

All Angels Episcopal Church

8:00 and 10:00 Sunday Morning

January 3, 2021

The Epiphany



**We have seen his star in the east,
and we have come to honor him.
Matthew 2:2**

563 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, Florida

The Rev. David J. Marshall

941-383-8161

www.allangelslbk.org.

Our mission is to bring the living Christ to those
inside and outside the church.

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Behold, the dwelling of God is with humankind. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God. *Rev. 21:3*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A brief silence

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.

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.**

Hymn of Praise *What Child is This?* Hymnal #115

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

Refrain

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons *Please be seated for the reading of the lessons*

A reading from the book of Isaiah

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise! Shine! Your light has come; the Lord's glory has shone upon you. Though darkness covers the earth and gloom the nations, the Lord will shine upon you; God's glory will appear over you. Nations will come to your light and kings to your dawning radiance. Lift up your eyes and look all around: they are all gathered; they have come to you. Your sons will come from far away, and your daughters on caregivers' hips. Then you will see and be radiant; your heart will tremble and open wide, because the sea's abundance will be turned over to you; the nations' wealth will come to you.

Countless camels will cover your land, young camels from Midian and Ephah. They will all come from Sheba, carrying gold and incense, proclaiming the Lord's praises.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The psalm for this morning is 72. It can be found in your bulletin and in your prayer books on page 685. Let us read it responsively by half verse. *Psalm 72:1-2, 10-14*

Give the King your justice, O God,

and your righteousness to the King's Son;

That he may rule your people righteously

and the poor with justice;

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute,

and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.

All kings shall bow down before him,

and all the nations do him service.

For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress,

and the oppressed who has no helper.

He shall have pity on the lowly and poor;

he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence,

The poor and needy are precious in his sight.

Please stand

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the territory of Judea during the rule of King Herod, magi came from the east to Jerusalem. They asked, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We've seen his star in the east, and we've come to honor him."

When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and everyone in Jerusalem was troubled with him. He gathered all the chief priests and the legal experts and asked them where the Christ was to be born. They said, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote:

You, Bethlehem, land of Judah,

by no means are you least among the rulers of Judah,

because from you will come one who governs,

who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and found out from them the time when the star had first appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you've found him, report to me so that I too may go and honor him." When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stood over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honored him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Because they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dave Marshall

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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 *Please be seated*

God of Light and Life, our prayers rise before you this in hope and faith.

A brief silence.

We pray for your church, for our diocese, bishops, clergy, our vestry
and all people who serve the church in your name.

Flame of abundant love, be our Joy in proclaiming your Good News to the world.
We pray for all who are coming to faith, all who wonder about faith,
and all whose faith is known to you alone.

Light of all creation, guide us to lead, teach and nurture all your people
We pray for all in need of food, shelter, clothing and God's healing touch.

We pray especially for Downs IV, Holden, Nikolai, Brian and Joan. Grant healing and recovery for all who have gone through surgery, especially Holly. Give peace and strength for those going through cancer treatments, especially Victoria, Andres, Ginny, Alex, Colleen, Jack, Breanna, John and Douglas. Visit and comfort all who are under the care of skilled nursing, especially Bob, Timothy, Don, Barbara and Mike.

Be near to all who are in hospice care.

We pray for all who have died and those who grieve.

Comforter of the suffering, warm our hands and heart to loving service in Your name.
We pray for our elected officials both locally and nationally
we pray for the leaders of the world, especially where there is suffering.

Ember of steadfast care, fuel our passion to challenge injustice
and pursue peace and reconciliation
we pray for our armed forces and for those who protect us at home.

Star of Glory, lead us to care for this fragile earth, our island home
help us to care for all of your creatures both great and small.

God of radiant light, your love illumines our hopes and your love forgives us all that we have done. Kindle your Light inside of us, in our prayers and service, that we may know the power of your transforming presence. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Holy Eucharist Prayer B

BCP 367

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him 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 you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. 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.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,___

heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in___ the high - est.

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 he was handed over to suffering and death, 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:

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.

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.**

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.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Let us pray,

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that through thy grace, the words which we have heard this day may be grafted inwardly in our hearts and bring forth in us the fruit of good living, and the gifts of your Kingdom, to the honor and praise of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly manger-bed;
there to bend the knee before him whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet ever seek the mercy-seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare;
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ! to thee, our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus! every day keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright, need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down:
there for ever may we sing alleluias to our King.

Announcements

Thursday, January 7, 11 a.m. Music in the Park, Epiphany Readings and Carols

Reader: Justus Doenecke

Vocalist: Joyce

Centering Prayer Centering Prayer invites you to pray with them, every day, at 8 am, wherever you are. When you enter into prayer at 8 am (Eastern), you will know that others are praying at the same time.

Artist of the Month - The artist for December and January is Linda Larisch. Please stop by and enjoy the work of this talented artist. All checks should be written to "All Angels by the Sea."

Art Sale Is your closet full of old art? We are asking you to search your closets and storage rooms for nice artwork you no longer display. Bring it to the church office in December and January and it will be displayed and potentially sold during the month of February. If your art sells, 100% of the proceeds will go to the mission and ministry of All Angels. Who knows, maybe you'll find a piece of art that you would like to take home.

Birthdays & Anniversaries If you have a birthday or anniversary coming up next month, please email Linn Torres at lt@allangelslbk.org

Video of Today's Service, Discussion Group Articles and our weekly Tidings can all be found on our website: www.allangelslbk.org.

Reflection

Merry Christmas

“On the third day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, three French hens.” I am surprised that Amazon has not picked up on the *my-true-love-sent-to-me* theme as a way of delivering packages after December 25th. What is often referred to as Christmas Day – the 25th – it is a bit of a misnomer. The season of Christmas goes for twelve entire days; not just a 24-hour period. After all, if it were not so, why would we have the 12 Days of Christmas song. Does this mean that you can deliver a Christmas present or Christmas card on January 2nd and it technically is not late; you bet!

My parents tried to establish in our household the reign of Christmas over twelve days. One year, they came up with the idea to open a present or two on Christmas Day – the First Day – and then open a present for each succeeding day until the 12th. I think we made it to three French hens and then opened the rest of them. Reflecting back on it, I imagine my brother and I were probably pretty insufferable for the first three days of Christmas. ... and we were not in the middle of a pandemic. I couldn't imagine trying to do that now. Well, frankly I couldn't imagine doing it then either.

The next year, when we were all back on speaking terms again, my parents allowed us to open all the presents on Christmas Day but held one present for the 12th day of Christmas. None of us received 12 drummers drumming but I imagine my brother and I were a bit of a drumming headache until that day. The next year, my parents held a present for the 12th day but did so in secret so my brother and I were surprised to find one more present under the tree.

My parents were in our church choir and they were a larger troupe of Gilbert & Sullivan performers. To this day, I can sing the alto and tenor parts of the Mikado, Pirates of Penzance and, my favorite, HMS Pinafore. In keeping with the driving-the-12-days-of-Christmas philosophy into our heads, my parents would throw a Twelfth Night Party. We would take down the tree, eat all the rest of the Christmas cookies, and, most importantly, sing. I remember one year, it must have been the G&S production troupe at our house, because someone passed out the SATB sheet music for Handel's Messiah. I distinctly remember waltzing around our connected living and dining room and hearing each section sing the well-known Hallelujah chorus. That was truly a way to celebrate Christmas and the end of the season. I cannot listen to the Messiah today without thinking about that group and experience. Hallelujah for Christmas and for all of its 12 days!

- Fr. Dave