

# HOLY EUCHARIST

The Third Sunday after Epiphany – January 24, 2021

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## WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

### OPENING HYMN

Christ be our light, v 4 (*Words on last page*)

Bernadette Farrell

### OPENING SENTENCES

*Celebrant* Arise, shine, for your light has come; and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

People **And God's Spirit with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

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**

## WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

### READING FROM THE HEBREW BIBLE

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

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

### PSALM 62:6-14

<sup>6</sup> For God alone my soul in silence waits; **truly, my hope is in him.**

<sup>7</sup> He alone is my rock and my salvation, **my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.**

<sup>8</sup> In God is my safety and my honor; **God is my strong rock and my refuge.**

<sup>9</sup> Put your trust in him always, O people, pour out your hearts before him, **for God is our refuge.**

<sup>10</sup> Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, **even those of low estate cannot be trusted.**

<sup>11</sup> On the scales they are lighter than a breath, **all of them together.**

<sup>12</sup> Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; though wealth increase,  
**set not your heart upon it.**

<sup>13</sup> God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, **that power belongs to God.**

<sup>14</sup> Steadfast love is yours, O Lord; **for you repay everyone according to his deeds.**

**THE GOSPEL**

Mark 1:14-20

*The gospels are stories of Jesus' life**Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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

The Rev. Dr. Kate Heichler

**PRAYER SONG**

The Lord is my light (Taize)



The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion; in God I trust. In God I trust. The

**OUR PRAYERS**

Let us pray together. During the silence after each petition, please add your own prayers. Please respond to: **"Jesus, Light of the World"** with: ***Be visible in us.***

Christ, our Light, we thank you for revealing God to us. Thank you for blessing us in so many ways, especially for ... and for all other blessings we name now, aloud or in silence:

**Jesus, Light of the World: *Be visible in us.***

Christ, our Light, sages from the east came to worship you as a light to all nations. Give us peace in this world, light where darkness reigns, provision for all who hunger, and security for all who live in terror. We pray for... and for all other places and people we name now:

**Jesus, Light of the World: *Be visible in us.***

Christ, our Light, the Church was born in the waters of your baptism. Bless your church in every place; make us beacons of light and bringers of peace. We pray especially for..., that all may serve the world in your name.

**Jesus, Light of the World: *Be visible in us.***

Christ, our Light, you revealed your power in the first miracle at Cana. Thank you for the healing power you give us through your Spirit. Give us the faith and courage to offer healing in Your name.

We pray especially for those in need, whose names we see here, and for all others we name now, aloud or in silence:

**Jesus, Light of the World: *Be visible in us.***

Christ, our Light, you shone on the Mount of Transfiguration, giving your friends a glimpse of you as their destination as well as their teacher and Lord. We pray for all who have died, that they may know life in your presence now and forever, especially for... and for all others we name now, aloud or in silence:

**Jesus, Light of the World: *Be visible in us.***

## THE CONFESSION

*Deacon* Let us make our confession together,  
Most holy and most loving God, we admit to you and to each other,  
that we are creatures who through foolishness or willfulness often choose darkness instead of light.

Here and now we surrender to you  
**our fears and proud opinions,**  
our short-sighted folly and misguided assumptions,  
**our deep-seated sins**  
our apathy towards change and renewal.

**Forgive us the pain we have inflicted on others and upon ourselves.**

In the light of your love, restore the hopes and ideals within our souls.

**Trusting your grace, we earnestly pray:**

“Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us,” through Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen!**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*Celebrant* Beloved of God, your sins are forgiven through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Take up your forgiveness with thanksgiving, and live without shame or anxiety.

## THE PEACE

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

**OFFERTORY HYMN** I want to walk as a child, vv 1-2 (*Words on last page*) Hymnal 490

*You can make your offering online at <https://christchurchlaplata.org/donate/>  
Or text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts.*

## THE HOLY MEAL

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

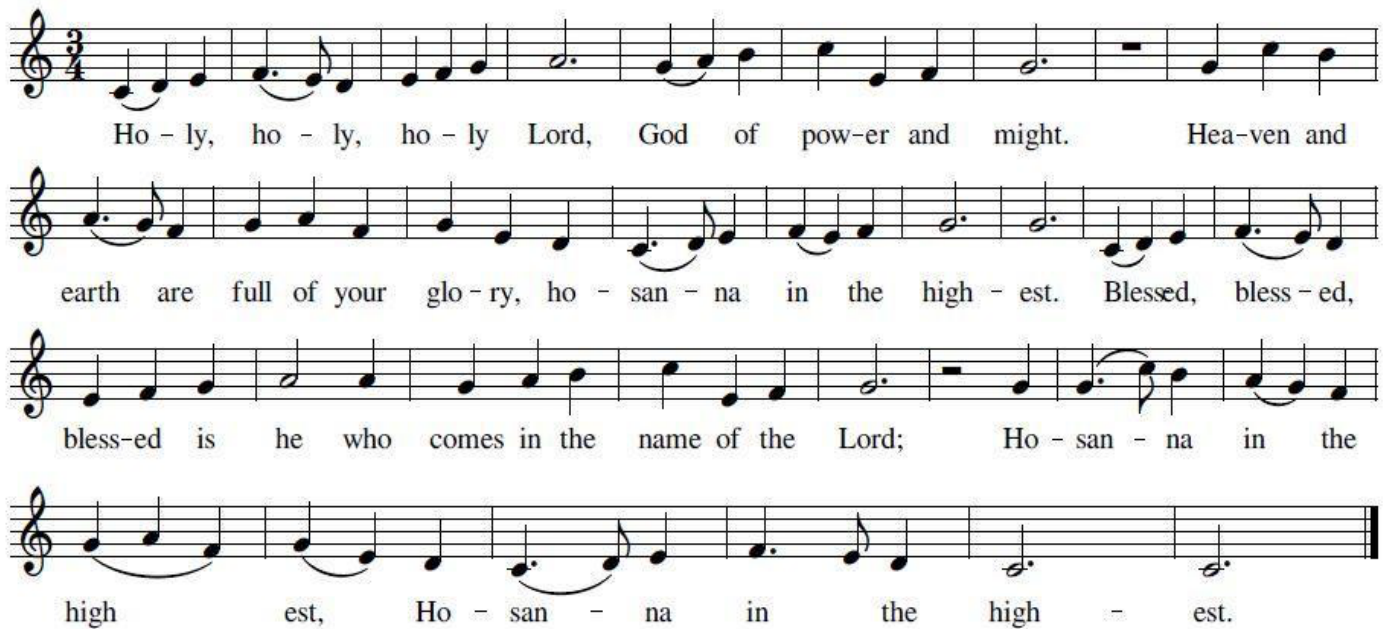
*The people are invited to participate praying the words in bold type.*

*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 you Son Jesus Christ. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and all the company of heaven who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## Holy, holy, holy (Sanctus)

Kate Heichler, 2000



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. Blessed, bless - ed,  
bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; Ho - san - na in the  
high est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

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 to remember 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 for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me.”**

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

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 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.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours,  
Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN!**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name,  
Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, how and forever. Amen.**

*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.**

#### THE COMMUNION

#### PRAYER OF THANKS

**Almighty God, thank you for revealing yourself through your Word, through prophets and sages, stars and beacons, signs and miracles. Thank you for revealing yourself in the Bread and Wine that we share at your Table and our tables. Above all, we praise you for revealing yourself in Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Open our eyes to welcome your light into every corner of our hearts, that we may bear your light into the darkness, in the power of your Spirit. Amen**

#### THE BLESSING

#### CLOSING HYMN

I have decided to follow Jesus, vv 1-2

LEVAS 136

#### PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

#### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### DISMISSAL

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ  
*People* **Thanks be to God!**

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#### THE PRAYERS

**We Pray For:** Those in need of healing – Melanie Coe, Alicia Cordelle, Steve Blamer, John MacCoy, Marion Denniston, Barry Kercher, Beverly Stone, Gary Murray, Susan White, Bonnie Rafer, Missi Fox, Garner Burroughs, Andie Corby, Betty and Peanut Bowling, Susie Marshall, Jane and Michelle  
**Those who have died:** Julian Turner;

**Birthdays:** Charlotte Miller (1/24), Maizie Burch (1/25)

**Anniversaries:**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**COLLECTING COATS AND BLANKETS** - We now have a beautiful box to receive donations of blankets and coats, new and used. We are seeking a coordinator for this project, some signage, and will need some folks to assist with laundering the used items, and/or making donations to our Giving Fund to cover the cost of dry cleaning. We can also use help with distributing the goods. Please contact Deacon Joan if you'd like to be part of this ministry to keep people warm this winter.

**CHRIST CHURCH TUTORING PROGRAM** - Children in our community have a deep need that people in this congregation are wonderfully equipped to meet: offering one-to-one tutoring online. Covid adjustments in our educational systems have left many children at risk of failing. Neal Bankenstein, who works with vulnerable children and families in the Charles County Public Schools, is helping us launch a tutoring program to give kids some extra help.

He and other administrators will refer children to us; we'll match them up with tutors who are comfortable with the needed subject matter, and we'll set up a time for tutoring to happen on Zoom. Karen Hile, a teacher and member at Christ Church La Plata, has offered to serve as a consultant for tutors who want some help. Sign up with the link in the weekly Parish e-news.

### **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – ONLINE Sunday, February 7, after worship**

We are getting used to interacting online - so this year, due to Covid concerns, we will have our joint Annual Parish meeting online. Please plan to stick around on Zoom after worship on Sunday, February 7th. Have some lunch or snack food handy; we can have a few minutes of eating and chatting before we launch. We will hear reports from our Wardens and Rector; spend a little time evaluating the year just past and what we are excited about in the year ahead. We will present a joint budget this year, with our common expenses in the center and each church's details on either side. We can go into breakout rooms to discuss details if needed. And we'll elect new vestry folk. Come on along!

### **DIOCESAN CONVENTION - ONLINE Saturday, Jan 31, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm & Friday, Jan 29, 6:30 - 8:30 pm**

As an Episcopal congregation, we are part of a larger entity - the Diocese of Washington (EDOW).

Convention is the yearly legislative meeting presided over by the bishop with the clergy and elected representatives of all congregations. It votes on the diocesan budget and other matters regarding the mission and ministry of the diocese. This year's convention will take place online via Zoom. A link to join the Zoom webinar will be emailed to all convention registrants prior to the start of convention. All are welcome to attend - you can register here.

**There is a special program on Friday night, January 29, 6:30-8:30 p.m. - Race and Reckoning: An Exploration into Reparations. The Diocese of Washington will host a candid conversation on the history of race both in the United States and in our local area with Bishop Eugene Sutton of the Diocese of Maryland, Bishop Mariann, and representatives of EDOWS's Reparations Task Force. All are welcome to attend on Zoom - register here.**

**MEET THE PROPHETS!** Kirk Vandezande and Rev. Kate will lead our 10 am Sunday morning (and 7 pm Wednesday evening) explorations into some of the prophets of Israel we meet in our readings this season: Who were they, where do you find them in the Bible, what did they say, why do they matter?

**ONLINE GIVING** - You can text a donation - text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts. You can give to Open Plate or toward your pledge. A 2.6% fee is charged for credit or debit cards - you'll have the

option to include that in your gift or not. Standard text message rates do apply. You can also give online - go to [www.christchurchlaplata.org](http://www.christchurchlaplata.org) and scroll down to the "Donate" link.

**GIVING FUND** – Please consider making a dedicated donation to the Giving Fund, from which Rev. Kate can offer help. Our policy is to help once, as we are able, and deal with repeat requests on a case-by-case basis. You can write a check or give online at the donate page on our website, [www.christchurchlaplata.org](http://www.christchurchlaplata.org), or text “CCLAPLATA” to 73256, and follow the prompts, designating Giving Fund. You now have the option to make pledge offerings or donations online, or by text.

## **HYMNS**

### **Christ, Be Our Light**

3 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.

*Refrain:* Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

### **I want to walk as a child**

1 I want to walk as a child of the light  
I want to follow Jesus  
God sent the stars to give light to the world  
The star of my life is Jesus

*Refrain:* In Him, there is no darkness at all  
The night and the day are both alike  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

2 I want to see the brightness of God  
I want to look at Jesus  
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path  
And show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

### **I have decided to follow Jesus**

1 I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
No turning back, no turning back.

2. Though none go with me, I still will follow,  
Though none go with me I still will follow,  
Though none go with me, I still will follow;  
No turning back, no turning back.