

St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



God thinks you are fabulous,
and so do we.

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 28, 2024 +Holy Eucharist+ Rite II, Prayer B

Straight and gay, rich and poor, and every color and age, St John's is a place of Radical Kindness, warm and open Christ-Followers who celebrate God's grace and love and cherish one another. We are proud and grateful to serve as a "neighborhood church" for the tri-cities: College Park, East Point and Hapeville. Everyone needs a place to be cherished. We invite you to make St John's yours!

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WELCOME TO ST JOHN'S

We are honored that you have chosen St. John's as your home for worship today. We hope you will experience worship with your whole being. Your presence, however, is all that is required for you to be in prayer and worship with us on this Lord's Day. There are no "mistakes" in worshiping God. The bulletin is designed with you in mind, and most rubrics (directions) are in italics. If you find you're out of sync with whatever is going on, do not worry. It is all prayer.

Right now is "Ordinary Time" (aka "The Season After the Epiphany.") We hope praying, singing, sharing the Eucharist, and being with God's Church is a great way to begin 2024. We hope to see you again soon at church or at one of our many community events this year. If you are visiting from out of town, we hope that you will make St. John's your spiritual home when in Atlanta.

Please fill out a visitor card so we can get to know you and invite you into life together at St. John's. St. John's is a small church with a very big heart that loves well and enjoys life together. We want to be known as a place that practices the radical kindness and hospitality of Jesus and where it is apparent that "God thinks you are fabulous - and so do we."

Membership in St. John's and the Episcopal Church is simply a matter of your deciding you want to be a part of the community by stating your intention to join us, worshipping regularly, and taking part in St. John's ministry.. Some who join us go deeper by taking part in the sacrament of Confirmation and Baptism. Let us know on a visitor card if you are interested in membership or baptism and we will be in touch about next steps.

As a smaller church, active members participate in the church's ministry according to their gifts, abilities, passions, and interests. In a smaller parish church like St. John's, you can quickly feel part of the community and find what God is calling you to do. We believe all of us here are called to ministry of some sort.

We will pray for you and hope to get to know you today. Please say hello, and come have some coffee in the Hospitality Suite with us after church.

Peace

Tim+

The Reverend Tim Black
Priest-in-Charge
St John's, College Park

Processional Hymn- *God the Omnipotent*- Hymnal 569

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

Congregation: *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever, AMEN.*

Celebrant and Congregation pray, together:

The Collect for Purity : 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.*

Song of Praise- *Bless The Lord, O My Soul- (Sing the Refrain 3 times)*

Bless the Lord, O My Soul and all that is within me, bless God's Holy Name.

LEVAS 65- (Red and Black Hymnal)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: *And also with you.*

Celebrant:

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The congregation is seated.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

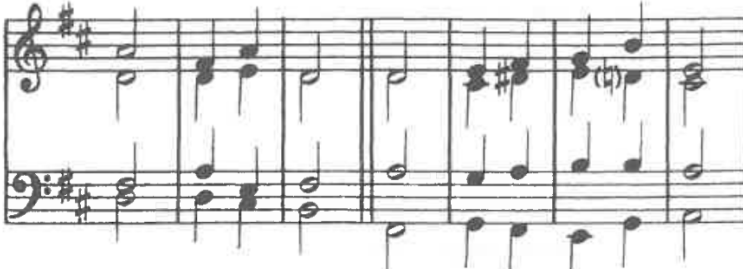
Flo Webster

Moses summoned all Israel and said to them,] "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the LORD replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.'"

Reader : The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 111



1 Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are the deeds of the LORD! *
they are studied by all who delight in them.

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for ever.

4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

5 He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

6 He has shown his people the power of his works *
in giving them the lands of the nations.

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
— all his commandments are sure.

8 They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity.

9 He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.

10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever.

Second Reading : 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Val Valverde

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. ⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Reader : The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as able, for the hymn and Gospel reading.

SEQUENCE HYMN: *Heal Me Hands of Jesus*- WLP 773



1. Heal me, hands of Je - sus, and search out all my pain: re -
2. Cleanse me, blood of Je - sus, take bit - ter-ness a - way; let
3. Know me, mind of Je - sus, and show me all my sin; dis -
4. Fill me, joy of Je - sus: anx - i - e - ty shall cease and



store my hope, re - move my fear and bring me peace a - gain.
me for - give as one for-given and bring me peace to - day.
pel the mem - o - ries of guilt, and bring me peace with - in.
heaven's se - ren - i - ty be mine, for Je - sus brings me peace!

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to Mark..

Congregation: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Mark 1:21-28

[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Celebrant:: The Gospel of the Lord

Congregation: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE HOMILY- The Rev. Tim Black

The congregation stands for the Nicene Creed.

THE NICENE CREED: 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.

Remain standing or kneel for the Prayers of the People.

Celebrant: For what and for whom do we give thanks today?

The congregation is invited to add your thanksgivings, and blessings either out loud or silently.

We gather in your name, Jesus, because we know who you are. You know our deepest needs and weaknesses, and we look to you in hope.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

The world is hurting and restless for you, Lord. The earth is stressed and cries out for protection. Its peoples cry out in hunger and fear. We turn to you in need of deliverance.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

We pray for your Church as it walks your Way of Life. May your people and their leaders know deeply your loving, liberating life-giving presence.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

We pray for those who govern all over the world, that they may pursue justice and practice peace. Equip them with the courage and resources to respond to the needs of their people.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

For those who have lost their freedom to addiction, for those who wrestle with worry, for those who struggle with mobility, communication, and relationship. For those who are ill and facing surgery or treatments. For those who will soon give birth, and those who have lost a pregnancy. For those who are sick or in any kind of trouble. Today we pray for Eleanor Buchanan, Barbarine Thorpe, Claude Lindsey, Frank Harrell, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Linda Brown, Vicky Tucker, Mike Spring, Fonda Howland, Charles Howland and David Gibbs.

Are there others in need of prayer today?

You are invited to add your petitions, out loud or silently.

We look to you for care of all these to give them hope through your presence.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

We commend to you the souls of those who have died. We pray today for Melissa Brady.

You are invited to add your petitions, out loud or silently.

We ask you to comfort those whose hearts ache with grief.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

Celebrant: Hasten, O God, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant 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.*

Celebrant: 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.*

We conclude the Passing of the Peace by singing:

God is so good (3X) God's so good to me.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Hymn *Where He leads me*- LEVAS 144 (Red & Black hymnal)

The congregation stands as the offering is brought forward during the Doxology.

DOXOLOGY- *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow- Old 100th*



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures
here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly
host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*We will sing the starting pitch, and the congregation sings,
accompanied by the shruti box.*



Celebrant: 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 Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before Christ died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took

bread; and when he had given thanks to you, Christ 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 Christ 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 God--

Celebrant and People: *We remember Christ's death, We proclaim Christ's resurrection, We await Christ's coming in glory;*

Celebrant: 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 Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed John 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 Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
 be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
 dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
 as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
 us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
 from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
 and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: *Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome at God's table.

DISTRIBUTION INSTRUCTIONS: *We share communion in both kinds available by either intinction (dipping the host in wine) or drinking from the common cup. Hold out one hand for bread only, two hands for bread and wine, or put your hands in a prayer position for a blessing. For healing prayers, simply remain at*

the rail after receiving and we will pray for you. If you cannot come to the rail, a Eucharistic Minister will bring communion to you.

COMMUNION HYMN *All Who Love and Serve Your City-* Hymnal 571

The people stand or kneel, as able.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People: *Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, God, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To Christ, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.*

The Celebrant blesses the people.

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.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN: O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing- Hymnal 493

Celebrant: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord, alleluia, alleluia

People: Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.

Join us for coffee hour after the service in the Hospitality Suite. Go through the doors on the left at the front of the church and across the hall.



ANNOUNCEMENTS - 1.28.23

Confirmation is happening now. If you are interested in going deeper in your membership and finding your ministry as a lay-person (or just refreshing your knowledge about the Church), come and join us. This year's group will be "hybrid" (online *and* in person). All sessions will be recorded on video and some will be online. Our resources this year will be *Your Faith, Your Life*, by Jennifer Gamber and *Inwardly Digest: The Prayer Book as a Guide to a Spiritual Life*, by Derek Olsen. All who attend these sessions and take part in their work will be eligible for confirmation this Spring. **If you are interested in joining in, email priest@stjohnscollegepark.org**

Wednesday Night Supper & Bible Study have resumed. Dinner starts at 5:30. If you are joining us for dinner, email info@stjohnscollegepark.org to let us know how many are coming. Bible study is at 6:30. To tune in online, use the same zoom as Sunday morning. During the Season After the Epiphany, we will be taking a look at the lectionary scriptures and thinking about how they link up thematically (and what they might be telling us here at St. John's). During Lent, we will be looking at historic Christian Spiritual Practices and learning about a new one each week.

Changes to worship during Lent will have us all praying the oldest Eucharistic prayer, Rite 1, each week and using stripped-down bulletins. If you are not in the practice of using the prayer book during the service (or never have used one), we will have veteran Episcopal worshippers spread out in the congregation (and clearly identified with a name badge). For more information please email priest@stjohnscollegepark.org

Subscribe to Eagle Notes: at www.stjohnscollegepark.org, scroll to the bottom of the homepage, and click the link to sign up. nscollegepark.org

We have many online Prayer and Fellowship Groups during the week: "Second Cup" – online fellowship time- Mondays 11:00 AM – Noon – 869 7767 5734 Password: 752305 / Morning Prayer on Zoom Tuesday and Thursday- 10 AM - Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 869 7767 5734 Password: 752305 / Compline Night Prayer Thursday – 7:00 pm Meeting ID: 843 7684 4017 Password: 848486

ASH WEDNESDAY IS on FEBRUARY 14th This year, we will have a simple service at 12:00 (no music) including imposition of ashes and Holy Eucharist and then a service at 7 PM with music at 7 PM. We will be having our Wednesday night dinner but no Bible Study on Ash Wednesday.

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER SUNDAY EVENINGS DURING LENT at 5:00- Come join us for a small, informal, "acoustic"-taize-paperless music Evening Prayer each Sunday during Lent. Rather than just giving up something, add a new prayer discipline and come sing, pray and chant with us.

NEW AFTER HOURS PASTORAL CARE NUMBER If you have a pastoral emergency after regular office hours, you are invited to call **404-482-0192**. If no one answers, leave a message and be sure to leave a return number and also the nature of the emergency, if possible.

HOLY WEEK IS MARCH 24-31 THIS YEAR. We have a really early Easter this year, so we are already at work with plans. **3/24- 10 AM** Palm/Passion **3/27- 5:30 PM** Simple soup supper 6:30 "Mini Tenebrae" with chanting and simple music, **3/28- 7 PM-** Maundy Thursday service with footwashing and the stripping of the altar **3/29- 12 PM-** Neighborhood Stations of the Cross **7:00 PM-** Good Friday service with Eucharist with reserved sacrament **3/31-** Easter Sunday- **7 AM** - Easter Vigil **10 AM-** Festive Eucharist followed by Easter Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt.

Make Prayer Requests Online: <https://forms.gle/UTa6iMfrukh furgD8>

Please send in your pledges for 2024. It is never too late to pledge.. Fill out a pledge card at church or download one on our homepage at www.stjohnscollegepark.org. Everyone on the mailing list got a pledge card in the mail, but if you need another, please email info@stjohnscollegepark.org and we will send you one. **Give by Texting-** Just text 73256 and enter our code 3480. You will be taken to the giving page where you can make your selections. Vestry:

Daniel Hudson, Hospitality
Archie Polk, Evangelism
Michael Proscia, Jr. Warden
Pat Roberts, Sr. Warden
Val Valverde, Worship & Music
Sherran Davis, Clerk + Richard Pflieger, Treasurer



St. John's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Annual Meeting & Sunday Brunch

TODAY!
Immediately following
church in Bott Hall

We will be celebrating the last year and talking about plans for 2024. (We will also be electing new vestry members). Please plan on attending as we need your presence and voice