

Morning Prayer for the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 7, 2021

Hymn 1

Father, we praise thee, now the night is over

1 Father, we praise thee, now the night is over,
active and watchful, stand we all before thee;
singing, we offer, prayer and meditation;
thus we adore thee.

2 Monarch of all things, fit us for thy mansions;
banish our weakness, health and wholeness sending;
bring us to heaven, where thy saints united
joy without ending.

3 All holy Father, Son and equal Spirit,
Trinity blessed, send us thy salvation;
thine is the glory, gleaming and resounding
through all creation.

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness
of your rising. *Isaiah 60:3*

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of
Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to
hear his 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 kneel in 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.

Officiant and People together

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 Priest alone 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 Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia.

Antiphon

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us adore him.

Jubilate *Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Psalm 147:1-12, 21c *Laudate Dominum*

- 1 Hallelujah!
How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
- 2 The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.
- 5 Great is our LORD and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.

- 6 The LORD lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;
- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.
- 10 He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.
- 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
- 12 But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.

21c Hallelujah!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you
from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of
the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its
inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a
curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to

naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they
planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries
them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is
my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who
created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling
them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not
one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden
from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God”? Have you not
known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the
Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his
understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and
strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and
the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall
renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they
shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Hear ends the reading.

A Song of Praise *Benedictus es, Domine* *Song of the Three Young Men, 29-34*

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths;
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Hear ends the reading.

Hymn 62

In Christ there is no East or West

1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in Him no South or North;
But one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In Him shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
What e'er your race may be!
Who serves my Father as a son
is surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both East and West,
in Him meet South and North.

All Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

Mark 1: 29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Hear ends the reading.

Sermon

The Rev. Nancy L Threadgill

Did you note that we are still in Chapter one of the Gospel of Mark and we are already hearing about the beginning of Jesus' ministry? Mark doesn't waste any time. Again, he is in a hurry to tell the Good News to the Hebrew people. Last week we heard about Jesus teaching with authority and having control over demons. The people are talking all over Capernaum about this stranger who is doing and saying something different than they have heard and seen before.

Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue and went to Simon's house where they learned that his mother-in-law (or his MIL as we shorten it today while texting), is ill and is in bed with a fever. In two sentences Mark lets us know that "He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them." As usual Mark does not offer a lot of detail. We do not even know her name. We do know that Jesus took her by the hand, lifted her up and she was healed. In other stories about Jesus' healing someone, he mentions something about that person's great faith or that their sins have been forgiven. Here, Simon's mother-in-law is healed without all that. She is just healed.

Then Mark tells us that she serves them. Scholars have noted that the Greek term used for her action is the word from which we derive the word *deacon* whose job description in the BCP catechism is to be a "servant of those in need." That's all we know about this woman. We don't know anything about her further ministry only this little morsel of information. We do know that having been touched by Jesus, she is raised to a healthier life with the energy to serve her household and it's guests as she has probably always done and will continue to do.

Think back on all the times you have been touched by Jesus. Of course, it was not a physical touch as we heard about today but it was probably a time when you have been spiritually touched. It might have been through the Eucharist, during a walk in nature, listening to music, sharing with a family member, friend or neighbor, or during or after prayer. Did you not have greater energy to fulfill the work Jesus has called you to do. We are frequently "raised up" by Jesus. Let us cherish those times and serve with new energy just as Simon's mother-in-law did. Amen

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together

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

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
 Officiant Let us pray.

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.	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 for ever. Amen.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. 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

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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 the Nation

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our

Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

For the Election of a Bishop

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Please add your own intercessions and thanksgivings at this time.

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

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.*

Hymn 135

Songs of thankfulness and praise

1. Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,
manifested by the star
to the sages from afar;
branch of royal David's stem
in thy birth at Bethlehem;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

2. Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
and at Cana, wedding-guest,
in thy Godhead manifest;
manifest in power divine,
changing water into wine;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

3. Manifest in making whole
palsied limbs and fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight,
quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will,
ever bringing good from ill;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

4. Manifest on mountain height,
Shining in resplendent light,
Where disciples filled with awe
thy transfigured glory saw.
When from there thou leddest them
steadfast to Jerusalem,
cross and Easter Day attest
God in man made manifest.

Let us bless the Lord.
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. Ephesians 3:20,21*

From *Book of Common Prayer 1979*
Hymns from *The Hymnal 1982* and *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

All Souls Episcopal Church, North Versailles,
and the Rev. Dr. Terry Hunt

Altar Flowers given to the glory of God

In loving memory of
Alice Anderson
and

In loving memory of
Job Ireland (Anniversary 2-9-1994)
Perpetual Flowers.

Next Week's Readings

2 Kings 5:1-4
1 Corinthians 9: 24-27
Mark 1:40-45
Psalm 30

*Sharing Christ's love unconditionally through transformational
worship and service.*

