

APOSTLES ASSEMBLY 2023



- ◇ HOLY EUCHARIST
- ◇ COMMISSIONING OF LEADERS
- ◇ ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

February 5, 2023

10.00-11.00am	Holy Eucharist
11.00-11.20am	Transition; children upstairs and adults to fellowship hall
11.20-11.30am	Welcome and Pray
11.30-12.00pm	Eat and Storytelling
12.00-12.45pm	Introduction to Search Process and Q&A

Liturgy for Contemporary Service

The Anglican Church in North America

Prayer as We Prepare to Welcome a Refugee Family

*Lord Jesus, you have revealed the Father's love for us and sent the Holy Spirit to be our helper. Renew in us the selfless and sacrificial heart you modeled on the cross. Empower us to expand the family of God by opening our lives in the welcoming embrace of the lost, the longing, the hurt, the poor, the foreigner, the widow, the orphan, and the stranger. Enable us to see every person as you do: treasured, worthy of love, and infinitely valuable. Enliven in us the true markers of those called by your name: people of love, forgiveness, generosity, hospitality, and unity. We will follow you wherever you lead us, Almighty God. **Amen.***

- Trevor Durbin

Prayer for Call of the Next Rector

***Almighty God,** you know the needs of your Church in every place: look graciously upon us, the people of Apostles, and grant us the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we seek a new Rector for this parish.*

Give us discernment, wisdom, and confidence in your timing. Guide the members of our Search Committee, as they labor to be faithful in seeking your will.

We pray for the life of our parish, that we may continue to be strengthened in our mission to make disciples and welcome the spiritual orphans and seekers. Bless us with mutual trust and respect, courage, and foresight as you shepherd our community through its journey.

Grace us with continuous direction and inspire us toward genuine self-reflection.

All this we ask as we walk in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE BELL

OPENING SONGS

King of Kings

(Verse 1)

*In the darkness we were waiting, without hope without light
Till from heaven You came running, there was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory, to a cradle in the dirt*

(Chorus)

*Praise the Father, Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings*

(Verse 2)

*To reveal the kingdom coming, and to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation, You did not despise the cross
For even in Your suffering, You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus for our sake You died*

(Verse 3)

*And the morning that You rose, all of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good, for the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs, and the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come, to the Father are restored*

(Verse 4)

*And the Church of Christ was born, then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old, shall not kneel shall not faint
By His blood and in His Name, in His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ, who has resurrected me*

Minister: I will make you as a light for the nations,

People: *That my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O Lord, our heavenly Father, keep your household the Church continually in your true religion, that we who trust in the hope of your heavenly grace may always be defended by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS *(congregation seated)*

2 Kings 22:8-20

⁸ The high priest Hilkiah said to Shaphan the secretary, 'I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD.' When Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, he read it. ⁹Then Shaphan the secretary came to the king, and reported to the king, 'Your servants have emptied out the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of the workers who have oversight of the house of the LORD.' ¹⁰Shaphan the secretary informed the king, 'The priest Hilkiah has given me a book.' Shaphan then read it aloud to the king.

¹¹ When the king heard the words of the book of the law, he tore his clothes. ¹²Then the king commanded the priest Hilkiah, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Achbor son of Micaiah, Shaphan the secretary, and the king's servant Asaiah, saying, ¹³'Go, inquire of the LORD for me, for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that

has been found; for great is the wrath of the LORD that is kindled against us, because our ancestors did not obey the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us.'

¹⁴ So the priest Hilkiyah, Ahikam, Achbor, Shaphan, and Asaiah went to the prophetess Huldah the wife of Shallum son of Tikvah, son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; she resided in Jerusalem in the Second Quarter, where they consulted her. ¹⁵She declared to them, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Tell the man who sent you to me, ¹⁶Thus says the LORD, I will indeed bring disaster on this place and on its inhabitants—all the words of the book that the king of Judah has read. ¹⁷Because they have abandoned me and have made offerings to other gods, so that they have provoked me to anger with all the work of their hands, therefore my wrath will be kindled against this place, and it will not be quenched. ¹⁸But as to the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the LORD, thus shall you say to him, Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Regarding the words that you have heard, ¹⁹because your heart was penitent, and you humbled yourself before the LORD, when you heard how I spoke against this place, and against its inhabitants, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and because you have torn your clothes and wept before me, I also have heard you, says the LORD. ²⁰Therefore, I will gather you to your ancestors, and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace; your eyes shall not see all the disaster that I will bring on this place.' They took the message back to the king.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 27

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *

The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

² When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, * they stumbled and fell.

³ Though a host were encamped against me, yet my heart would not be afraid, * and though war rose up against me, yet would I put my trust in him.

- ⁴ One thing have I desired of the LORD; one thing I seek: *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
- ⁵ To behold the fair beauty of the LORD, *
and to seek him in his temple.
- ⁶ For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his tabernacle; *
indeed, in the secret place of his dwelling he shall hide me, and set me high upon
a rock of stone.
- ⁷ And now he shall lift up my head *
above my enemies round about me.
- ⁸ Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness; *
I will sing and speak praises unto the LORD.
- ⁹ Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I cry unto you; *
have mercy upon me and hear me.
- ¹⁰ You speak to my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, O LORD, will I seek.
- ¹¹ O hide not your face from me, *
nor cast your servant away in displeasure.
- ¹² You have been my helper; *
leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- ¹³ When my father and my mother forsake me, *
the LORD takes me in.
- ¹⁴ Teach me your way, O LORD, *
and lead me in the right way, because of my enemies.

¹⁵ Deliver me not over to the will of my adversaries, *
for there are false witnesses who have risen up against me, and those who speak
wrong.

¹⁶ I would utterly have fainted, *
had I not believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the
living.

¹⁷ O wait for the LORD; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart. *
O put your trust in the LORD.

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

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

²When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of
God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except
Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much
trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of
wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might
rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of
the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret
and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this
age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But,
as it is written,

'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him' —

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches
everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human
except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's
except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the

Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are discerned spiritually. ¹⁵Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

¹⁶ 'For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?'
But we have the mind of Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel (*congregation standing*)

***Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your Truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness;
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak O Lord, and fulfill in us
All your purposes for your glory.***

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 5:13-20

¹³ 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to

all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

***Speak O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built,
And the earth is filled with your glory.***

THE SERMON

THE SELECTION OF VESTRY MEMBERS

COMMISSIONING OF LEADERS

THE PEACE *(congregation standing)*

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

People: *And with your spirit.*

THE OFFERTORY

The Doxology *(congregation standing)*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.*

THE SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with your spirit.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them up 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, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who took on our mortal flesh to reveal his glory; that he might bring us out of darkness and into his own glorious light.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

***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 and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament,

and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

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 forever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us today our daily bread.
And 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 forever. Amen.*

THE FRACTION

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

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.

THE PRAYER OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Heavenly Father,

***We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood***

of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;

and for assuring us in these holy mysteries

that we are living members of the body of your Son,

and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

***And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.***

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes 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 Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

THE RECESSIONAL *(congregation standing)*

CLOSING SONG

Jesus We Love You

(Verse 1)

*Old things have passed away
Your love has stayed the same
Your constant grace remains the cornerstone
Things that we thought were dead, are breathing in life again
You cause your Son to shine on darkest nights*

(Pre Chorus)

*For all that you've done we will pour out our love
This will be our anthem song*

(Chorus)

*Jesus we love you, Oh how we love you
You are the one our hearts adore*

(Verse 2)

*The hopeless have found their hope
The orphans now have a home
All that was lost has found its place in you
You lift our weary head, You make us strong instead
You took these rags and made us beautiful*

(Bridge)

Our affection, our devotion poured out on the feet of Jesus

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia