

Zoom Best Practices

To make the service run more smoothly and to cut down on distortion and dissonance caused by the response of multiple voices, please leave your computer mic or phone on mute at all times with the exception of the Peace, the Intercessions, and the Lord's Prayer. We will assign and / or ask for volunteers to represent the congregation as one voice for the remainder of the responsorial portions of the service. However, while muted, please do say the words that are written for your response. Even in the muted state, this remains an interactive service.

Order of Service
Second Sunday after the Epiphany
Year B
January 17th, 2021

Prelude

I've told every little Star

Jerome Kern

Hymn 126

The people who in darkness walked

Dundee

1 The peo - ple who in dark - ness walked have seen a glo - rious light;
2 To hail thy ris - ing, Sun of life, the ga - thering na - tions come,
3 To us the prom-ised Child is born, to us the Son is given;
4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace for ev - er - more a - dored,
5 His power in - creas-ing still shall spread, his reign no end shall know;

1 on them broke forth the heaven - ly dawn who dwelt in death and night.
2 joy - ous as when the reap - ers bear their har - vest trea - sures home.
3 him shall the tribes of earth o - obey, and all the hosts of heaven.
4 the Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - lor, the might - y God and Lord.
5 jus - tice shall guard his throne a - bove, and peace a - bound be - low.

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

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

Collect

Summoning God, inviting us to see what we find so hard to notice - the blinkers we wear, the lies we accept: as we are held in your gaze, may our faith awaken to see your kingdom growing and heaven open wide; through Jesus Christ, son of Joseph. **Amen.**

First Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10

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.”

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Third Reading

John 1:43-51

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” 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.”

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God the Creator,
who breathed life into creation
and filled this blue sphere with creatures great and small;
who called humanity to be stewards of the earth
and to care for it and its inhabitants with righteousness;
who opposed Pharaoh's economy of greed and violence
and liberated God's people from an oppressive political regime;
who led God's people through the wilderness
and provided them with manna to sustain them on their journey;
who gave us the prophets to steer us back to justice when we strayed
and said: "woe unto you who legislate evil;"
who continues to create even to this day
and brings forth new possibilities when we think all is over.**

**We believe in God the Redeemer,
who was born into this world as a brown, Middle Eastern Jewish boy,
and on the run from a cruel politician;
who is no stranger to wilderness
and walks with us as a friend when temptations abound;
who fed the masses simply because they were hungry
and provided free healthcare to the injured and infirm;
who is the way, the truth, and the life,
when other voices claim to be the same;
who calls us to be neighborly to one another
and to be relentless advocates for the oppressed and vulnerable;
who was unjustly and violently executed by the empire
and resurrected by God, defeating death once and for all.**

**We believe in God the Sustainer,
who advocates for us in our times of need
and binds us to one another to cultivate the Beloved Community;
who helps us in our times of weakness
and intercedes on our behalf with sighs too deep for words;
who comes in tongues of flame to bind together God's disciples
and equips us for the work we are called to do;
who brings us to the Table to eat the bread and drink the cup
and renews us to defiantly proclaim Jesus' resurrection in word and deed;
who hovers over the waters of baptism
and seals us into the eternal kingdom that supersedes any human administration;
who knits us together with those who are different than us
to heal this world by being neighborly to one another.**

The Rev. Stephen M. Fearing

The Prayers of the People

Officiant:

Dear sisters and brothers, we are marvelously made by the Maker of all things, to whom we offer our prayers, responding to each petition by saying, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Intercessor:

For an increase in vocations to the Religious Life, especially in our Anglican and Episcopal Communities, that we may give thanks for those who joyfully embrace lives of prayer and simplicity; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may honor our bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit, not succumbing to the values of our culture, but respecting ourselves and one another as vessels of God’s divine presence; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may follow Jesus’ great commission to heal the sick and preach the word, bearing witness to others of the fruits of a lively faith, and the power of the Holy Spirit; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who serve in the armed forces, that they may be protected in their mission, and return safely to waiting families and friends; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That our leaders may commit themselves to forming bonds of peace, that war may cease in all the world, so that the most needy will have the security and resources that lead to an abundant life; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who are sick, and all who minister to them.

Silence

Please add the names of those for whom you wish prayers, either silently or aloud.

Let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That those who have died in the faith may pass over to eternal life.

Silence

At this time please add the names of those you wish remembered this day.

Let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant:

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession

Officiant:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A brief moment of silence is kept

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.

Officiant:

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.**

Lord's Prayer

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 Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Welcome; Birthdays and Anniversaries

Anthem

Cantate Domino

Hans Leo Hassler

Latin text

Cantate Domino, canticum novum: cantate Domino omnis terra.

Cantate Domino, et benedicite nomini eius: annuntiate de die in diem salutare eius.

Annuntiate inter gentes gloriam eius, in omnibus populis mirabilia eius.

English translation

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord, and bless his name: announce his salvation from day to day.

Announce among the nations his glory, and his wonders to all peoples.

A Prayer For The Time In Which We Are Living

Gracious and merciful God: We are weary. We are overtaken by COVID fatigue. We miss the visits of our family members who do not live with us, the ability to share a meal together, the ability to give one another hugs. In the interest of safety, this virus has caused us to be physically isolated from our neighbors and our friends. Our young children do not understand why this new way of living continues, and our older children bristle against the limitations placed on them. Our teachers, doctors, nurses, and essential workers are overworked and placed in difficult situations with little relief. We as a people are challenged by the lack of a uniform policy that calls us all to observe safety protocols, so we continue to live with so much unknown and uncertain that only heightens our anxiety. Sometimes, loving God, it is so hard for us not to be fearful. Fill our hearts and minds with you so we may do what is required to meet each day with strength and wisdom. Keep us grounded in your peace. Help us to be your hands and heart in all situations, at all times. Surround those who fear with your calming presence. Embrace those who are ill with your healing power. Envelop those who are dying in your loving arms and lead them to eternal life. For you are our guide and our grounding, this day and always. **Amen.**

Blessing

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us, so be swift to love and make haste to be kind; and the blessing of the Source of All Being, the Incarnate Word, and the Life-Giving Spirit, be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Hymn 500

Creator Spirit

Surrey

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Fuge in Ab Major #17 (Well Tempered Clavier Book 2)

J. S. Bach

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