



St. John's Episcopal Church

Hear the Spirit ~ See God's Beauty ~ Act in Love

The Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 25, 2026 10am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude *Tiento de Segundo Tono*

Francisco Correa de Arauxo (1584-1654)

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn #126 *The people who in darkness walked*

DUNDEE

Opening Acclamation

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

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

Collect for Purity

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.**

Gloria S-277

Service music is found at the beginning of the hymnal, listed in numerical order before the hymns

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;**

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High,

**Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you

insert

People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 9:1-4

insert

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

Psalm 27 *Dominus illuminatio*

Tone VIII.1



1a *The LORD is my light and my salvation;*
— / whom then shall I fear? *

1b *the LORD is the strength of my life;*
of whom then / shall I be afraid?

5 One thing have I asked of the LORD;
one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the / days of my

6 To behold the fair beauty of the LORD *
and to seek him / in his temple.

7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me / high upon a rock.

8 Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies / round about me.

9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make / music to the LORD.

10 Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; *
have mercy on / me and answer me.

11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face," *
Your / face, LORD, will I seek.

12 Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant / in displeasure.

13 You have been my helper;
cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of / my salvation.

The Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

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

Gradual Hymn #661 *They cast their nets in Galilee*

GEORGETOWN

*Verses 1 - 3 will be sung before the reading of the Gospel.
Verse 4 will be sung after the reading.*

The Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

insert

Presider The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Following the Gospel

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

The Sermon

The Rector

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 for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth,
live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace;
that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its
resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ
in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Bridget, Lyn,
Megan, Cecilia, Elizabeth, Lin, David, Alicia, Renee, Lino, Melina, and those we now
name either silently or aloud.

Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

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.**

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

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

All are invited to exchange greetings of peace.

Welcome and Announcements of our Ministries

The Rector

Offertory Hymn #321 My God, thy table now is spread

ROCKINGHAM



During the Offertory Hymn, our ushers will pass the collection plate. You are welcome to make an offering by leaving cash or a check in the plate, or by scanning the QR code to donate online via [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly).

Whether you are able to support our ministry financially or not, please know that you are invited to full participation in this church on exactly the same terms and conditions as God's grace and love: completely free of charge.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Presider gives thanks to God, continuing until the words

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

The Sanctus S-130 which can be found in the front section of the hymnal

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider continues the Eucharistic Prayer,

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory.

The Presider continues the Eucharistic Prayer until the words

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Fraction Anthem S-164 which can be found in the front section of the hymnal

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
give us your peace, give us your peace.

Communion Anthem: I won't turn back

S. Whitt Denson (1890-1964)

All who seek to receive Christ in the sacrament of this meal are welcome to partake of the bread and wine. Please come to the altar up the center aisle and return to your pew down the side aisles. You are welcome to receive both the bread and the wine, bread only, or a blessing. To receive the bread, stand or kneel at the altar rail and the priest will place the host in your hands. The wine is available either from the common cup, or in individually pre-packaged containers on small tables at either end of the altar rail. To receive the wine from the pre-packaged cup, open the foil seal at the top of the container, drink the wine, and place the empty cup into the basket.

The Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand as able.*

Presider Let us pray.

People **Almighty and everliving God,**
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn #539 *O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling*

TIDINGS

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

*The flowers on the altar today were donated and arranged by Elizabeth Hay
in loving memory of Connie Hay*

Ministers Serving Today:

The Rev. Greg Johnston, Rector
Douglas Witte, Organist and Choir Director
Shannon Fry, Vestry Person of the Day
Jane Struss and Maggie Tompros, Readers
Catherine Womack, Intercessor
Jane Struss, Lay Eucharistic Minister
Cary Cox and Elizabeth Hay, Ushers
D. Lawrence Ross, Altar Guild
Jane Struss, Paul Newell and Catherine Womack, Coffee Hosts

The Rector and Vestry invite you to join us today at coffee hour for an opportunity to learn more about how our church governance and structures work. How do we design and approve a church budget? Who picks our priest? How much authority does the Vestry have? And what's a "Vestry," anyway? Our conversation will be designed to be a conversational, less formal opportunity to discuss the state of the church more broadly. We hope both new and long-term members will join this conversation and of course, join us next week for our Annual Meeting!

As a fun way to prepare for this year's Annual Meeting, we're putting together a "Word Cloud." You can scan the QR code below to submit your words. Enter up to five words individually. For example, you might submit "love," "God," "community," and "music." At the Annual Meeting, we'll see how all our words fit together!



NEXT SUNDAY ~ Sunday, February 1, 2026, St. John's Annual Meeting follows the 11am service. All are welcome and encouraged to attend as we review 2025 and set the stage for 2026, electing Vestry members and officers. The Annual Report will be available in Thursday's *News and Notes* and paper copies will be available at the meeting.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

27 Devens Street, Charlestown, MA 02129

617-242-1272 | stjohns02129@gmail.com | www.stjohns02129.org

The Rev. Gregory Johnston, Rector

Mr. Douglas Witte, Organist and Choirmaster

Ms. Nancy Savage, Godly Play Teacher

Ms. Priscilla Burns, Parish Administrator ~ Mr. Brian O'Neill, Sexton

Mr. Matt Hast and Mr. Simon Ringrose, Wardens