



## The Collect of The Day

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*          And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan didst proclaim him thy beloved Son and anoint him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

*The people are seated*

## The First Lesson

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

*The Lector concludes*                      The Word of the Lord.

*The People respond*                        Thanks be to God

**Gradual** [Congregation says the verses in bold ]

Psalms 29

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \*

ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \***

**worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;

the God of glory thunders; \*

the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

**The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \***

**the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \*

the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*

and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

**The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;**

**the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; \***

**the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \*

and strips the forests bare.

**And in the temple of the Lord \***

**all are crying, "Glory!"**

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.  
**The Lord shall give strength to his people; \***  
**the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

### **The Second Lesson**

Acts 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied - altogether there were about twelve of them.

*The Lector concludes*                      The Word of the Lord.  
*The People respond*                      Thanks be to God.

*The people stand, if able.*

### **The Holy Gospel**

Mark 1:4-11

*Celebrant*                      The Holy Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark  
*People*                              Glory be to thee, O Lord.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

*Celebrant*                      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*                              Praise be to thee, O Christ.

### **The Sermon**

Mr. Evan Reardon

**The Nicene Creed**      *Said by all, standing if you are able.*

I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible;  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God;  
begotten, not made;  
being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried:  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the quick and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life,  
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;  
who spake by the Prophets.  
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**The Prayers of The People** *Pease kneel, if you are able.*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord saying, Lord in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

For the Church, that all who have been baptized will be inspired by the Holy Spirit to give united witness to the Lord. Lord in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

For all those who do not yet know Jesus as the beloved Son of God, that they may open their hearts and come to believe in the Good News. Lord in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

For peace with justice throughout the world, that all people will turn from hatred to love and from violence to peace. Lord in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

For a spirit of humility that, in our prayer and example, we may always point away from ourselves and towards the living Christ. Lord in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

For the sick, the lonely, the housebound and the vulnerable that, in the midst of their suffering, they will experience the loving arms of Christ. Lord in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

For the departed, that they may rest in the peace of Christ, Lord in thy mercy, hear our prayer

*The Celebrant concludes with a prayer.*

The people respond Amen.

*The Celebrant introduces the Confession*

*The people say*

Almighty God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:  
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins  
and wickedness,  
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,  
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.  
We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,  
the burden of them is intolerable.  
Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of thy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **The Absolution**

*The Celebrant says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy

upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Peace** *Please stand, if you are able.*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* And with thy spirit.

**At The Offertory** O Innocent Lamb of God Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

**The Great Thanksgiving** *Please stand, if you are able.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And with thy spirit.  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* We lift them up unto the Lord.  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
*People* It is meet and right so to do.

**Proper Preface Of the Epiphany**

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Sanctus and Benedictus Qui Venit** *Sung by all*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of  
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -  
- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth -  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*Please kneel, if you are able.*

*The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes*

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

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

## **The Breaking of The Bread**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

**Prayer of Humble Access** *Said by all*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteous -ness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

**Agnus Dei** *Sung by all*



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -



way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -



on us. O Lamb of God, that



ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have



mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of



God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the



world, grant us thy peace.

**At The Communion** Christ Our Lord to Jordan Came Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

**The Post Communion Prayer** *Said by all, kneeling if you are able.*

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### **The Blessing**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

### **Dismissal**

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

*Please stand as the celebrant departs, if you are able.*

**Voluntary** Christ unser Herr zum Jordan Kam Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

## **Notices**

The flowers on the Altar today are given in honor of Elsie Priestley by Lynne Priestley.

The Ambry Candle for January is given in loving memory of Ray Priestley by Lynne Priestley.

In our Intercessions for the Church and Parish this week, we pray for	
Anglican Communion	The Anglican church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, Polynesia
Albany Diocese	St. Andrew's Church, Albany
Our Parish	For teachers

We remember with thanksgiving those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week. We also pray for those who have died recently and those whose year's mind falls at this time.

**Many thanks** to the people who came to the church Saturday to remove all of the evergreens.

**Offering Envelopes** are here for 2021. Please see an usher for your envelopes. If you do not currently use envelopes but would like to, please contact the church office.

Due to Covid-19 regulations the windows in the church must remain open during services this winter. Please dress warmly.

**Needed.** We are making every effort to have our church open for prayer and service as much as possible. With this comes the need for additional disinfecting. If you are out and about and see a can or two of Lysol Disinfecting Spray, it would be most appreciated if you would get one for the church. Thank you.

If you are shopping online remember to use **AMAZONSMILE** and designate Bethesda Episcopal Church as the charity to which you want Amazon to donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/14-1364477>.

### **Update on Parish finances as of the end of December 2020**

Pledge and plate collected year to date is \$272,576 compared to \$245,354 in 2019.

Expenses year to date total \$269,475 compared to \$253,039 in 2019.

Based on DECEMBER numbers, we now project an end of year surplus, of \$3101.

Number of pledges for 2021 received as of 10 January: 60 Total amount pledged:  
\$175,844.00

### **Parish Activities for January**

**Owen Reid**, organ scholar at the Cathedral of All Saints, Albany, will offer the final installment of his series on music for Christmas - Epiphany on Thursday 14 January at 12.15pm. Midday prayers will begin at 12pm, as usual. All welcome.

**Bethesda Annual Meeting - 26 January at 6:30 pm:** Bethesda's Annual Meeting takes place Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021, starting at 6:30 pm at Bethesda Episcopal Church. Business includes Annual Review, Vestry Elections, Updates, and 2021 Budget Presentation.

# Epiphany Proclamation 2021



*While a day like Christmas is fixed in our minds and on the calendars on December 25th, many of the important feasts of the Church year move, based upon the date that Easter is set. Easter changes each year moving to the Sunday after the "Paschal Full Moon," and can fall between March 22 and April 25.*

*In ancient times before calendars were common, most people did not know the dates for the upcoming Liturgical year. On Epiphany Sunday, the upcoming dates were "proclaimed" after the gospel in this way:*

**K**now, dear brethren (brothers and sisters),  
that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
so by leave of God's mercy  
we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection,  
who is our Savior.

**O**n the seventeenth day of February will fall Ash Wednesday,  
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

**O**n the fourth day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,  
the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**O**n the thirteenth day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**O**n the twenty-third day of May, the feast of Pentecost.

**O**n the sixth day of June, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

**O**n the twenty-eighth day of November, the First Sunday of the Advent of our  
Lord Jesus Christ,

**T**o whom is honor and glory for ever and ever.

**A**men.

## Weekly Services

Monday – Friday	Midday Prayers	12pm
Wednesday	Eucharist	12pm
Saturday	Eucharist (Vigil of Sunday) Rite II	5pm
Sunday	Mattins	7:20am
	Eucharist	8am & 10am
	Children’s Program	10am

### Guidelines for Attending Church

Welcome to Bethesda Church. Thank you for joining us for worship today. For your safety, we ask you to follow the guidelines below when attending our services.

Social distancing protocols will be observed at all times. Please do not attend church if you are currently ill or have been in contact recently with someone who is ill.

- ◆ A mask is required at all times. If you require a mask, an usher will provide one for you.
- ◆ Upon entry, please use the provided hand sanitizer.
- ◆ The ushers will record your name and phone number upon entry.
- ◆ "You must keep 6-feet between you and others not of your household when entering the Church and throughout the time you are in the Church."
- ◆ Pews are color coded for each service, 8am use blue pews, 10am use yellow pews.
- ◆ Bathrooms are currently for emergencies only.
- ◆ At the exchange of the Peace, please do not leave your pew.
- ◆ At the distribution of Communion, remain in your pew until an usher invites you to move to the chancel step.
- ◆ At the end of the service, only move when directed to do so by an usher.
- ◆ Take your bulletin home or place it in the wastebasket at the door.

Financial gifts for the ministry of Bethesda Church are gratefully received. Please place your donation in the collection plates at the rear of the church. We appreciate your support.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

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