Our mission is to equip people to grow their faith by connecting to God and others while reaching out with love.

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
February 7, 2021

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Tunes of the Day

A bell will be rung three times to begin our worship

Opening Hymn 423  Immortal, invisible, God only wise

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt.
Music: St. Denio, Welsh hymn, from Caniadau y Cyssegr, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877); harm. The English Hymnal, 1906, alt.
Opening Acclamation

Presider  Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People   And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Come, Holy Spirit, Comforter.
Come, Creator Spirit, come, come and lead us with your light.

Presider  May God be with you.
People   And also with you.

Presider  Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

First Reading  Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God”? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

**Reader**  Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
**People**  Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 147

How good it is to sing praises to you, Oh /God! *
how pleasant it is to honor you with / praise!
You rebuild Je/rusalem; *
and gather the exiles of Israel.

You heal the broken/hearted *
and bind up their / wounds.
You count the number of the / stars *
and call them all by their / names.

Great are you and mighty in / power; *
there is no limit to your / wisdom.
You lift up the / lowly, *
but cast the wicked to the ground.

We sing your praises with thanks/giving; *
and make music to you upon the / harp.
You cover the heavens with / clouds *
and prepare rain for the earth;

You make grass to grow upon the / mountains *
and green plants to serve your / people.
You provide food for flocks and / herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.

You are not impressed by the might of a / horse; *
you have no pleasure in the strength of a / man;
But you have pleasure in those who / fear you, *
in those who await your gracious favor.
If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe
to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own
will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I
may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. For though I
am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the
Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law
(though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the
law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God’s law but am under Christ’s law)
so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I
have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sa
ke of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Reader  Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People.
People   Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

verse

Speak, O Lord, for your servant is listening;
You have the words of everlasting life.
Happy are they who recognize your voice;
They choose the paths you choose for them. Repeat Alleluias
The Gospel

Presider  The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People  Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue at Capernaum and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

Sermon  The Rev. Liz Tichenor

You are invited to join in a time of silence and reflection following the homily.

Hymn  Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon)  plainchant with harmony verse by Charles Rus

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace, according to your word.
For mine eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared before the sight of every people.
A light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of our people Israel.
Affirmation of Faith

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

Presider As the first word at the creation of the world brought forth light, let us pray that through God’s incarnate Word, Jesus, God’s light will be known through all the world.

Leader Let your light, O God, shine through your Church. We pray especially for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Marc, our Bishop, that they may bring the wider church to our awareness, and that they may spread the work of the local church throughout the world.

God of light,

All Hear our prayer.

Leader Let your light, O God, shine through those who hold power in the nations of the world. Give our elected leaders and all those who wield authority your wisdom and compassion, that all may receive an equal measure of your justice.

God of light,

All Hear our prayer.
Leader  Let your light, O God, shine through us in our daily life. We pray especially for Pat and Emery; Jean and Peter; Dave and Lisa; Sharon; Lisa; Chuck and Lynn; Mary, members of our parish family. Let us treat all those we encounter with dignity, that those whose lives we touch may know that we follow a path of love that never ends.
  God of light,  
  All  
  Hear our prayer.

Leader  Let your light, O God, be with those who suffer. We pray especially for those on our Parish Prayer List, and all those suffering from or affected by Covid-19. May they be ministers of your light to all who encounter them in their time of weakness.
  God of light,  
  All  
  Hear our prayer.

Leader  Let your light, O God, be seen in the blessings we receive from your bounty. As we receive joy that begins in you, may the world rejoice in your countless blessings.
  God of light,  
  All  
  Hear our prayer.

Leader  Let your light, O God, be seen in the lives of those who have moved from their earthly pilgrimage to the eternal joy of your presence, especially for Mike Morris, Stan Remer and those we now name, aloud or silently ___. May we live each day in the knowledge of the peace that awaits us with you.
  God of light,  
  All  
  Hear our prayer.

Presider  God of every land and nation, you have created all people and you dwell among us in Jesus Christ. Listen to the cries of those who pray to you, and grant that, as we proclaim the greatness of your name, all people will know the power of love at work in the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession

Presider  Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Presider 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 May the peace of Christ be always with you.
People And also with you.

The Offertory

Presider But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. —1 Chronicles 29:14

Offertory Music

In Christ there is no East or West

1. In Christ there is no East or West, in him no faith, but one great faith, what e'er where, let us race, of color, share, and
2. Join hands, disciples of the commu - nation find, let us make
3. In beauty, wonder every - - Where shall build with north, one human
4. Be - yond all bar - ri - ers of color, caste, or creed, let us make
5. Then east and west will meet and make

West, South or North, but one great
find, Who serves my
North, one human
make

fellowship of love through the whole wide earth.
Father as his child is surely kin to me.
friend - ship, hu - man worth, our com - mon faith and deed.
common wealth of good through - out the whole wide earth.

words: vs. 1,2 John O'Donahue, vs. 3-5 Jacob Tripp; music McKee, Afro-American Spiritual

While we are physically separated, your financial support of the church is still appreciated and important! If you would like to make a gift online, you can securely do so through PayPal here. You can also mail checks to the church at 399 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill CA, 94523. Thank you!
The Great Thanksgiving

Presider All things come of you, O God,
People and of your own have we given you.

Presider May God 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 continues:

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 your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

All

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.

words: Reginald Heber; music: Nico, John Bacchus Dykes

The Presider continues:

We give you thanks, 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 for the remembrance of 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 and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All

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 harmony with your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary and Joseph and 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.

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 pray,

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 Presider breaks the Bread, and says:

Presider    Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People      Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people who long to gather at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist has been celebrated, and, we pray, will be celebrated again soon, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. 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.

Announcements

Birthdays, Anniversaries and Milestones

The Hands of God

To-day, to-mor-row and al-ways we re-joice in the hands of God. May God's pow-er-ful hands sup-port you. May God's guid-ing hands lead you. May God's lov-ing hands en-fold you. We re-joice in the hands of God.

Blessing

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.
Closing Hymn 135

*Songs of thankfulness and praise*

1 Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,
2 Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
3 Manifest in making whole pallied limbs and fainting soul;
4 Manifest on mountain height, shining in resplendent light,

manifested by the star to the sages from afar;
and at Cana, wedding-guest, in thy God-head manifest;
manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might;
where disciples filled with awe thy transfigured glory saw.

branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem;
manifest in power divine, changing water into wine;
manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill;
When from there thou leddest them steadfast to Jerusalem,

an-thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in man made manifest.
an-thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in man made manifest.
an-thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in man made manifest.
cross and Easter Day attest God in man made manifest.

Dismissal

*Presider*   Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
*People*   Thanks be to God!
**Prayer List**

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<th>Kristin E.</th>
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**Please Pray for those in the Armed Services**
Tristan, David, Katie, Kris, Devin, Adam, Jason, John