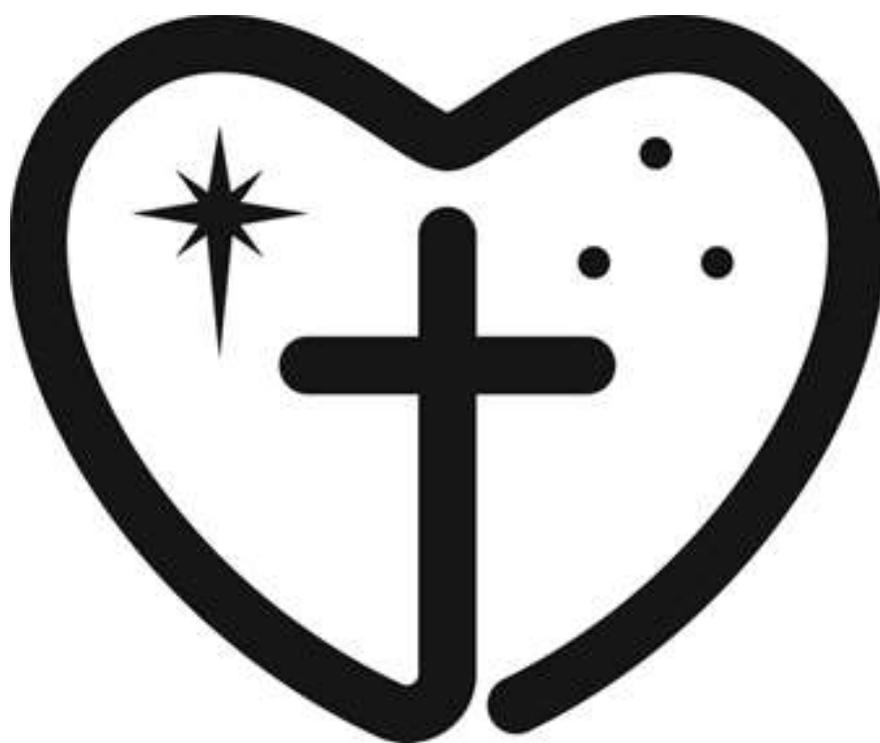


*Celebrating Christ's Presence  
In a Changing World*

*St. Paul's Episcopal Church*



*The Second Sunday after the Epiphany  
January 17, 2021  
10:30 am*

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

**Prelude:** "I've Got Peace Like a River"

*Sandra Eithun (1963-)*

**Welcome by the Rev. Sarah Hurlbert, Rector**

**Opening Hymn:           Worship & Rejoice Hymnal #498**  
*Lead Me, Guide Me*

*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

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **A Reading from the First Book of Samuel 3:1-10(11-20)**

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever." Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him." As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

*Reader  
People*

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

## **Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17**

- 1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; \*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places \*  
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, \*  
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before \*  
and lay your hand upon me.



Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

*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 darkness. 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**

**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:**

Christian education for children and youth continues for all groups this evening at 6 pm, and there will be a Zoom game night for kids of all ages Jan. 23, 6:30-8PM. Check the parent Facebook page for more info.

The church office will be closed tomorrow, (Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>) in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

Our Bishop (along with other bishops) has written a letter encouraging people (no matter what political affiliation) to not be at the capitol around the inauguration. Instead, please call and write your representatives to voice your opinion about the election and pray for the peace and safety of our nation.

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held via Zoom next Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. Please watch your email for the Zoom link.

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

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity in returning your pledges for 2021.

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:** “There is a Balm in Gilead”

*John Leavitt (1956-)*

**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.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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, 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 [\_\_\_\_\_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 #606**  
*As Your Family, Lord, Meet Us Here (Kumbaya)*

*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 #729**  
*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

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

**Postlude:** Deep River

*Sandra Eithun (1963-)*

*Worship Ministers: The Reverend Sarah Hurlbert; The Rev. Dcn. Melissa Congleton  
Julie Baglien, Organist; Christy Randall, vocalist;  
Sandra Kilian, 1st Reader; Denis Marsh; 2nd Reader & acolyte; Sue Hammett, Intercessor;  
Special thanks again go to our tech team for their faithfulness & expertise!*



*And Serve the Lord*

- ❖ ALTAR FLOWERS for today are given TO THE GLORY OF GOD and IN MEMORY of All Lost to COVID by Diane Worthing; and IN LOVING THANKSGIVING of Family and Friends by Jim Freer.

***The hymns for today are from the Worship & Rejoice Hymnal***

**Opening Hymn: #498  
“Lead Me, Guide Me”**

Refrain

Lead me, guide me along the way,  
For if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with You.  
Lead me my whole life through.

Verse 1

I am weak and I need Your strength and power,  
To endure with grace my weakest hour.  
Help me through the darkness Your face to see.  
Lead me, O Lord lead me.

(Refrain)

Verse 2

Help me walk in the paths of righteousness.  
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
I am trusting you whate'er may be.  
Lead me, O Lord lead me.

(Refrain)

Verse 3

I am lost if you take your hand from me,  
I am blind without Your light to see.  
Lord forever may I your servant be.  
Lead me, O Lord lead me.

(Refrain)

Words & Music: Doris Akers (1922-1995)

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**Communion Hymn: #606  
“As Your Family, Lord, Meet Us Here”  
(Kumbaya)**

1 As your family, Lord, meet us here,  
as your family, Lord, meet us here,  
as your family, Lord, meet us here,  
O Lord, meet us here.

2 At your table, Lord, we are fed,  
at your table, Lord, we are fed,  
at your table, Lord, we are fed,  
O Lord, feed us here.

3 Fill our spirits, Lord, with your love,  
fill our spirits, Lord, with your love,  
fill our spirits, Lord, with your love,  
O Lord, with your love.

4 Make us faithful, Lord, to your will,  
make us faithful, Lord, to your will,  
make us faithful, Lord, to your will,  
O Lord, to your will.

5 As your family, Lord, meet us here,  
as your family, Lord, meet us here,  
as your family, Lord, meet us here,  
O Lord, meet us here.

Words: *Anonymous*

Music: *African-American Spiritual; KUMBAYAH*

**Closing Hymn: #729**  
**“Lift Every Voice and Sing”**

Lift every voice and sing  
till earth and heaven ring,  
ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
let our rejoicing rise,  
high as the listening skies,  
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith  
that the dark past has taught us,  
sing a song full of the hope  
that the present has brought us;  
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
let us march on till victory is won.

2 Stony the road we trod,  
bitter the chastening rod,  
felt in the days  
when hope unborn had died;  
yet with a steady beat,  
have not our weary feet  
come to the place for which our people sighed?  
We have come over a way  
that with tears has been watered,  
we have come, treading our path  
through the blood of the slaughtered,  
out from the gloomy past,  
till now we stand at last  
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3 God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
thou who hast brought us  
thus far on the way;  
thou who hast, by thy might,  
led us into the light,  
keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places,  
our God, where we met thee,  
lest, our hearts drunk with  
the wine of the world, we forget thee;  
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,  
true to our God, true to our native land.

Words: James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938); Music: J. Rosamund Johnson (1873-1954)

