

Ethiopian painting of Jesus teaching

# The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 16, 2025 8:00am In Person Worship 10:15am Online/In Person Worship

St. John's Episcopal Church, Royal Oak MI



Welcome! We are St. John's, a parish that invites you to be a part of our community and warmly embraces you when you do.

At St. John's, our history has taught us that accepting and embracing true diversity is challenging. As a result, we have come to claim a firm, undying commitment to inclusion. So here is our invitation to you: regardless of your cultural background, ethnicity, gender, lesbian, gay,

bisexual, transgender or heterosexual identity, economic status, physical or cognitive ability – you will not be labeled, singled out or excluded here. You will be welcomed, affirmed, embraced and celebrated! We will be better because you are here.

Adopted by unanimous vote at St. John's Annual Meeting, January 31, 2016

#### **Everyone is Welcome! Everyone Belongs!**

Young Children - with all their sounds and wiggles - are very welcome in this church!

If you are here for the first time, please help us to get to know you by signing our Guest Book (clipboard in the entry of the church) and/or filling out a yellow card found in each pew. Place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. We are so pleased that you are here and want to do everything we can to help you make the most of St. John's Episcopal Church and its resources for your spiritual journey.

All are welcome to communion, where we share one bread, one body. To facilitate this, our communion bread is all gluten free. All are welcome to St. John's programs and events.

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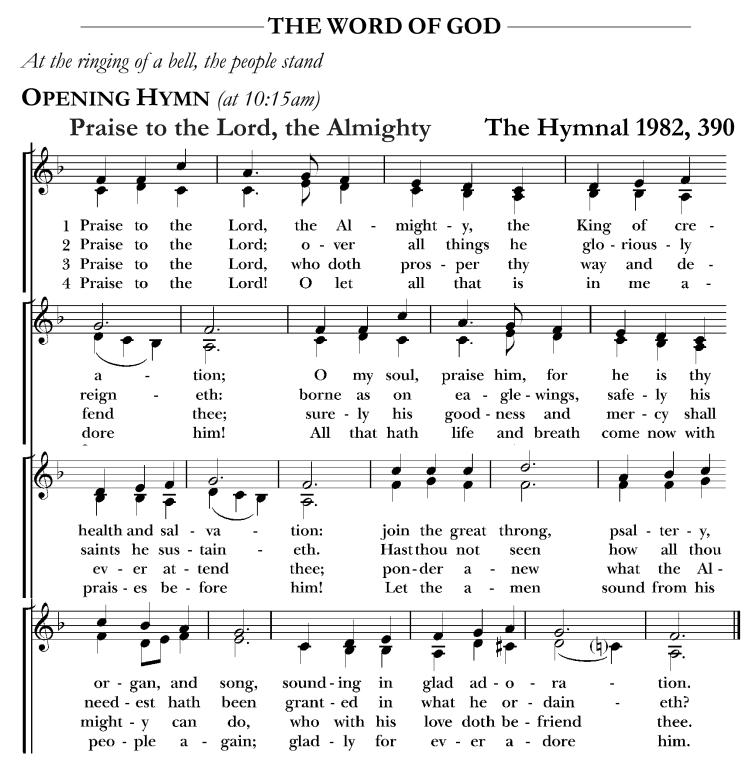
#### Sunday Morning Schedule at a glance:

- 8:00am Worship
- 10:00am Children age 4 through 5th grade gather at the stairs on second floor in the entry/narthex) and sign in before going up to the third floor for Sunday School. Children are also welcome to stay with family in church if they prefer.
- 10:15am **Worship**
- · 10:15am 10:45am Sunday School (age 4 through 5th grade) meets on the third floor
- 10:45am Sunday School children join their families for Communion

#### **Epiphany Outreach Opportunity:**

**Pennies for Epiphany:** For the next few weeks, the children are collecting pennies and pocket change for a project called Pennies for Epiphany. Each year the children pick out an animal (or two or three) to provide a living for a family somewhere in the world through Episcopal Relief and Development. Please add whatever you can spare to the giant jars in the narthex. Peace and thank you!

## PRELUDE



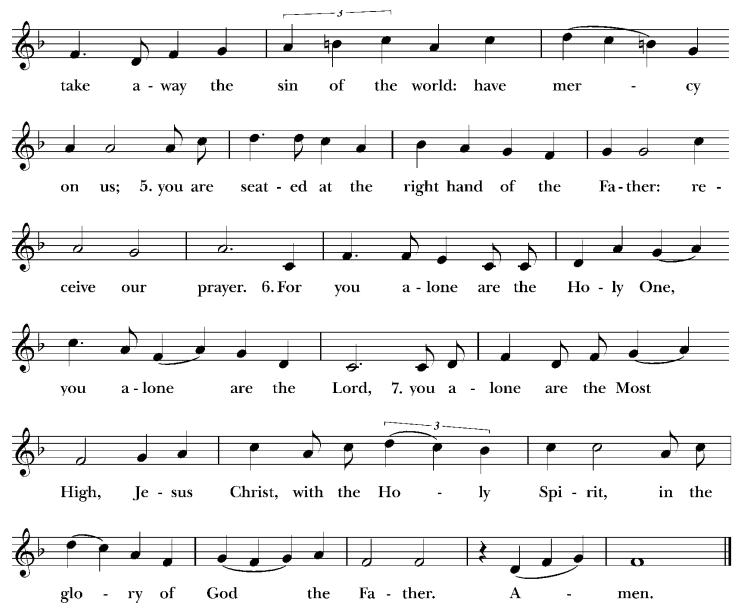
# **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

*Presider* **†**Blessed be God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.*People* And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen.* 

# 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.* 

**GLORIA** (spoken at the 8:00am) Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, Almighty God and Father, We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory! The Hymnal 1982, S280 (at the 10:15am) 1. Glo - ry to God in the high est, and peace his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly to Fa God and King, al - might - y ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus -3 on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb Christ. of God, 4. you



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

# THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider	God be with you.
People	And also with you.
Presider	Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* 

The people are seated

# FIRST LESSON

I ector A reading from Jeremiah Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse-who can understand it? I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings. Lector The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

# PSALM 1

1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \* nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, \* and on this law they meditate day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \* everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; \* they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, \* nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, \* but the way of the wicked is doomed.

# SECOND LESSON

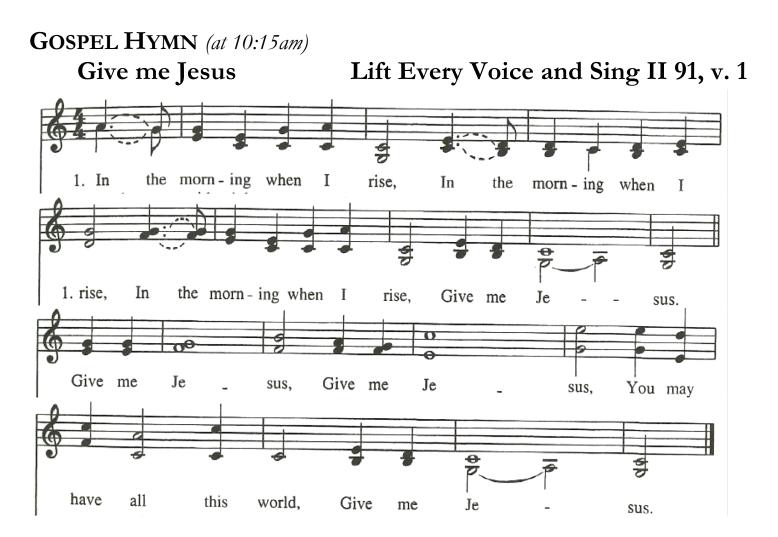
# 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

*Lector* A reading from First Corinthians

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ-whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.



The people stand and sing together

# THE HOLY GOSPEL

# Luke 6:17-26

Gospeller**†**The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets."

"But woe to you who are rich,

for you have received your consolation.

- "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.
- "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.
- "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.

#### People Praise to you Lord Christ.

# SERMON

## Dan Martin

A period of silence is kept

# NICENE CREED

The people stand

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

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,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.* 

# **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Clergy* In gratitude for all that we have and all that we are, let us earnestly call on God for the needs, concerns, and hopes of all peoples.

#### Leader

We pray for this beautiful and broken world and all who love it and work to heal it.

## Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for your faithful disciples everywhere, but especially for your faithful ones here at St. John's as we strive each day to proclaim your Good News by our words and our example in the face of fear, anxiety, and pain.

## Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for St. John's in this time of transition, especially for our clergy and lay leaders. Strengthen our bonds, sustain us with joy, guide us to make wise decisions, and fill us with grace for one another as we navigate change. **Lord, hear our prayer.** 

We pray for justice and peace to reign in our world and in this nation, so that the dignity of every human being may be protected and upheld. Help us to break down the barriers in our communities, enable us to see the reality of racism and

bigotry, and free us to challenge and uproot it from ourselves, our society and our world.

## Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who fear persecution because of who they are, what they look like, who they love, and how they present themselves in the world. May we stand up and speak out to protect the vulnerable and the marginalized.

## Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those in need of compassion and care, especially Barbara, Gloria, Cheri, Carolyn, Mimi, Sandor, Kathy, Nancy, Madiba, Trudy, Gayle, Sue, Jenny, Lonnie, Linda, Mark, Elliot, David, Elaine and those we now name either silently or aloud \_\_\_\_\_\_. May we be a source of love and strength to all in need. Lord, hear our prayer.

We offer thanksgiving and praise for all the good gifts you shower upon us. We give special thanks for the gifts of Black artists, educators, activists, and leaders who are an integral part of our communities and our world.

## Lord, hear our prayer.

We rejoice in the whole communion of saints – seen and unseen – who surround us with their love. We remember those who have **†**died, especially those we now name, \_\_\_\_\_, and those who are known to you alone.

## Lord, hear our prayer.

*Presider* God of every blessing, hear the prayers we offer you this day and plant your people like trees by water in the garden of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* 

# **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Clergy* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All 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.

*Presider* Almighty God have mercy on you, †forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.* 

# THE PEACE

The people stand as they are able. The peace is exchanged among the people.PresiderThe peace of Christ be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

## **GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Your pledges and financial gifts support the mission, the many ministries, the outreach, and the fellowship offered through St. John's. Gifts of pledges and offerings may be placed in collection baskets or at the basins at the steps of the altar as you come up for communion.

*Give online:* stjohnsroyaloak.org and click on GIVE *Text:* Text "StJohnsRoyalOak" to 73256 *Mail:* St. John's, 26998 Woodward Ave, Royal Oak, MI 48067 *Envelopes:* Available upon request 248-546-1255 or office@stjohnro.org

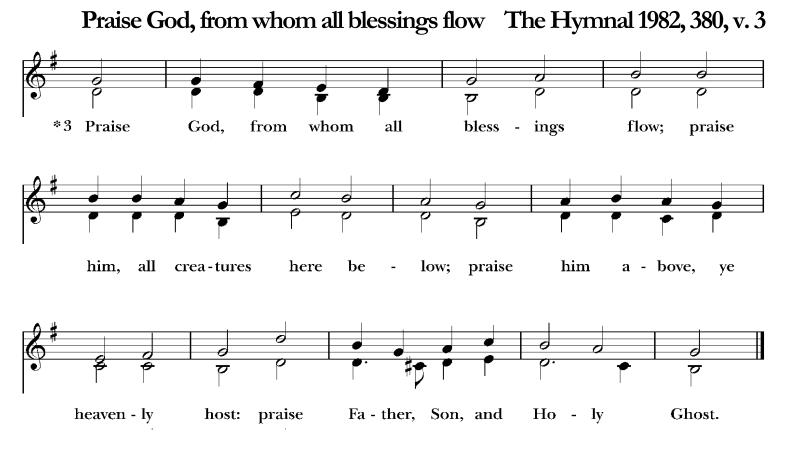
OR scan this code to be directed to the giving page.

**OFFERTORY MUSIC** (at 10:15am) Just a closer walk

arr. Jack Schrader

10:15am At the Presentation Hymn, all stand. The ushers present our gifts at the altar. The Eucharistic ministers join the clergy to prepare for Eucharist.

# **PRESENTATION HYMN**



# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Presider	God be with you.
People	And also with you.
Presider	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Presider	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Presider continues

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

Presider and People (spoken at 8:00am)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

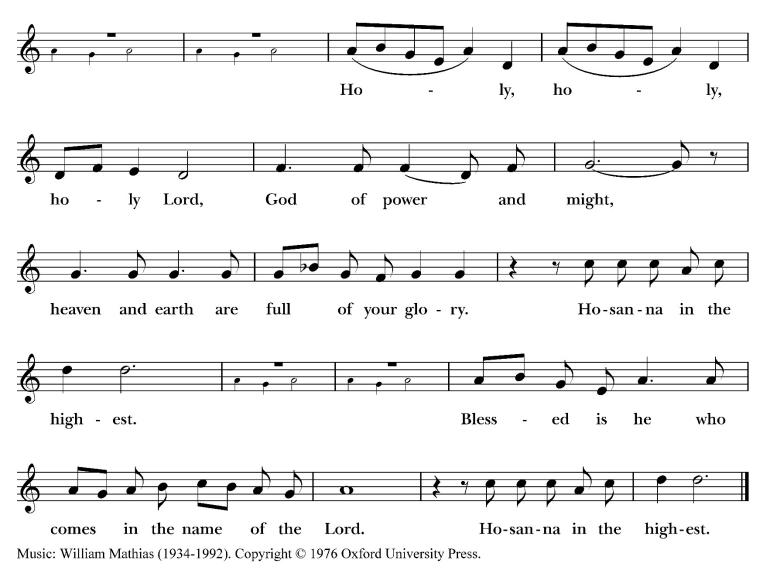
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy, holy, holy (sung at 10:15am)

The Hymnal 1982, S128



#### The Presider continues

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 his Mother 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 before he died for us, 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

Presider and People

# We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

# The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O God 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 Mary the God-bearer, Blessed Frederick Douglas, Blessed Pauli Murray, 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 for ever. **AMEN!** 

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

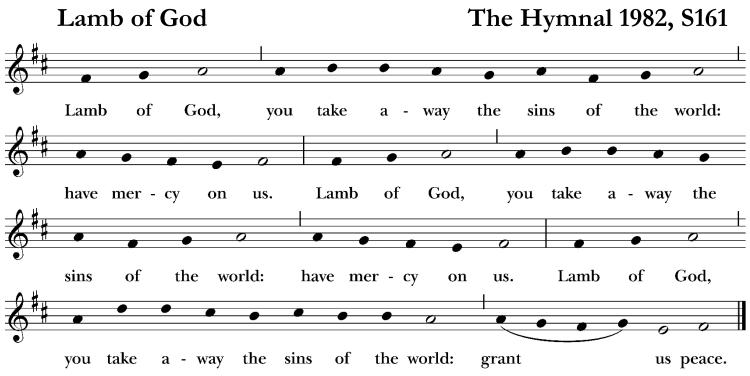
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Presider

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, forever and ever. Amen.

# THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD/FRACTION ANTHEM

Presider breaks the consecrated Bread



Music: From New Plainsong; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

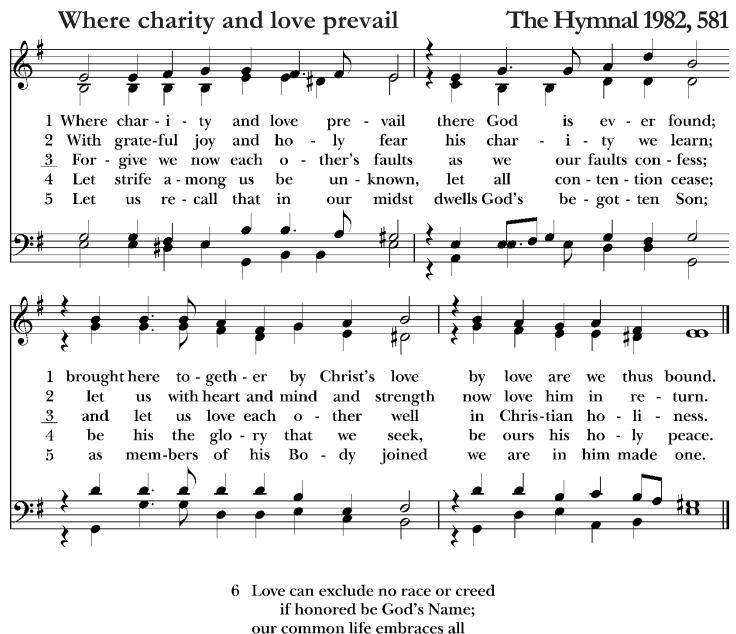
*Presider* These are the gifts of God.

*People* And we are the people of God.

*Presider* Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. *Amen.* 

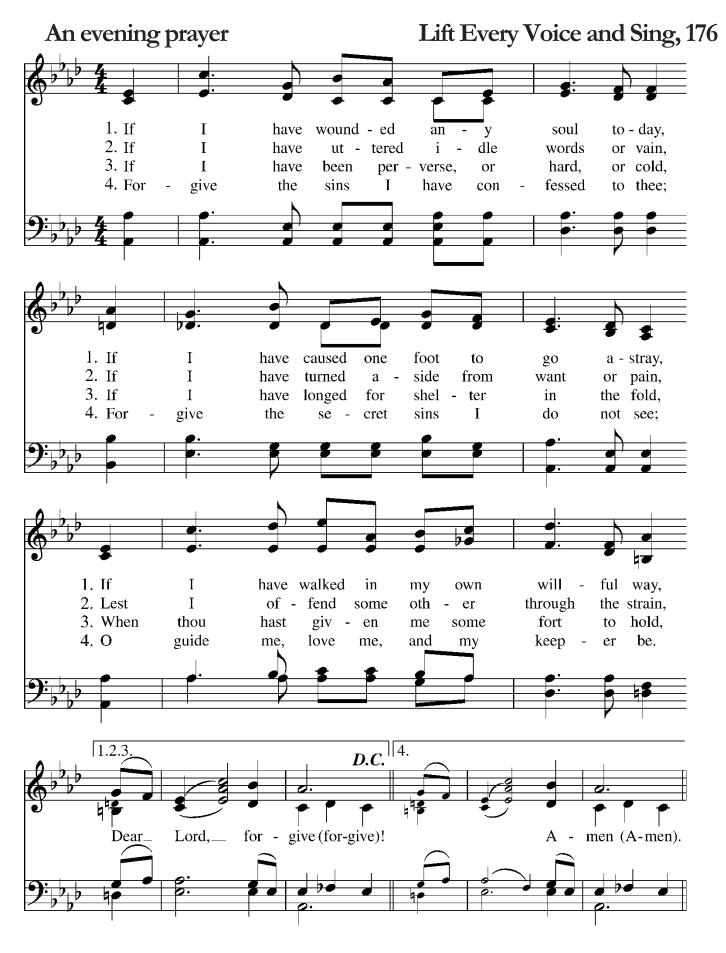
This is Christ's table, and Christ is our host at this feast. Everyone who comes to the altar seeking Christ will be welcomed. The wafers are gluten-free.

# **COMMUNION HYMNS**

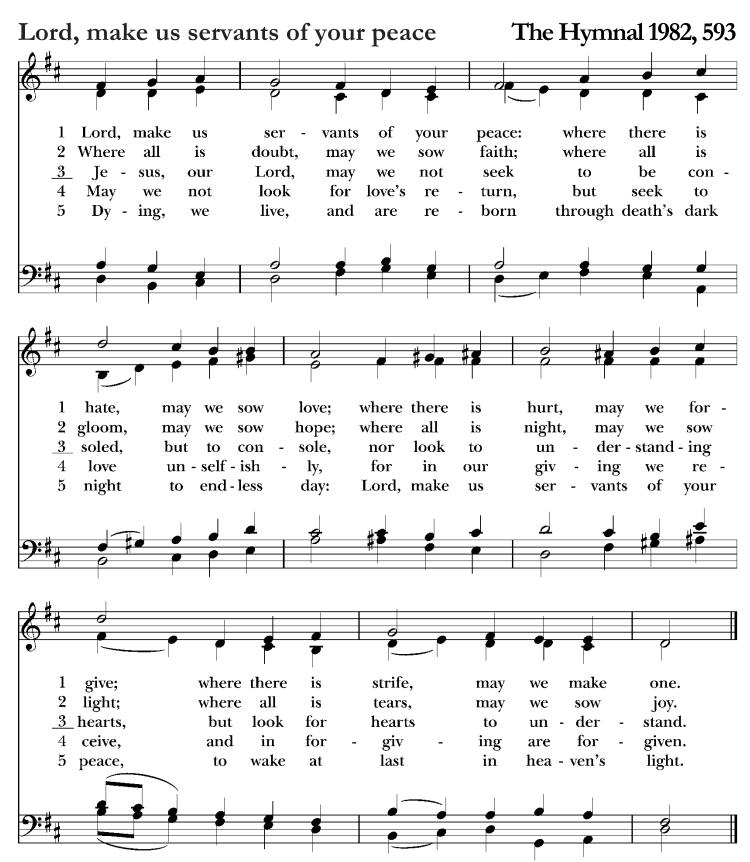


whose Father is the same.

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## BLESSING

#### **CLOSING HYMN** Go forth for God; go to the world in peace The Hymnal 1982, 347 せ Go forth 1 for God; the world in peace; go. to 2 Go forth for God; the world love; $\mathbf{go}_{-}$ in to 3 Go forth for God; the world $\mathbf{in}$ strength; to go. Go forth 4 for God; the world in joy, go. to be of good cour - age, armed with heaven - ly grace, strength - en the give faint. cour - age the weak; to ur - gent hold fast the good, be for the right; hour, serve God's day peo - ple ev - ery and to God's good Spi rit dai in ly to in crease, help the af flict ed; rich lv from bove \_ a \_ ren - der vil; Christ length to no one e at ser ving Christ, gift and ploy, our ev ery em Ο till his king - dom hold face. in we\_ be his his plies seek. love sup the and power we grace\_ all dark with his light. shall o - ver come ness re - joic - ing in the Ho ly Spi - rit's power. -

Words: J.R. Peacey (1896-1971) and *English Praise*, 1975, alt. Copyright © 1984 by Hope Publishing company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Litton*, Erik Routley (1917-1982). Copyright © 1984 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

# DISMISSAL

The people turn to face the Clergy

Clergy	Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

#### Ministers of Today's Service: The People of St. John's

8:00am LectorsGeoff Benes – First Lesson and Psalm; Rosemary Spatafora - Second Lesson and Prayers of the People8:00am AcolyteBrian Craft8:00am Greeter/UsherJoey Spano8:00am Eucharistic MinistersKayleigh Long, Chuck Tucker, Elizabeth Swanchara8:00am Healing MinisterKate Weide8:00am AcolytesAubrey Muth – First Lesson; Bruce Donigan – Psalm; Sharon Kennedy – Second Lesson; Daniel Wright-Cuschieri – Prayers of the People10:15am LectorsAubrey Muth – First Lesson; Daniel Wright-Cuschieri – Prayers of the People10:15am GreeterBernadette Ethridge10:15am GreeterBernadette Ethridge10:15am UshersEric Babcock, Bernadette Ethridge, Cole Gluklick, Joan McFeaters10:15am Healing MinisterJoyce Morey10:15am Attar GuildJoyce Morey10:15am Coffee Hour Set UpKatic Kourtakis10:15am Coffee Hour Clean UpElizabeth Moon CarterBread BakerMegan ClarkTech TeamChris Bosley, Laurie McLauglin, Barbara JonesAcolyte VergerKevin McLoganOpener/CloserRay Kwiatkwoski, Chris MoranParking Lot AttendantsGreg Barnett, Richard Le JeuneMusiciansSteven McGhee, Maxie Director; Brynn Ward; Bex Conway, Brooklyn Pfeffer, Chorul Scholars; St. John's Chancel ChoirPriest in ChargeThe Rev. Gerardo Aponte-Safe	Ministers of Toda	y's Service: The People of St. John's
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MusiciansSteven McGhee, Music Director; Brynn Ward; Bex Conway, Brooklyn Pfeffer, Choral Scholars; St. John's Chancel Choir	-	
Brooklyn Pfeffer, Choral Scholars; St. John's Chancel Choir	8	
	Musicians	
Priest in ChargeThe Rev. Gerardo Aponte-Safe		
	Priest in Charge	The Rev. Gerardo Aponte-Safe

## Altar Memorials and Thanksgivings

#### Altar Flower Memorials and Thanksgivings

We welcome your participation and contributions to this ministry. If you would like to have a flower thanksgiving or memorial placed in the bulletin, please contact Jennifer Perkins at 248-546-1255 or office@stjohnro.org or you can give online by going to the St. John's website at stjohnsroyaloak.org - click on GIVE and then from the "Fund" dropdown options, select "Flower Fund." The suggested minimum donation is \$25.00; however, all donations will be accepted and recognized. Thank you!

#### **Additional Prayer List**

#### Persons being prayed for:

Sarah Briana, Wettona, Ezra, Vic, Jackie Sandi Willa Edward, Ariana, Glenn Matthew, Heather, India, Joann, Jim Larry, Lois Gary, Patrick Jeanette, Evelyn Angelina, Jamie Donna, MaryPat, Linda, Debbie Kae, Dorothy, Lois. Tammy, Peggy JoAnn, Edgar, Mary Lou, Natalia Lorie, Patty, Betty, Gail, Dot, Wilma, Nan, Mike Jennifer, Richard, Mark Mike Linda Nikki Bill, Dorothy Arthur, Dan, Winnie Patty, Jim, Ron, David, Maria Dave, Kate, Evie, Caroline, Rhonda, Joe, Dennis, Norma, Ashley, Jake, Carson Gail, Phil, Steven, Paul Randy, Kelly, Charlotte Adam, Don Bob, Paul, Scott Barbara, Bob, Cathy David, David Dominic, Pam, Nancy, Miles, Tom, Troy, Frankie, Hadi June Brian Gabrielle Debbie, Marion, Harvey

#### **Requested by:**

**Rachel Andrews** Gloria Brown Jen Bruns Janet Craft Sandy Curtis Carolyn Darling Chris Davis, Lonnie Shelton Ann Davis Cheryl Donigan Allyson Frank Diana Graor Elaine Kapelanski Kathy Kustowski Maryann LeComb & Kathy Stricker **Richard LeJeune** Leah Lynady Kelly Mankin & Michael Tonda Holly McNeal Barbara & Chris Moran **Janice** Pedersen Mapley Extended Family Mary Ann Morrow Bob & Trudy Nagaj Marilyn Robinson Jeff & Nancy Sever Joey Spano **Bob Stevens** Elizabeth Swanchara The Sykes Family Barbara Thornton Bob Walsh Pam Lupinski Tamra Zakar





Come play and learn about God and community!

Sundays starting at 10am



Adult Faith Formation Wednesday, February 19 7:00 pm-8:30 pm, St. John's Library

Come as you are and be in relaxed fellowship with your St. John's family as we work together to create postcards for long lost friends or even friends we've yet to meet.