Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
February 24, 2019
10:30 a.m.
An Epiphany Message from the Rector

We leave the 12 days of Christmastide behind with the celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany, the time when the three magi, the mysterious wise men, follow the eastern star to find the newborn Jesus and welcome him into the world with their precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The gold is symbolic of Jesus’s royal position, frankincense symbolizes his divine birth, and myrrh depicts his mortality. For the next eight Sundays, during the season of Epiphany, we will focus on how God has become incarnate, coming into our world in the person we know as Jesus. We will learn about his first miracle, turning water into wine at a wedding in Cana; Jesus’ baptism by his cousin John; and his Transfiguration, which reveals Jesus as God’s only Son. I invite you to be open to the light of Christ coming into the world and into your life during this season of Epiphany. What gifts, given to us by God, can we share to honor the Messiah, the Savior of the world, Emmanuel, God with us? How can we reflect the love of God coming into the world?

If you are with us for the first time, please make yourself comfortable. We look forward to meeting you. If you would like to learn more about the church, please fill out a card (hanging in each pew), put it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or member of the clergy, and we will be in touch. It is our custom to be silent before the service, so as you take some time to pray, please turn off all electronic devices. All you should need to participate in the service is found here, in this bulletin and in the blue hymnal in the pew rack. Hearing assist devices are available from the ushers.

We welcome children of all ages to St. John’s. Your children are always welcome to stay in church with you. We encourage you to sit up front, as children will be more engaged when they can see what’s happening. We also offer a professionally staffed nursery for children age 0 to 5 in our education wing. On most Sundays, we hold a Word Alive program for school-age children, where they will engage with the lectionary scriptures in an age-appropriate way. As noted in the bulletin on those Sundays, an acolyte will lead children out to Word Alive during the hymn before the sermon, and bring them back during the Peace. We also have resources for quiet play available at both entrances to the church.
HYMN OF PRAISE

Title: Canticle 20, Gloria to God: Gloria in excelsis  Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev.  Copyright © Church Publishing, Inc

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray. O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.
THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 45:3–11, 15

All sit.

Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALTER

Psalm 37:1–12, 41–42

The choir chants the Psalm, and the people join in the Antiphon as indicated.

1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
   do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
   and like the green grass fade away.

3 Put your trust in the Lord and do good; *
   dwell in the land and feed on its riches.

4 Take delight in the Lord, *
   and he shall give you your heart’s desire.
5 Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.  

6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.

7 Be still before the Lord *
and wait patiently for him.

8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land.

11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.

12 But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.

41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

42 The Lord will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,*
because they seek refuge in him.  


THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:35–38, 42–50

Someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.
THE SEQUENCE HYMN 568  Father, all loving, who rulest in majesty  
All stand and sing. Children may follow the acolyte to Word Alive. They will return at the Peace.

THE GOSPEL  


Minister  The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.
All  Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Minister  The Gospel of the Lord.
All  Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON  

Michael Corey

THE NICENE CREED  

All sit.

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 worshiped 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people say the words in **bold**.

Merciful God, expand our compassion, that we may do to others as we would have them do to us, learn to love our enemies and bless those who curse us, as we pray: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You shower blessings upon your Church, O Gracious One, and you call us to share in your generous work of reconciliation: Help us give generously and forgive willingly as instruments of your abundant love for all people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Holy One, teach the leaders of our land and all in authority to follow your path of nonviolence and to resist evildoers with mercy, that all nations may refrain from anger, leave rage alone, and delight in the abundance of peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Compassionate One, help those who live with violence, oppression, threat, and disease, that what is sown in weakness may be raised in power, so that the lowly may possess the land and be given your heart’s desire. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Gracious One, inspire generosity in this community, that we may give without expectation so that all may enjoy your divine abundance: a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Merciful God, hear our prayers for your children in need and bring comfort to all for whom we intercede, especially those on our parish prayer list. We thank you for your abundant mercy and generosity. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable: Bring those who have died into your eternal light. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

**Celebrant** Holy God, pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, that we may become merciful even as you are merciful and be children of the Most High, for you live and love us into being through your Son Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**People** Amen.
THE CONFESSION OF SIN

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

All remain standing or kneel.

All 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 us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of Christ.

THE WELCOME

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM Dear Lord and father of mankind Charles H. H. Parry (1848–1918)

Words by John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892), found at Hymn 652

Influenced as a composer principally by Bach and Brahms, Parry evolved a powerful diatonic style, which itself greatly influenced future English composers such as Elgar and Vaughan Williams. Parry joined the staff of the Royal College of Music in 1884 and was appointed its director in 1894, a post he held until his death. In 1900 he succeeded John Stainer as professor of music at Oxford University. His own full development as a composer was almost certainly hampered by the immense amount of work he took on, but his energy and charisma, not to mention his abilities as a teacher and administrator, helped establish art music at the center of English cultural life. The hymntune Repton is set in its original form in this anthem.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

All stand and sing.

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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 God thanks and praise.
The Celebrant continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son. 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:

THE SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

God of power and might, heaven and earth are full,

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes
All remain standing or kneel.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death.
We proclaim his resurrection.
We await his coming in glory.

The Celebrant continues.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.
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.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

All 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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.
Celebrant  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.

Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion at St. John’s.
Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask the clergy at the communion rail.
If you would like a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.
If you would like to receive Healing Prayers, go to the baptismal font at the rear of the nave after receiving Communion.

THE COMMUNION MOTET  Ubi caritas

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ’s love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.

Ubi caritas is perhaps the best-known work of French composer Maurice Duruflé, and the most moving and finely wrought harmonization of this ancient Gregorian Chant. The beautiful harmonies and repeated moment on the word “sincerity” make it a perfect reminder that God’s central message is one of love. The choir is busily preparing this composer’s Requiem for our concert on March 23rd.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

All stand or kneel.

Celebrant  Let us pray.

All  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.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant gives the blessing and the people respond, Amen.

THE HYMN IN PROCESION 657  Love divine, all loves excelling

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

The minister dismisses the people, and the people respond. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!
THE VOLUNTARY  Fantasy on *Lobe den Herren*  

*Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)*

The closing voluntary is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for God’s Word as it has been experienced this day. All are invited to say *Amen* at the end of the voluntary as a conclusion to our worship.

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**HAPPENING TODAY**

**Faith Forum: Stories of Faith in St. John’s Stained Glass, 9:30 a.m.**

Join David Beers and Bill Uricchio for an illustrated presentation of some of St. John’s 36 stained glass windows. These windows tell interesting stories of our faith, enhancing our connections to it. Please join us!

**Choral Evensong, 5 p.m.**

The ancient and beautiful service of Choral Evensong is presented on the last Sunday of selected months at St. John’s. Join us on February 24 at 5 p.m., with music by the Choir School of Hartford, and the Trinity Church Choir; Jackson Merrill, choirmaster; Scott Lamlein, organist.

**Sign up to host Coffee Hour!**

We’re in need of coffee hour hosts for the most Sundays in March and April. Please see the sign-up sheet in Hubbard Hall and pick a date to provide some light refreshments for after the 10:30 service. Thank you!
In your prayers this week, please pray for:

Peace in our world, for those serving our country in the armed services, and for all victims of war and violence.

The parish of Santa Cruz del Norte, our companion parish in Cuba, and Saint Sauveur School, Les Cayes, Haiti.

Séminaire de Théologie d’Église Épiscopale d’Haïti (STEEH), the Episcopal Seminary in Haiti.

Residents of the Caleb Hitchcock Center at Duncaster; the George Beach Apartments, Allen Place, Hartford; and the Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Our postulant, Michael Corey, and our missioner in Haiti, Dr. Lucinda Mosher.

All those whose hurts, burdens and fears are unspoken or unknown.

Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:

| Jim Evans | Cheryl Trahan | Edward Shaker | Beth |
| Kim Green | Andrew Lee | Michael | Brooke |
| Carol Grieco | Susan | Ann Hutchinson | Julie Verney |
| Janet Ray | Meg | Helen Cooke | Suzanne Newton |
| Susan Murray | Luther | Chris | Amber Lynch |

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

| Joel Grieco | Emily Foust |
| Olivia Giuliano | Brielle Worrell |
| Alexander Beir | Scott Lamlein |
| Nina Rosselli del Turco | Ann Newbury |

We give thanks for the birth of Teagan Stewart, granddaughter of Paul and Jacqueline Smith.

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

| Ginny and Mark Proft |
| William and Erika Ulrich |

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Timothy’s, Fairfield; Trinity/St. Michael’s, Fairfield; St. James’, Farmington; and for all parish-based mission partnership, ECCT-wide mission partnership network, and the Companions in Mission Network.
Save the Date

Men’s Bible Study, Thursdays at 6:30 a.m.
The Men’s Bible Study meets in the Reception Room every Thursday morning at 6:30 a.m. New people are always welcome, and coffee is plentiful! Over the coming weeks, the group will be reading and discussing the following scriptures: Feb. 28 – Jesus’s “I Am” statements from John 11, 14 & 15; March 7 - The Prodigal Son from Luke 15.

March Music at the Red Door events
- Join us for a half-hour Pipes Alive! organ concert featuring Nathan Lively, organist at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Stamford, on Sunday, March 3 at 12:30 p.m. (a soup lunch will be provided after the 10:30 service).
- The CitySingers will present their popular Celtic Fire program of Celtic chant, folk melodies and compositions by celebrated composers on Saturday, March 9 at 4 p.m.
- In the annual Choral Music for the Soul concert, the St. John’s Youth and Adult Choirs will sing the Duruflé Requiem, accompanied by Larry Allen on the organ, on Saturday, March 23 at 3 p.m.

All Music at the Red Door events are free, with open seating. Donations are welcome ($20 suggested donation for major events). Please mark your calendars and invite a friend!

Women’s Quiet Day at Trinity Church, Saturday, March 9, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
The Companions of the Holy Cross (Hartford Chapter) invite local women to their March meeting on Saturday, March 9, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, 120 Sigourney Street, Hartford. We will be led by Lisa Irish on the topic of “Grief and Hope: Our companions on our journey through loss.” All types of loss—death, loss of job, moving, and others—will be part of the reflection time. Lisa brings hospital chaplaincy experience, spiritual direction, retreat leadership and a life of prayer to a creative understanding of transforming loss. There will be a $10 fee for this quiet day and a light lunch will be provided. For questions and to sign up, email Kate Smith at kate48smith@comcast.net or call 860-519-1591 by March 1.

Women’s Lenten book study, Tuesdays starting March 12, 2 to 3:15 p.m.
Beginning March 12 and continuing through Lent, the “Women Together” group will read A Season for the Spirit: Readings for the Days of Lent by Martin L. Smith. Women Together meets weekly on Tuesdays from 2 to 3:15 p.m. in the Reception Room at St. John’s. The group includes women from St. John’s and Trinity churches, and women from any church are welcome to come and share in this time of study, reflection and fellowship. For more information, contact Sarah Kieffer at kieffer2468@gmail.com
St. John’s Episcopal Church
A place to discover connections with God and one another
www.sjparish.net
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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist each Sunday
5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer each Monday, Wednesday and Friday
4:30 p.m. Celtic contemplative service on the first Sunday of the month (Oct – June)
5 p.m. Choral Evensong on select fourth Sundays of the month (Sept – April)

STAFF
The Rev. Susan Pinkerton (susan@sjparish.net) .......................................................... Rector
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net) ........................................................................... Director of Music
The Rev. Walter McKenney* (walter@sjparish.net) .................................................. Deacon
The Rev. Hope Eakins* (hope@sjparish.net) ............................................................ Priest Associate
The Rev. William J. Eakins* (bill@sjparish.net) ....................................................... Priest Associate
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Peggy O’Toole (peggy@sjparish.net) ...................................................................... Financial Administrator
Christa Rakich ......................................................................................................... Organ Artist-in-Residence
Ralph Valentine ...................................................................................................... Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus

*These positions are non-stipendiary. These clergy give generously of their time and expertise to support St. John’s mission and ministries.

VESTRY
Virginia Van Dyk ........................................................................................................ Warden
Wes Winterbottom ..................................................................................................... Warden
Tim Goetz and John Roche .................................................................................. Co-Treasurers
Ellen Painter Dollar ................................................................................................. Scribe

2017-19: Geoff Emerick, Andrew Worrell
2018-20: Steve Crocker, Ann Hutchinson, Alex Nelson
2019-21: Ellen Flynn, David Grimaldi, Teresa Lohr