



SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Ashfield, Massachusetts

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 19, 2025

Welcome to Saint John's!

Our mission at St. John's Church in Ashfield is to grow, through worship, in God's gospel of hospitality and wholeness, and to faithfully live that word in our fellowship, families, communities, and the world. May all who enter here be received as Christ.

An Acknowledgement

We worship and share God's mission on the unceded land of the Nipmuc, Pocumtuc, and Wabanaki peoples. We are mindful that our blessing came at the price of their sorrow and we pledge to grow in our awareness of racial injustice with God's help.

Invitation to Holy Communion

This is God's table. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. To eat, present your hands to be given bread. To drink, take a sip as the cup is held to your lips. Dipping the bread into the wine is discouraged for reasons of public health. To receive a blessing, instead of bread, cross your arms on your chest.

Acknowledgements

- The Book of Common Prayer, 1979
- Eucharistic Prayer A, Expansive
- The Book of Occasional Services 2022
- The Holy Bible, The New Revised Standard Version
- Venite App

An * indicates that we invite you to stand as you are able

Bold text is said by the assembly

Prelude: "Dialogue" Francois Couperin

Duane Nyman, Organist

***Gathering Hymn** #135

Songs of thankfulness and praise

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

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-280

Powell

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading

Isaiah 62:1-5

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ² The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵ For as a

young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 36:5-10 Responsively by whole verse

⁵Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, *
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

**⁶Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; *
you save both man and beast, O LORD.**

⁷How priceless is your love, O God! *
your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

**⁸They feast upon the abundance of your house; *
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

⁹For with you is the well of life, *
and in your light we see light.

**¹⁰Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you, *
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Sequence Hymn #138**

All praise to you, O Lord

The Gospel

John 2:1-11

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2 Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." 4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8 He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. 9 When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom 10 and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." 11 Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

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

The Sermon

Rev. Dr. Jill Rierdan

Silence

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 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

Form VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.
For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Douglas our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Cycles of Prayer

I ask your prayers for those remembered in our cycles of prayer: In the Anglican cycle we pray for The Church in the Province of the West Indies. In our Diocesan cycle we pray for St. John's, Ashfield; For the repose of the souls of our Bishops in glory; President of the House of

Deputies. In our town's cycle we pray for farmers. Among our members and friends, we pray for Deirdre Donaldson; Anne Ditzler; Ruah Donnelly; the Rev. Jane Dunning; and Anne Dodge. We pray for those who serve in the armed forces, including Richard Bromberg. And among our ministries we pray for our Centering Prayer group. **Amen.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 360

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be 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.**

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Wardens' Welcome & Anointing for Healing

The loose plate will be directed to the Episcopal Relief and Development response to the Southern California Wildfires

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory Anthem: The St. John's Madrigal Singers—*The People in Darkness Walked*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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:

Sanctus S-130

Schubert/Proulx

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior: By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread S-164

Schubert/Proulx

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Armed Services Prayer Book, 2008

ALL: In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory.

CONGREGANTS ONLINE: Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come.

ALL: Amen.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

***Communion Hymn LEVAS #227**

We Shall Overcome

Let us pray.

***Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Epiphany Blessing

Book of Occasional Services 2018

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.

***Recessional Hymn #594**

God of grace and God of glory

Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: "Fugue" Francois Couperin

Duane Nyman, Organist

Please stay for coffee and conversation!

EVENTS

January 19: The Rev. Dr. Jill Rierdan will be our supply priest

January 19: The loose plate will be directed to the Episcopal Relief and Development response
to the Southern California Wildfires

January 21: Hilltown Churches Food Pantry

January 26: The Rev. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas will be our supply priest

January 26: Offertory dedicated to Vicar's Discretionary Fund in Memory of Russell Williams

February 2: The Rev. Steven Wilco will be our supply priest

February 2: Annual Meeting 11:15am

February 9: The Rev. Mark Hatch will be our supply priest

February 11: Ring the Bells for Climate Change 11am
February 16: The Rev. Mark Hatch will be our supply priest
February 16: History Moment - Titus Strong, presented by Addison Hall
February 23: The Rev. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas will be our supply priest
March 2: Bishop Fisher visits St. John's
March 9: Vestry Meeting

CONTACT US

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Lay Leaders & Clergy

Co-Senior Wardens: Sue Craft, 628-0289 and Susan Todd, 628-3998
Junior Warden: Maddy Roberts
Treasurer: Raven Harris
Clerk: Lynnette Leidy Sievert
Vestry: Jane Wagener, Andrew Wickline
Licensed Preachers: Raven Harris, Andrew Wickline
Lay Eucharistic Visitors: Sue Craft, Andrew Wickline, Kristen Wickline, Jane Wagener
Licensed Worship Leaders: Andrew Wickline, Kristen Wickline, Sue Craft

Staff

Organist: Duane Nyman
Director, Madrigal Singers: Julie Meservey
Parish Administrator: Lis Henry **email:** stjohnsashfield@gmail.com
Financial Administrator: Amy Murray
Sexton: John Wickline

Ministries

Pastoral Care Team: Sue Craft
Digital Ministry: Ted and Kara Toothaker, Andy Wickline, Jane Kaufman
Buildings & Grounds Team: Maddy Roberts
Green Team: Kristin Wickline
Prayer Shawl Ministry: Kristen Wickline
LOVE in a Backpack: Jenny Wildermuth
Bicentennial Celebrations: Addison Hall