



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1676 SOUTH BELCHER ROAD
CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33764-6517
WWW.STJOHNSCLEARWATER.ORG
727-531-6020

The Third Sunday After the Epiphany

January 26, 2025

9:00 am

Announcements

Prelude:

**Processional Hymn: 616 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" Es flog ein
kleins Waldvoegelein**

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant:

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.**

S280 (Canticle 20)

Robert Powell

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray. (*Silence*)

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.**

The First Lesson: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people of Israel 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. Accordingly, 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. He 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. And 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. Then 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. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And 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. Then 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."

The Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19

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

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

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

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

5 In 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.

6 It 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.

7 The law of the Lord is perfect
and revives the soul; *

the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.

8 The statutes of the Lord are just
and rejoice the heart; *

the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean
and endures for ever; *

the judgments of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *

sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.

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

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

13 Above 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.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *

O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

The Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Just 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. For 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. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If 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. And 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. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each

one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The 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." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and 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; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And 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. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

The Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: 632 "O Christ, the Word Incarnate"

Munich

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (4:14-21)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When 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, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "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, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And 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. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Nicene Creed (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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He 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 Form II

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our presiding bishop Sean and for our bishop Douglas; for Hugh and Jim, our priests and Kevin our deacon; for St. Paul's Lutheran Church and their Pastor Anne; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church

Silence

I ask your prayers for your holy Catholic Church; for the Diocese of Southwest Florida, especially St. Mary's, Dade City; St. John's, Brooksville; St. Peter's, Plant City; St. John the Divine, Sun City Center; Grace Church, Tampa; St. Andrew's, Tampa; St. Chad's, Tampa; St. Clement's, Tampa, and St. Francis', Tampa; and for the dioceses and provinces of the Anglican Communion, especially The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed.

Pray for those who have died.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and 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.

Celebrant: 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 Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory: (The people may sit)

Offertory Hymn: 539 "O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling"

Tidings

Presentation of Gifts (Please stand as the gifts are brought forward)

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A (Stand)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

(Here a Proper Preface is said)

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:

S125 - Holy, Holy, Holy

Richard Proulx

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen**

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People: **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 !**

Fraction anthem: S164 - Jesus, Lamb of God

Richard Proulx

The Communion

All Baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion.

Please stand or kneel at the rail.

The priest will place the Sacrament in your outstretched hands.

**Communion Hymn: 321 “My God, thy table now is spread”
Rockingham**

Sending of Lay Eucharistic Visitors *(as needed)*

Following the communion of the people, the Lay Eucharistic Ministers come forward and are commended for this ministry with the following words:

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ’s body and blood.

Celebrant: We who are many are one body,

People: Because we all share one bread, one cup.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn: 537 “Christ for the world we sing” **Moscow**

The Dismissal: Response: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude

***The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and
“In Loving Memory of Arline Mildred Stupia”.***

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Welcome Visitors!

Please sign the guest book at the welcoming stand where information is available.

Visit our Website: <https://stjohnsclearwater.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St.JohnsClearwater/>

Join us for coffee and fellowship in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.

Announcements

Pray for the sick: Sue Bartlett, James Bernard, Gerry Boone, Michelle Boone, Barbara Bowdoin, Sally Brown, Bruce Cates, The Most. Rev. Michael B. Curry, Ann D'Alessandro, Kristy Foltz, Nan Lanham, Kimberly McMillan, John Piatak, The Rev. George Razee, Eric Rummier, Nancy Sawyer, Amy Sheilds, Deborah Smith, Kitty Smith, Chrissy Stroup, and Sandy Walton.

Pray for the homebound: Elin Buchanan, Shirley Dunaway, Thelma Lipp, and Margarita Lopez.

Pack-a-Sack is a program that provides food for weekends for children who have been identified by school counselors as food insecure. If you would like to sponsor a child for one month- \$25, or for one year \$225, please mark your gift for Pack a Sack. For more information or to assist with the packing, contact Caroline Barnett.

Coffee Hour: We no longer have a Sunday morning Publix pick up for Good Neighbors that gives us coffee hour goodies. We have established coffee hour teams that set up and clean up. We now need volunteers for bringing goodies each Sunday.

Please let Bonnie Lovell know if you can provide goodies for this coming Sunday Jan. 12. There will be a sign up for future coffee hour goodies.

Tuesday Grief Forum: the next series of Grief Forums to be held in the fellowship hall at St. John's beginning on Tuesday, Jan. 28. The group will meet every other week from 10:30 am-12 Noon. People can learn more and register at:

<https://stpaulsclearwater.org/tuesday-grief-forum>

Registration is limited to 12 people and this will be a closed group, meaning that people commit to the entire series and no new participants are added after week #2.

St. Paul's Wednesday Contemplative Services: The Contemplative Worship Services are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in St. John's church sanctuary at 7:15pm.

Prayer Chapel: The Chapel is open for anyone wishing individual prayer. Everyone is welcome to go to the Chapel after communion to receive prayer with a member of The Daughters of the King. Prayer requests are held in strict confidence.

Thrift Shop Volunteers Needed! The Thrift Shop is looking for volunteers to work the front desk. There are two shifts – Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm or 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Please contact Caroline Barnett if you are interested. (727) 459-3650.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – 10 am in the Parish Hall:
See Bob Courdway if you have any questions.

Episcopal Migration Ministries: Those who want to financially support these efforts can donate online (link is in the enews).

Deadline for submission of articles for the bulletin is Tuesday, 3pm for the following Sunday bulletin.

To make a donation to St. John's, via Faithstreet, scan the QR code below:



Please bring in your Plml Sunday crosses from last year. They will be burned on Shrove Tuesday, March 4 to be used for Ash Wednesday service.

Dates for Your Calendar

TODAY: January 26 Annual Meeting: We will meet in the Parish Hall immediately following the 9am service.

Tue., March 4, 5:30pm – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper with St. Paul's in the Parish Hall.

Wed., March 5, 12 noon – St. John's Ash Wednesday service. St. Paul's service, 7pm.

Thu., Mar. 6, 6:30pm – Come watch The Chosen, Season 4, in the Parish Hall. We will meet every **Thu., through Apr. 10.**

Sat., March 15, 4pm – St. Patrick's Dinner in the Parish Hall.

Weekly Schedule

Thrift Shop Hours - Tue., Thu
Sat., 9:30 – 3:30

Hand Bell Choir – Tuesdays -
Church Sanctuary – 6pm

Voice Choir - Tuesdays - Choir
Room – 7pm

**Wednesday Morning Bible
Study** – Parish Hall -
Wednesday 10 am

Men's Cursillo Grouping -
Parish Hall - Thursday 7:30 am

Rug Hookers – Parish Hall -
Thursdays 10 am



**Diocese of Southwest Florida
The Rt. Rev. Douglas Scharf, Bishop**

St. John's Mission Statement:
To love, to serve, to grow in Christ

Church Staff

Supply Priest
Deacon
Office Administrator
Music Director
Sexton
Children's Ministry

The Rev. Hugh Bell
The Rev. Kevin Mort
Jan Davis
Jim May
Bob Cates
Mary Anders

Vestry

Marlene Eichelberger
Marti Moore
Bob Courdway
Gina Flanigan
Jessi Griffin
Sallie Devine
Bonnie Lovell

Sr. Warden
Jr. Warden
Treasurer
Stewardship
Clerk & Communications
Outreach
Parish Life