



Morning Prayer
The Third Sunday after the Epiphany
January 24, 2021 9 am
Ministers of the Liturgy

The Rev. Dr. Judith Lee
Mary Johnson, James Jones,
Kevin Keppler, Hilary Stafford

Musicians:

Randolph Bloom, Mary Johnson, Jeff Lukas

Prelude *Three Versets* Anonymous [1692]

Mother Judith **Opening Sentence**

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" [Micah 6:8]

Mother Judith **The Confession**

Martin Luther King, Jr.

O Thou Eternal God, out of whose absolute power and infinite intelligence the whole universe has come into being, we humbly confess that we have not loved thee with our hearts, souls and minds, and we have not loved our neighbors as Christ loved us. We have all too often lived by our own selfish impulses rather than by the life of sacrificial love as revealed by Christ. We often give in order to receive. We love our friends and hate our enemies. We go the first mile but dare not travel the second. We forgive but dare not forget. And so as we look within ourselves, we are confronted with the appalling fact that the history of our lives is the history of an eternal revolt against you. But thou, O God, have mercy upon us. Forgive us for what we could have been but failed to be. Give us the intelligence to know your will. Give us the courage to do your will. Give us the devotion to love thy will. In the name and spirit of Jesus we pray.

Absolution

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.

Mother Judith **The Invitatory and Psalter**

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'
[John 8:12]

Mary Johnson Invitatory Psalm 100 *Jubilate*

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

Kevin Keppler Psalm 62:6-14

6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; *truly, my hope is in him.

7 He alone is my rock and my salvation, *my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.

8 In God is my safety and my honor; *God is my strong rock and my refuge.

9 Put your trust in him always, O people, *
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, *
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.

11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, *all of them together.

12 Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; *
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, *that power belongs to God.

14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, * for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

James Jones A Reading from the Book of Jonah [3:1-5, 10]

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Hilary Stafford & Mary Johnson Canticale: Romans 12:9-18

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;

¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.

¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly;
do not claim to be wiser than you are.

¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Kevin Keppler A Reading from the Gospel of Mark [1:14-20]

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Homily

Mary Johnson The Song of Mary Magnificat Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;*
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him * in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,* he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,* and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *

for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, * to Abraham and his children forever.

Musical Meditation *Ye Holy Angels Bright*

Hymnal #625

*Ye holy angels bright, who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song, for else the theme too high doth seem for mortal tongue.*

*My soul, bear thou thy part, triumph in God above:
and with a well-tuned heart sing thou the songs of love!
Let all thy days till life shall end, whate'er he send, be filled with praise.*

Mother Judith **The Apostles' Creed**

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.

Mother Judith & Hilary Stafford **The Prayers**

Hear our cry, O God. **And listen to our prayer.**

Let us pray.

Help us, O God our Savior; **deliver us and forgive us our sins.**

Look upon your congregation; **give to your people the blessing of peace.**

Declare your glory among the nations; **and your wonders among all peoples.**

Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away; **never forget the lives of your poor.**

Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

and your favor to those who are true of heart.

Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

Mother Judith **The Lord's Prayer**

Mother Judith **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.**

James Jones The Prayers of the People

In faith, hope and charity let us pray for Christ's Body, the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world, saying, *Lord, make us one.*

That all may be one, worshipping God in spirit and in truth, so that the world may believe. For the peace that comes from God alone, for the unity of all peoples, and for the salvation of souls.

Let us pray in the will of Christ: **Lord, make us one.**

That we may be freed from our sins against one another; from prejudice and hasty judgment; from ignorance or pride; from isolation and exclusivity; from apathy and complacency.

Let us pray in the forgiveness of Christ: **Lord, make us one.**

That the leaders of all churches would lead in a manner that serves the visible unity of the Church.

Let us pray in the spirit of Christ. **Lord, make us one.**

That the churches may discover again their unity in the one baptism which incorporates them into Christ. Let us pray with the heart of Christ: **Lord, make us one.**

That the churches may recognise each other's ministries in the service of their one Lord.

Let us pray in the peace of Christ: **Lord, make us one.**

That all Christians may embrace together Christ's command to care for those in need; the sick, the poor, the hungry, the lonely, the outcast, especially those who are suffering from covid-19, their caregivers, and frontline workers.

Let us pray in the mercy of Christ: **Lord, make us one.**

That we may all commit ourselves to the non-violent way of Jesus and transform society through seeking justice and forgiveness, following the example of those who have gone before us, especially those we now name silently or aloud. *pause*

Let us pray in the peace of Christ: **Lord, make us one.**

Eternal God, giver of love and peace, you call your children to live together as one family; give us grace to learn your ways and to do your will, that we may bring justice and peace to all people, in the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God now and forever. **Amen**

Musical Meditation

Jeff Lukas

Mary Johnson A Prayer for Justice

O God, you have given all peoples one common origin. It is your will that we gather together as one family in yourself. Fill the hearts of humankind with the fire of your love and with the desire to ensure justice for all. By sharing the good things you give us, may we secure equality for all our brothers and sisters throughout the world. May there be an end to division, strife and war. May there be a dawning of a truly human society built on love and peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord. **Amen.**

Hilary Stafford For the President of the United States and all in Civil Authority

O Lord our Governor, whose glory is in all the world: We commend this nation to your merciful care, that, being guided by your Providence, we may dwell secure in your peace. Grant to the President of the United States, the Governor of this Commonwealth, and to all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to fulfill your purpose. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness, and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people in justice; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Kevin Keppler A Prayer in Time of Transition

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for your people and for our ministries. Open our hearts to possibilities we have not yet imagined, through Jesus Christ, our Light, our Center, our Hope. **Amen.**

James Jones A Prayer for Facing the Coronavirus

Merciful God, hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer from the coronavirus. May those who are infected receive the proper treatment and the comfort of your healing presence. May their caregivers, families and neighbors be shielded from the virus. Give solace to those who grieve the loss of over 400,000 loved ones. Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure, that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health. Help us to rise above fear. We ask all this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Mary Johnson A Prayer for an End to Racism

Lord, Jesus Christ who reached across the ethnic boundaries between Samaritan, Roman and Jew, who offered fresh sight to the blind and freedom to captives, help us to break down the barriers in our community and to see the reality of racism and bigotry, and free us to challenge and uproot it from ourselves, our society and our world. **Amen.**

Hilary Stafford A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Mother Judith Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Mother Judith Dismissal: Let us bless the Lord.