



THE CHURCH
OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

The Order for Morning Prayer

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 31, 2021

Opening Sentences

Officiant The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.
Isaiah 60:3

Confession of Sin

¶ The Officiant says

DEARLY BELOVED, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy 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.

¶ Officiant and People, all kneeling

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;
And there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

‡ *The Officiant alone stands and says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution † and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.

‡ *People Amen.*

‡ *All stand*

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

People And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

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 for ever. Amen.

‡ *All say the Invitatory Canticle together, as follows*

Invitatory Canticle

Jubilate Deo

PSALM 100

O be joyful in the Lord all ye lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;
it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; *
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving
and into his courts with praise; *
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.
For the Lord is gracious;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.
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.

‡ *All are then seated for the Psalm appointed for the day*

Psalm 111

Confitebor tibi

I will give thanks unto the Lord with my whole heart, *
secretly among the faithful, and in the congregation.

The works of the Lord are great, *
sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.

His work is worthy to be praised and had in honour, *
and his righteousness endureth for ever.

The merciful and gracious Lord hath so done his marvellous works, *
that they ought to be had in remembrance.

He hath given meat unto them that fear him; *
he shall ever be mindful of his covenant.

He hath showed his people the power of his works, *
that he may give them the heritage of the heathen.

The works of his hands are verity and judgment; *
all his commandments are true.

They stand fast for ever and ever, *
and are done in truth and equity.

He sent redemption unto his people; *
he hath commanded his covenant for ever; holy and reverend is his Name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; *
a good understanding have all they that do thereafter; his praise endureth for ever.

¶ At the conclusion of the Psalmody the Gloria Patri is said by 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 for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

The First Lesson

DEUTERONOMY 18:15-20

MOSES SAID, "THE LORD YOUR GOD will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brethren – him you shall heed – just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God, or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' And the Lord said to me, 'They have rightly said all that they have spoken. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brethren; and I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And whoever will not give heed to my words which he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other Gods, that same prophet shall die.'"

‡ *Following the Lesson, all stand for the Canticle*

Canticle

Quaerite Dominum

ISAIAH 55:6-11

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, *
call ye upon him while he is near:
Let the wicked forsake his way, *
and the unrighteous man his thoughts:
And let him return unto the Lord,
and he will have mercy upon him; *
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, *
neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, *
so are my ways higher than your ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, *
and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth,
And maketh it bring forth and bud, *
that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:
So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: *
it shall not return unto me void,
But it shall accomplish that which I please, *
and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

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.

‡ *All are seated*

The Second Lesson

MARK 1:21-28

AND THEY WENT INTO CAPER'NA-UM; and immediately on the sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught. And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching! With authority he commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

¶ Following the Lesson, all stand for the Canticle

Canticle

Dignus es

REVELATION 4:11; 5:9-10, 13

Thou art worthy, O Lord, *
to receive glory and honor and power:
For thou hast created all things, *
and for thy pleasure they are and were created.
Thou art worthy, O Lamb that wast slain, *
and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood
Out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; *
and hast made us unto our God kings and priests.
Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power *
be unto him that sitteth upon the throne
And unto the Lamb *
for ever and ever.

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.

¶ All remain standing for the Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed

¶ Said by the Officiant and People together, all standing

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, †
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

¶ *The Officiant and People say the following*

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

¶ *Then the short form of the Lord's Prayer is said by all, kneeling*

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.

Amen.

¶ *Then follow these Suffrages, said by the Officiant and People*

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

People And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

People And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People For only in thee can we live in safety.

Officiant Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

People And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Officiant Let thy way be known upon earth;

People Thy saving health among all nations.

Officiant Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Officiant Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.

The Collects

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and in our time grant us thy peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *¶ People Amen.*

OLORD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that we, being ordered by thy governance, may do always what is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *¶ People Amen.*

LORD JESUS CHRIST, who didst stretch out thine arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of thy saving embrace: So clothe us in thy Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know thee to the knowledge and love of thee; for the honor of thy Name. *¶ People Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

¶ Said by the Officiant and People together

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable 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 beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

¶ *Said by the Officiant*

ALMTIGHTY GOD, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. ¶ *People Amen.*

¶ *All stand*

Benedicamus Domino

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Grace

¶ *Officiant*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. ¶ *People Amen.*

Hymn

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let
2 E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord, and
3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise! Let the Re - deem - er's
truth e - ter - nal is thy word: thy praise shall sound from
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye

Name be sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue!
 shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
 heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117, St. 3: Thomas Ken (1637-1711)
Music: OLD HUNDRETH: melody from Pseaumes octante de David, 1551,
alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (c. 1510-c. 1561)

Sermon

The Rev. Peter James Speropulos

Anthem

Come my Way, my Truth, my Life:
 Such a Way as gives us breath:
 Such a Truth as ends all strife:
 Such a Life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
 Such a light as shows a feast:
 Such a Feast as mends in length:
 Such a Strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
 Such a Joy as none can move:
 Such a Love as none can part:
 Such a Heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633)
Music: Garrison Hubbard (1998)

Closing Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

¶ *All kneel*

¶ *Then Prayers and Intercessions are offered*

GRACIOUS FATHER, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior. ¶ *People Amen.*

ORD OUR GOVERNOR, whose glory is in all the world: We commend this nation to thy merciful care, that, being guided by thy Providence, we may dwell secure in thy peace. Grant to the President of the United States, the Governor of this State, and to all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do thy will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness, and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people in thy fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ¶ *People Amen.*

HEAVENLY FATHER, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve thy sick servants, and give thy power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in thy loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ¶ *People Amen.*

OGOD, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldest have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ¶ *People Amen.*

OGOD OF PEACE, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ¶ *People Amen.*

O LORD OUR GOD, accept the fervent prayers of thy people; in the multitude of thy mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to thee for help; for thou art gracious, O lover of souls, and to thee we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *☩ People Amen.*

The Blessing

GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD IN PEACE; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour everyone; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *☩ People Amen.*

Liturgical Music

This morning's liturgy begins with a lovely *Adagio* by the composer Joseph-Hector Fiocco (1703-1741). Born into an Italian family in Brussels, he was both a composer and harpsichordist. Toward the end of his short life, Fiocco took up a post in Antwerp where he was in charge of the music at the cathedral.

The hymn *Old Hundredth* needs no introduction to this congregation. The final verse is known widely as simply, *The Doxology*, and it is sung throughout protestant Christianity as the people's offerings are brought forward for presentation. The hymn is a metrical setting of Psalm 117.

The Call is perhaps the English priest/poet George Herbert's (1593-1633) best-known work. It has been set by numerous composers for both solo voice and choir. The setting sung today is very much in the vein of a modal English folk song. The composer sets the final verse in a major key to reflect the joy described by the poet.

The liturgy closes with Johann Sebastian Bach's (1685-1750) *Three-Part Sinfonia 10*. Originally conceived for keyboard, it is heard here in an arrangement for strings.



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