

Morning Prayer

January 23, 2022

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=eig94MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09>

[MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=eig94MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09)

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

Epiphany 3C

Prelude

Announcements

Opening Sentence

The Presider says

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth. *Isaiah 49:6b*

Opening Hymn

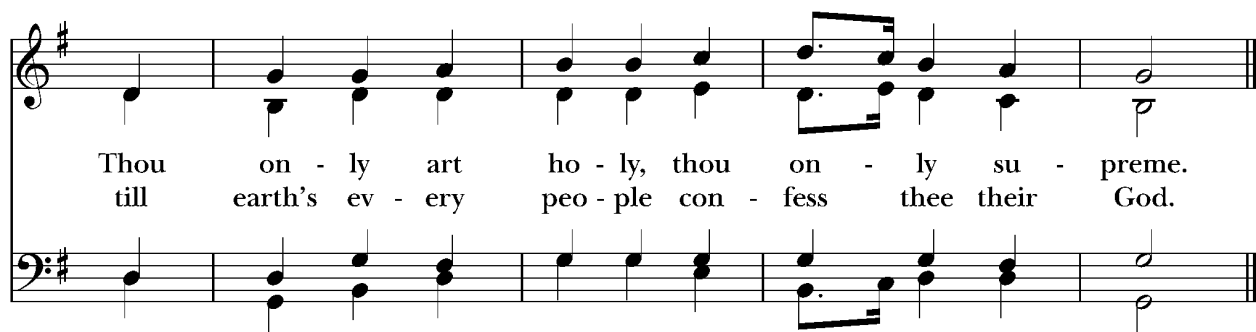
Hymnal 533

How wondrous and great

1 How won - drous and great thy works, God of praise!
2 To na - tions of earth thy light shall be shown;

How just, King of saints, and true are thy ways!
their wor - ship and vows shall come to thy throne:

O thy who shall not fear thee, and hon - or thy Name?
truth and thy judg - ments shall spread all a - broad,



Confession of Sin

The Presider says to the people

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of the Holy One, to set forth God's praise, to hear God's holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us keep silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence may be kept.

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the 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.

The Presider 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 Invitatory and Psalter

Presider Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Presider and People

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

God is the Rock of our salvation:
O come let us worship.

Invitatory: *Jubilate* Psalm 100

1 May all lands be joyful before you, O God, *
serve you with gladness and come before your presence with a song.

**2 For we know that you are God; *
you yourself have made us, and we are yours;
we are your people and the sheep of your pasture.**

3 We shall enter your gates with thanksgiving, go into your courts with praise, *
give thanks to you and call upon your Name.

**4 For you are good; your mercy is everlasting, *
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

²One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

**³Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,**

**⁴Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.**

⁵In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

**⁷The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.**

**⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

**¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.**

**¹²Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.

**¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

The Lessons

First Reading

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

A Reading from the book of the prophet Nehemiah.

¹All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6

Ecce, Deus

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in the Holy One and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make God's deeds known among the peoples; *

see that they remember that God's Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth.

¹²Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body

were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

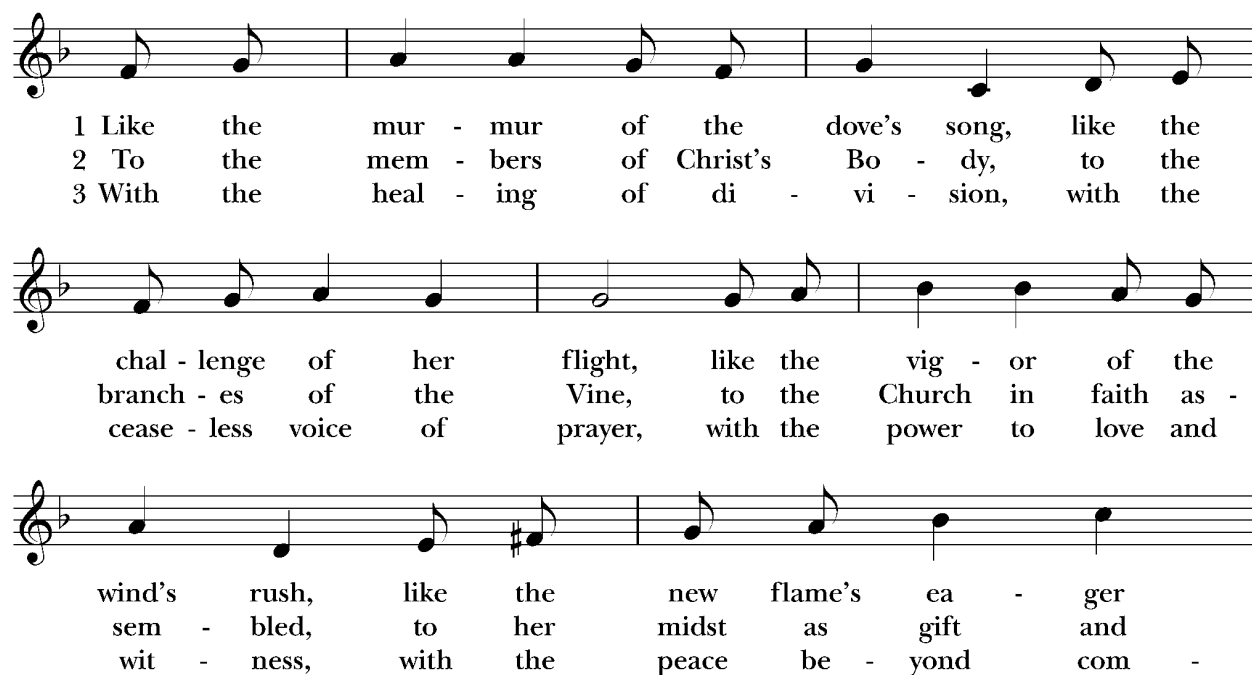
²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a}But strive for the greater gifts.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

Hymnal 513

Like the murmur of the dove's song



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the
2 To the mem - bers of Christ's Bo - dy, to the
3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the

chal - lenge of her flight, like the vig - or of the
branch - es of the Vine, to the Church in faith as -
cease - less voice of prayer, with the power to love and

wind's rush, like the new flame's ea - ger
sem - bled, to her midst as gift and
wit - ness, with the peace be - yond com -



might:	come, ———	Ho - ly	Spi - rit,	come.
sign:	come, ———	Ho - ly	Spi - rit,	come.
pare:	come, ———	Ho - ly	Spi - rit,	come.

Third Reading

Luke 4:14-21

A Reading from Luke.

¹⁴Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of 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 Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Presider Now we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it. Empowered by the Spirit, let us pray together saying, "We bless you, Lord our God. Amen, amen."

Intercessor Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our strength and our redeemer. We bless you, Lord our God. **Amen, amen.**

Silence is kept.

By the spirit of the Lord, may we, your Church, carry on the work of Jesus. We pray for our Bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig. Bless all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams, those in formation; and our brothers and sisters worshipping at St Peter's, Hillsdale, St Philip's, Rochester, and Holy Comforter, Dajabon, in the Dominican Republic; those in the Church of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui, and for all the members of Christ's body. Open all our hearts to the poor and the captives, to the blind and the oppressed. We bless you, Lord our God. **Amen, amen.**

Silence is kept.

The heavens declare your glory, Great Creator, and the firmament shows your handiwork. We praise you and we thank you for the beauty and majesty of your creation, for the many members that make up our body; for the gifts, the work, and the prayers we share, and for everything with which you bless us [especially _____]. We bless you, Lord our God. **Amen, amen.**

We pray for those who are sick or sorrowful [especially _____]. When they suffer, we suffer with them. Revive and heal them, we pray. May your joy be their strength. We bless you, Lord our God. **Amen, amen.**

O God, you have formed an eternal bond with us in baptism. We pray for those who have died, especially _____. Whether living or dead, bless and keep your children forever. We bless you, Lord our God. **Amen, amen.**

Silence is kept.

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

The Presider then says

My brothers and sisters, I invite you- wherever you are- to take into your hands the gifts you offer today. Gifts of food, gifts of money, gifts of whatever form, and join me as we offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good our vows to the Most High.

Let us pray.

Loving God and merciful Creator, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: we come to you with thanksgiving and praise. We offer to you this day our gifts of time, talent, and possessions, knowing that all we are, and all we have, is a gift from you. **Please accept these gifts, and help us to reach out to others as you, our God, have reached out to us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Concluding Hymn

H 539

O Zion, haste

O Zi - on, haste, thy mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
Pro - claim to ev - ery peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
Send her - alds forth to bear the mes - sage glo - rious;

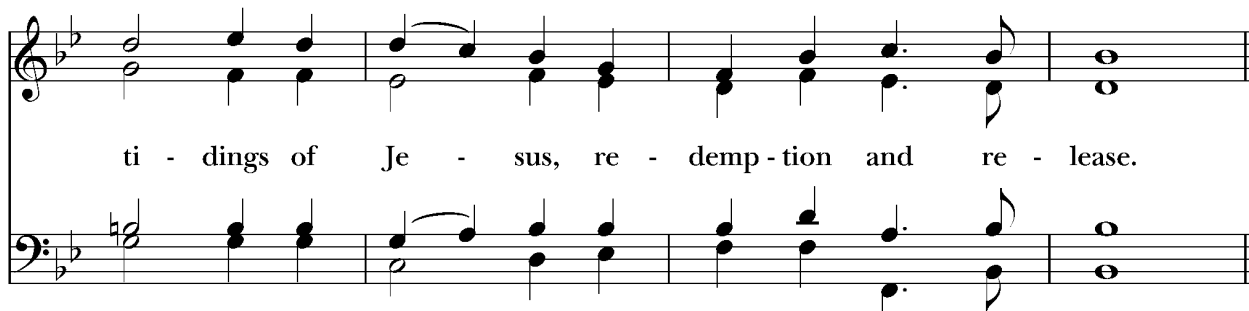
to tell to all the world that God is Light;
 that God, in whom they live and move, is Love:
 give of thy wealth to speed them on their way;

that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
 tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion,
 pour out thy soul for them in prayer vic - to - rious

one soul should fail to know his love and might.
 and died on earth that all might live a - bove.
 till God shall bring his king - dom's joy - ful day.

Refrain

Pub - lish glad ti - dings: ti - dings of peace,



Presider Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Postlude

+++++

Due to the abundance and continuing spread of COVID Omicron virus in our county, we will be worshipping **only on Zoom through February 6, 2022**. After that day, the Ministry Support Team will evaluate the situation to make decisions about the days to follow. According to the most recent directive from the Bishops of the state of Michigan (Jan.10, 2022), “masks are required to be worn (covering mouth and nose) for all indoor gatherings.”

The Annual Meeting of the congregation will take place following worship **TODAY January 23, 2022** using the Sunday Zoom link. Everyone is encouraged to gather their lunch and regroup on Zoom for the meeting. The start time for the meeting will be announced at the conclusion of the worship service.

+++++

Faith in Action provides leadership in collecting donations of food to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They are in need of our continuing help. You may bring your donations to FIA, or to Nancy who will see that they get there. **If you bring food directly to FIA**, please let Nancy know, so she can continue to keep our records of donation. If you write a check, please make it to *Faith In Action*. The **next Food Drive** is **February 20**. Please contribute as generously as you can.

+++++

Upcoming Commemorations

- January 23 Phillips Brooks, Bishop, 1893
24 Florence Li Tim-Oi, Priest, 1992
25 The Conversion of St Paul
26 Timothy and Titus, Companions of Saint Paul
27 John Chrysostom, Bishop and Theologian, 407;
and, Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe: Witnesses to the Faith
28 Thomas Aquinas, Friar and Theologian, 1274
29 Andrei Rublev: Monk and Iconographer, 1430

+++++



Epiphany 3C January 23, 2022

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

The book of Nehemiah is a continuation of the story found in the book of Ezra. These two books tell the story of the return of the Israelites to Jerusalem after exile. It is in these two books that they rebuild the Temple and the wall of Jerusalem. Ezra oversees the rebuilding of the Temple and Nehemiah, the wall. After rebuilding both of these important symbols of the religious power of God and the political power of God, the people gather. That is where our portion of the reading today picks up the story.

We are told that all the people (men, women, and anyone who can hear with understanding) gather together to hear the Torah read. What is significant is that this is the first public reading and teaching of scripture for the Hebrew people. Nehemiah is bearing witness to the first service of the word. The tradition of reading scripture and interpreting it begins in this passage. Although this group is celebrating the completion of the temple and the wall, by reading the Torah aloud to all people, they are also recognizing that the people share in God's power by understanding God's word. Their interpretation of the scripture focuses on the joy of God, not on the demands of God's law.

- Are there traditions that you are starting that could continue for 3,000 years? How do you think they might change over that time?
- When you interpret scripture, do you focus on the demands of God? Or the joy of God?
- Where do you see God's joy in your life?

Psalms 19

This psalm is divided into two distinct parts. In verses 1-6, the text tells us that God is revealed and shown through the nature that God has ordained and created to show how powerful God is. Nature does not need words to tell of God's power, which can be seen in the rising and the setting of the sun every day. Verses 7-13 tell how wonderful God's law is, and that living according to God's law will bring joy and "light to the eyes." It also reminds us that God's law is more precious

than gold. The things that we think are valuable in our society do not compare to a life lived following God; in verse 14, we hear the oft-quoted line: “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.” Many priests choose this prayer to open their sermons. This line reminds us that it is both our words and our thoughts that God knows and discerns.

- Where do you see the power and glory of God in nature? Where have you been able to discern God’s power by observing the natural world?
- When have you experienced God’s love and joy as being more important than gold?
- How has God’s work in your life made your heart rejoice?
- Do you believe that the words of your mouth and the meditations of your heart are acceptable to God? Why or why not?

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

This letter was written by Paul to an early Jesus-believing community in the city of Corinth. In this section of the letter, Paul is promoting egalitarianism despite differences. He uses a metaphor that was often used by the Romans in their political arguments. They would argue, unlike Paul, that certain parts of the body were more important than other parts. They used the body to prove that some people were more valuable than others. Paul uses their own metaphor to exalt the lowly and show the community of Jesus-followers that they needed to be different than the Romans. Growing up in the church, I have heard this passage many times, and it has become very familiar. But now that I realize that Paul was trying to use a familiar metaphor to do something new: to disturb the powerful assumptions about hierarchy.¹

- Do you believe that all parts of the body are equally important? How would you demonstrate it?
- What are current metaphors that you believe need to be reinterpreted, like Paul reinterpreted the Roman metaphor of the body?

Luke 4:14-21

Luke’s account of the beginning of Jesus’ ministry makes a passage from Isaiah (61:1-2) the focal point. Jesus has just been tempted and survived. He had been filled with the Holy Spirit. The Spirit then empowered him to enter his hometown and read this passage aloud. Here, Luke is showing us what has already been made clear in his Gospel account: Jesus has come for the poor and oppressed, those excluded from society. The song that Mary sang (Luke 1:46-55) when she found out she would bear God’s son made clear that this was a Son of God who came to bring good news to the poor. Now, Jesus is telling us, using the scriptures, what the rest of his life will be about. However, Jesus only includes half of the final verse he quoted from Isaiah. The full verse of Isaiah 61:2 is: “to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn.” God’s favor also includes God’s wrath.

- Who are those currently excluded, who you can bring the Good News of Jesus to?
- What does the year of the Lord’s favor mean to you? Do you think of favor as including wrath?

¹ Coogan, Michael David, Marc Zvi Brettler, Carol A Newsom, and Pheme Perkins. *The New Oxford Annotated Bible: New Revised Standard Version: With the Apocrypha: An Ecumenical Study Bible*. Oxford [England]; New York: Oxford University Press, 2010. Pgs 2016-2017.

This study was written by Maryann Philbrook.

+++++

From riteplanning.com. Copyright © 2022 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.
Intercessions and Thanksgivings from *Planning for rites and rituals: a resource for Episcopal worship, Year C.* New York: Church Publishing, 2018, p.71-72.

+++++

Our Mission:

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ,
and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world, guided by the values of
Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.



St Barnabas Episcopal Church

20500 W Old US-12
Chelsea MI 48118
stbarnabaschelsea.org