

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa



THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 9th, 2020 at 10.15 am

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN 393

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Dear friends, we gather this morning on the traditional territory of the Algonquin Nation, and we recognize the continuing presence of First Nations, Métis and Inuit in this region.

May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

Here let heaven and earth embrace;
here may God's people find home.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

God of Israel, giver of love's law: liberate us from all that numbs compassion, so that we may find in your commands light undimmed and flavour undiminished; through Jesus Christ, fulfiller of the law. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

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 practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements,

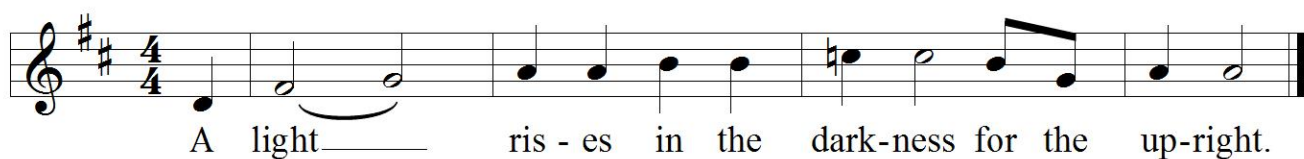
they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 112 1-9



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. 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.

They will not be afraid of any evil rumours;
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.

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

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 551

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5:13-20

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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 fulfil. 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."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

ANTHEM

Cantate Domino (Giuseppe Pitoni)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins, for the Holy One delights in blessing those who seek to walk with God.

Silence is kept.

Gracious God,

we have not done what is blameless and right, nor spoken truth from the heart with love. We do not keep your word, and at times, our words and deeds cause pain. Forgive us by the power of your mercy, that we might stand in the goodness of Christ and walk in the light of his love. Amen.

Your sins are forgiven ✕ by the faith of Christ, who chose love over hatred and forgiveness over blame. Rejoice and be glad, for God's mercy is great; Jesus brings healing, justice, and peace. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN 502

You Are Salt for the Earth

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of compassion and forgiveness, receive our offering this day, and make us one with him who is our peace, Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

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 give thanks and praise.

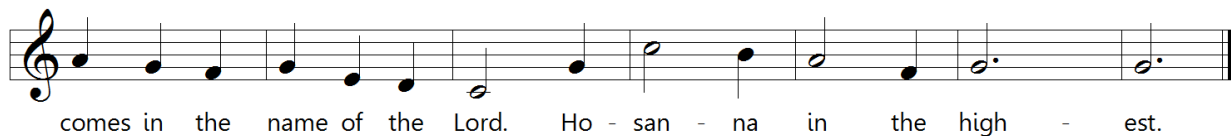
Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish.

You give us sun and moon and star-lit sky, everything that gives us light, light for our eyes, our hearts, our minds.

You give us the fish in the sea, the birds of the air, and every plant and tree; the life that sleeps in the winter earth, and awakens again in the spring.

You give us friends and families, busy streets for young and old, the life of an earthly city fulfilled in your city to come.

You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with the angels and sing your praise:



We thank you, loving God, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

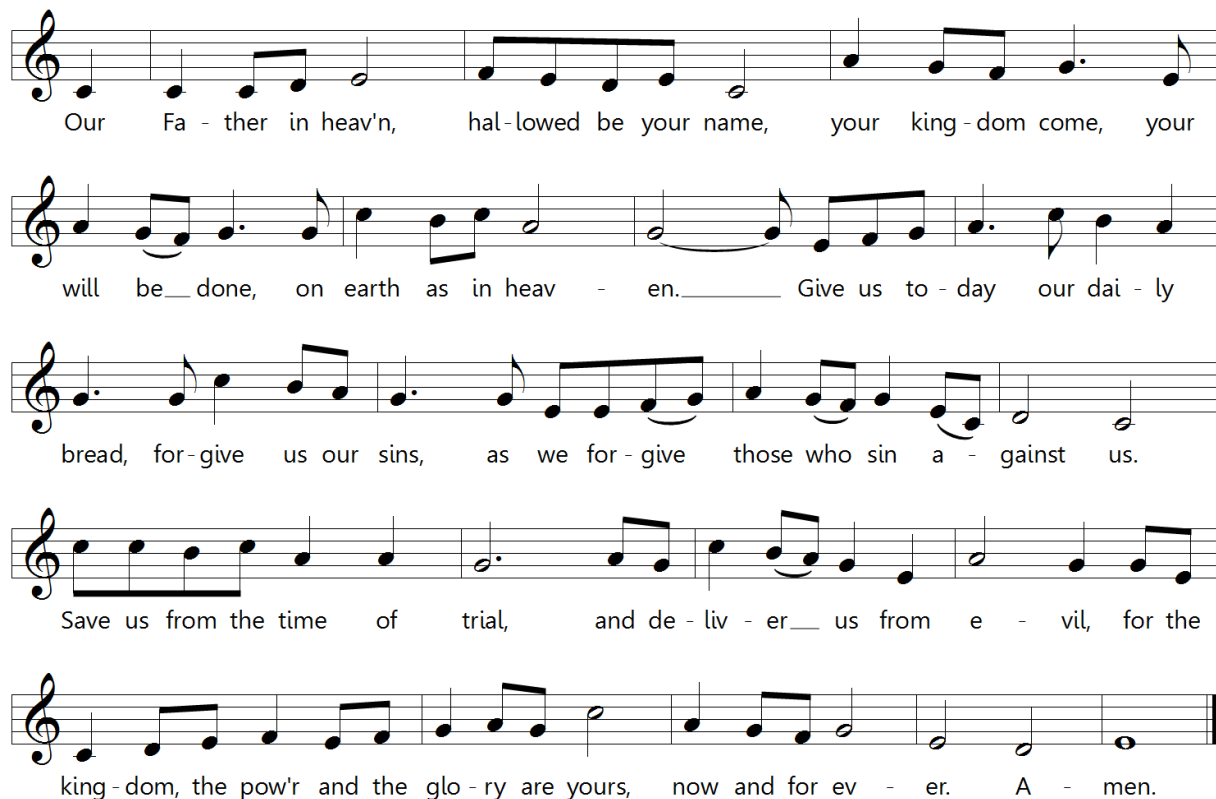
After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So gracious God, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, ✠ and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms. And now with Saint John the Evangelist and all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, we pray:



Our Fa - ther in heav'n, hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come, your
will be done, on earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly
bread, for - give us our sins, as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil, for the
king - dom, the pow'r and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Silence is kept.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

A Celtic Prayer (Barry Peters)

Please request a gluten-free wafer if required or a blessing if desired.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Eternal God, in you we find peace beyond all telling. May we who share in this heavenly banquet, be instruments of your peace on earth, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ,

you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the wisdom of God, the love of Christ, and the peace of the Spirit, bless you ✠ and shine brightly in your lives this day and always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN 374

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

DISMISSAL

Go in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

<i>Presider</i>	The Reverend Canon Beth Bretzlaff
<i>Deacon & Preacher</i>	The Reverend Dr Caroline Ducros
<i>Guest Organist</i>	Ruth Ann Read-Clay

Gathering/Blessing: Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. © 2013. Collect: *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* (2009) alt. Readings: *New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV) Anglicized Edition*, © 1989, 1995, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Psalm Music: Gordon Johnston © 2011. Eucharistic Prayer: *Common Worship: Additional Eucharistic Prayers*, material from which is reproduced above © The Archbishop's Council 2012.

To find out what is happening in the parish, please see This Week at St John's (TWSJ) on our website (www.stjohnsottawa.ca) or pick up a hard copy on the table at the Elgin Street entrance.

ST JOHN'S CONTACT INFO

The Reverend Canon Beth Bretzlaff, Rector

beth@stjohnsottawa.ca

The Reverend Dr Caroline Ducros, Deacon

caroline@stjohnsottawa.ca

BGen (ret'd) The Venerable John Fletcher & The Reverend Canon Dr Gary Hauch,
Honourary Assistants

The Reverend Michael Hicks, Honourary Assistant Emeritus

Dr Gordon Johnston, Organist & Choirmaster

gordon@stjohnsottawa.ca

Laura Macdonald, Church Administrator

laura@stjohnsottawa.ca

154 Somerset Street West, Ottawa, ON, Canada, K2P 0H8

Tuesday to Thursday, 9 am to Noon (613) 232-4500 www.stjohnsottawa.ca
