

Church of the Messiah
Woods Hole, Massachusetts

A Liturgy of Morning Prayer
Third Sunday after the Epiphany
January 24, 2021

Prelude

“Chorale Prelude on ‘Repton’”

arr. by Robert Powell

Welcome

Opening Hymn 408 “Sing praise to God who reigns above”

Mit Freuden zart



1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
2 What God's al-might - y power hath made, his gra - cious mer - cy
3 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly Name give God all praise and

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade his watch - ful
glo - ry; let all who know his power pro - claim a - loud the

our sal - va - tion; with heal - ing balm my soul he fills, and
eye ne'er sleep - eth. With in the king - dom of his might, lo!
won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, the

ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stills: to God all praise and glo - ry.
All is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry.
Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry.

Opening Sentences

From the rising of the sun to its setting my Name shall be great among the nations, and in every place incense shall be offered to my Name, and a pure offering: for my Name shall be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts. *Malachi 1:11*

Book of Common Prayer (1979) p. 76

Thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, "I dwell in the high and holy place and also with the one who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite." *Isaiah 57:15*

Ibid, p. 78

Venite *Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
 let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
 and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *
 and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
 and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
 and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
 and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
 Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Ibid p. 82

Psalm 62:6-14

- 6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; *
 truly, my hope is in him.
- 7 He alone is my rock and my salvation, *
 my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.
- 8 In God is my safety and my honor; *
 God is my strong rock and my refuge.
- 9 Put your trust in him always, O people, *
 pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.
- 10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, *
 even those of low estate cannot be trusted.
- 11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, *
 all of them together.

12 Put no trust in extortion;
in robbery take no empty pride; *
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, *
that power belongs to God.

14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, *

First Reading

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Second Reading St. Ann’s Feeding Ministry

St. Ann’s feeding programs provide nourishing food and a welcoming community for more than 7,000 people each month.

With many households in Mott Haven making less than \$10,000 per year, it is almost impossible to survive without getting food from St. Ann’s. “No one wants her child to go to bed hungry,” one mother on the line explained. “With St. Ann’s, there is no reason for that to happen.”

Many of the guests are well known to us and treated like family. If they are sad, someone will ask if they are OK and determine if there is a way we can help. Sometimes a pair of shoes out of our clothing bin or a warm blanket will solve the problem, particularly for our many homeless guests.

Homeless people who live under the bridges and overpasses in Mott Haven get a good meal at St. Ann’s Soup kitchen. Yet they get more than nutritious food. St. Ann’s guests are treated with graciousness and hospitality. They are greeted with a warm smile and a sincere, “How are you?”

They can linger and stay as long as they like, until we have to wipe the tables and mop the floors. Those who will return to the streets or to one of the twenty-six crowded homeless shelters in our neighborhood are especially grateful for a place to sit and talk while having some good food. “It makes me happy that people are comfortable in our soup kitchen,” one of our workers said. One man who had already finished his food and left the premises, purposefully came back in and told us, “This place is wonderful. You are good to everybody, and you treat everyone with dignity. Thank you.”

- from the website of St. Ann’s Episcopal Church, Bronx, NY
www.stannssouthbrouth.org.

Third Reading

Mark 1:14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Profession of faith

Leader	We belong to the Creator in whose image we are all made.
All	In God we are breathing, in God we are living, in God we share the life of all creation.
Leader	We belong to Jesus Christ, the true icon of God and humanity.
All	In Christ God is breathing, in Christ God is living, through Christ we are reconciled.
Leader	We belong to the Holy Spirit, who gives us new life and strengthens our faith.
All	In the Spirit love is breathing, in the Spirit truth is living, the breath of God always moves us.
Leader	We belong to the Holy Trinity, who is one in all and Three-in-One.
All	In God we are all made, in Christ we are all saved, in the Spirit we are all united.

- *written Per Harling, adapted by DMW*

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Collect for the Day

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

A Prayer for the Morning

God,
you are our beginning and you will be our end;
we are made in your image and likeness.
We praise and thank you for this day.
This is the day on which you created light
and saw that it was good.
This is the day in whose early morning light
we discovered the tomb was empty,
and encountered Christ, the world's true light.
This is the day you have made;
we shall rejoice and be glad in it. *Amen.*

- *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (1988) p. 106

Prayer for the Absent

O God, whose fatherly care reaches to the uttermost parts of the earth: We pray that you graciously behold and bless those whom we love, now absent from us. Defend them from all dangers of soul and body; and grant that both they and we, drawing nearer to you, may be bound together by your love in the communion of your Holy Spirit, and in the fellowship of saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

- *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979) p. 830

For those who are sick

This is another day, O Lord. I know not what it will bring forth, but make me ready, Lord, for whatever it may be. If I am to stand up, help me to stand bravely. If I am to sit still, help me to sit quietly. If I am to lie low, help me to do it patiently. And if I am to do nothing, let me do it gallantly. Make these words more than words, and give me the Spirit of Jesus. *Amen.*

- *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979) p. 461

For Quiet Confidence

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God. This, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

- *Book of Common Prayer* (1979) p. 832

Silent Prayer

For the Human Family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that all may gather in peace as stewards of each other and the world of which we are each part and upon which all life depends. Amen.

- *adapted by DMW from the Book of Common Prayer (1979) p. 815*

For Sound Government

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To the President and Vice President, members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make laws in States, Cities, and Towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all people, and to fulfill our obligations to each other and the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach us to rely on your strength and to accept our responsibilities to our neighbors, near and far; that we may continue to elect trustworthy leaders called to make wise decisions for each and all; so that all who live now and in generations to come may benefit from our common wisdom and courage. ***Amen.***

- *adapted by DMW from the Book of Common Prayer (1979) p. 821-822*

A Prayer attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Amen.*

- *Ibid*, p. 833

Concluding Collect

God of peace,
let us your people know,
that at the heart of turbulence
there is an inner calm that comes
from faith in you.
Keep us from being content with things as they are,
that from this central peace
there may come a creative compassion,
a thirst for justice,
and a willingness to give of ourselves
in the spirit of Christ.
Amen.

- *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (1988) p. 464

Concluding Sentences

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believe through the power of the Holy Spirit.
(*Romans 15:13*)

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia

Sermon

The Rev. Deborah Warner

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Anthem

“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”

Gardiner

A Litany of Acceptance

adapted from The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when we decide to do right.

Lord, give us courage to see.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when we stop throwing away the precious lives that God has given us.

Lord, give us courage to see.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when we keep our technology abreast with our theology.

Lord, give us courage to see.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when we keep our mentality abreast with our morality.

Lord, give us courage to see.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when we keep the ends for which we live abreast with the means by which we live.

Lord, give us courage to see.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when all the leaders of the world realize that unless humankind puts an end to war, war will put an end to humankind.

Lord, give us courage to see.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when we do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with their God.

Lord, give us courage to see.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when all people will love our enemies, bless those that curse us, and pray for those that spitefully use us.

Lord, give us courage to see.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when we discover that out of one blood God made all people who dwell upon the face of the earth.

Lord, give us courage to see.

The acceptable year of the Lord is God's year. May God grant every one of us the wisdom and courage to stand, speak, pray, and act in pursuit of God's acceptable year. This is our prayer: Amen.

- Excerpted and paraphrased from Dr. King's sermon, "Guidelines for a Constructive Church," delivered at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA, on June 5, 1966 and adapted for this service by The Rev. Deborah Warner.

Closing Prayer of Offering

Almighty God;
you give seed for us to sow,
and bread for us to eat;
make us thankful for what we have received;
make us rich to do those generous things
which supply your people's needs;
so all the world may give you thanks and glory.

- *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (1988) p. 141

A Prayer for Our Parish's Ministry

O God, Giver of all good gifts, we thank You for the grace of serving You by serving our neighbors. May our hearts be kind and generous. May our ministry be rooted in love and bold in imagination. Having transformed the Parish and Community Center, may our lives and the lives of all who join us, continue to be renewed by Your love and the power of the Spirit. *Amen.*

Benediction

May you find time for rest this season
May you create space to prepare
May the Lord our God fill you with hope
May Jesus Christ be ever present in your heart
May the Holy Spirit illuminate your way

- *The Rev. Elizabeth Rawlins on the website:
www.disruptworshipproject.com/advent2020.htm*

Greeting

Hymn 550

“Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult”

Restoration

Unison or harmony

1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - - mult
 2 as, of old, Saint An - drew heard it
 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - - ship
 4 In our joys and in our sor - - rows,
 5 Je - sus calls us! By thy mer - - cies,

1 of our life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his
 2 by the Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and
 3 of the vain world's gold - en store; from each i - - dol
 4 days of toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in
 5 Sa - vior, make us hear thy call, give our hearts to

1 clear voice sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me;"
 2 toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for his dear sake.
 3 that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 4 cares and plea - sures, "Chris-tian, love me more than these."
 5 thine o - be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

Postlude

“In dir ist Freude”

arr. by Theodore Beck

Dismissal

Liturgical Leaders

Officiant

Jean Taft

Preacher

The Rev. Deborah Warner

Organist

Brittany Lord

Musicians and Readers

**Dicky Allison, Maureen Nolan
Jean Taft**

Technology

**Dicky Allison, Helen Gordon,
Jean Taft**

Altar Guild

**Nancy Babin, Judy Coonley
Sally Hauck, Susanne Mann
Patti Riccardelli**

Church of the Messiah

2020 Vestry

The Rev. Deborah M. Warner	<i>Rector</i>
Jean Taft	<i>Warden</i>
Nancy Rea	<i>Warden</i>
Winifred Dick	<i>Clerk</i>
John Nolan	<i>Treasurer</i>

Susan Morse	2021	Mary Fran Buckley	2021
Don Aukamp	2022	Paul Graney	2022
Charles Mann	2023	Peg Nicholson	2023

Deanery Representatives

Dicky Allison	Diocesan, Deanery Representative
Helen Gordon	Diocesan, Deanery Representative
Carol Casey	Deanery Representative

Staff

The Rev. Deborah Warner	<i>Rector</i>
Brittany Lord	<i>Music Director, Organist</i>
Nancy McDonald	<i>Parish Administrator</i>
Jennifer Kelly	<i>Bookkeeper & Financial Recorder</i>
Bruce Bagley	<i>Church Sexton</i>
Doug Amon	<i>Cemetery Sexton</i>
Jessica Morrison	<i>Webmaster</i>

The Rev. Deborah M. Warner

Cell: 508-259-1570, E-mail: dwarner74@aol.com

Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 10 AM – 2 PM

Phone: 508-548-2145, FAX: 508-548-2134

E-mail: messiahfisher@comcast.net

or

comwoodshole@gmail.com

Website: www.churchofthemessiahwoodshole.org