: “Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on me.” He is the subject of a long movie bearing his name, and yes, it's available on disc from Netflix. Several of his works appear on the Wikipedia page bearing his name.

Serving at Epiphany this week: Ushers: Lavonne Hart and Jimmy Weldon Altar Guild: Elizabeth Harber Lay Reader: Mike Rallo Officiant: Mike Harber Refreshments: John and Kathy Haynie	And next: Ushers: Kay and Mike Dickey Altar Guild: Lavonne Hart Lay Reader: Laura Williams Lay Eucharistic Minister: Maurice McCord Refreshments: Pam Harper
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