



St. John's Episcopal Church

415 S. Lexington Street, Arlington, VA 22204
The Reverend Julie D. Bryant, DMin

Last Sunday after the Epiphany, February 11, 2024, 9 in the morning

Typically, Episcopalians stand to sing and for the proclamation of the Gospel; kneel for confession and prayer; and sit while listening to reading or preaching. You will see some indication for those postures in the bulletin. Your presence is more precious than your posture: please stand, sit, or kneel as you are able and prefer.

Welcome! We're glad you're here!

Page references are to the red Book of Common Prayer. Hymns are found in the blue Hymnal, with service music indicated by 'S' at the front of the Hymnal; 'LEVAS' for hymns from red/black Lift Every Voice and Sing; and 'WLP' for hymns from green Wonder, Love, and Praise.

PRELUDE *Draw Near My Soul, O Christ*

Arthur Sullivan

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

HYMN 137 *O wondrous type!*

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

Please stand as you are able

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant and People

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.

GLORIA S 280

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

Seated

First Lesson

A Reading from 2 Kings 2:1-12

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 50:1-6 *Deus deorum*

The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; *
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *
God reveals himself in glory.

Our God will come and will not keep silence; *
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.

He calls the heavens and the earth from above *
to witness the judgment of his people.

"Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."

Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; *
for God himself is judge.

Second Lesson

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians. 4:3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Stand as able

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. 9:2-9
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

HOMILY

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant and People

Stand as able

**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 word of God calls us to see that all the places and occasions of the world, even places of sorrow and death, are transfigured by the presence of the glory of God in Christ Jesus. Let us now call to mind all who are in any need and commend them to God's transforming care, saying: O merciful God, hear our prayer.

For those who are alone, for widows and widowers and orphans, **O merciful God, hear our prayer.**

For the imprisoned, for those whose only home is the streets, for those who are hungry or unable to feed their children, for those who are unemployed, **O merciful God, hear our prayer.**

For refugees, for the victims of warfare, for those held in poverty by racial discrimination, **O merciful God, hear our prayer.**

For the people living in our community, our city, and our nation, **O merciful God, hear our prayer.**

For artists and writers, for those who teach and dream, for those who study the light-bearing word of Christ, **O merciful God, hear our prayer.**

For the church and its leaders, being formed by the life-giving word of Christ, and for this gathered assembly, **O merciful God, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant

With Moses and Elijah, with Mary and Elizabeth, with the church throughout the ages bearing witness to the great light of God revealed, we commend to you all for whom we pray, O merciful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Kumbaya* sung by all

Spiritual

1. Kumbaya, my Lord
2. Someone's crying, Lord
3. Someone's singing, Lord
4. Someone's praying, Lord

DOXOLOGY 380, V 3

**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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

Standing, seated or kneeling

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God 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. 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

SANCTUS S 125

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

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.**

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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

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 Bread and the Cup are distributed with these words
The Body (and Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life.

COMMUNION MUSIC *Liturgical Prelude No. 2*

George Oldroyd

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,
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

CLOSING HYMN 618 *Ye watchers and ye holy ones*

DISMISSAL

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

J. & J. R. Johnson

PARTICIPANTS

The Reverend Julie D. Bryant, DMin, Rector
Lynn Robinson, Minister of Music • Carol Dunlap, Guest Organist
Ed Martin, Usher • Eileen Tallent, Altar Guild
Dave Dunlap, Reader • Lisa Pope, Prayers of the People
Patricia Broida, Lay Eucharistic Minister
Bill Pritchard, Teller • Sandy Winger, Fellowship
Pete Olivere and Sandy Winger, Sound and Live-stream Coordinators

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome:** We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors and newcomers. All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Or you may come forward and receive a blessing.

**Let's begin in silence.** The parlor is available for socializing before worship, and you are encouraged to make use of it to catch up with one another. This allows the sanctuary to be a quiet place for those who wish to pray or prepare themselves to read and gives the prelude its due attention as an invitation to worship.

**Emergency Pastoral Care.** For pastoral emergencies please call or text the Reverend Julie D. Bryant at 703-336-2255. Her email address is [rector@stjohnsarlingtonva.org](mailto:rector@stjohnsarlingtonva.org).

**St. John's position on racism** can be found on the home page of our website, [www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org](http://www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org).

**Barbara Olivere maintains our common Prayer List**, and sends cards to people who are ill, as well as birthday cards and anniversary cards. Please communicate with her at [prayers@stjohnsarlingtonva.org](mailto:prayers@stjohnsarlingtonva.org). If you are able to share in this ministry, please be in touch with the Rector or Barbara, as keeping in contact with one another is particularly important to those unable to be with us in worship.

**This Tuesday, February 13, is our Mardi Gras Pancake Supper.** Open to Glencarlyn and the extended community, please join us from 5-7 pm for free pancakes along with sausage and apple sauce. There will be activities for children and beads for them, too. Free childcare will be available. Everyone is encouraged to strut their fanciest attire as we join others celebrating Carnivale around the world. Donations of canned or packaged non-perishable food for AFAC are welcome, providing for those in need of food assistance.

**This Wednesday, February 14, is Ash Wednesday.** The Ash Wednesday service will be at noon at St. Patrick's, and at 6:30 pm at St. John's.

**Lenten Study, February 21, 28, March 6 and 13**, noon at St. Patrick's and 6:30 pm at St. John's. "It's All About Love" (IAAL) Webinar/Discussion. Using portions of four of the Webinars that have continued the work of the IAAL Revival, we will survey some of the racial reconciliation work being done across the Episcopal Church. On February 21<sup>st</sup>, the topic is Jane Crow and Public Discourse: Womanist Public Theology and the Contributions of Pauli Murray.

**A Wee Glimpse of Celtic Spirituality – a Mini-Retreat, Saturday, March 9**, 9-1 at St. Patrick's. Spend a day in good company exploring the basics of Celtic spirituality and practice, drawn from the work of John Philip Newell and others. JP Newell's work includes ties between Celtic Spirituality and the Gospel of John, which might be particularly meaningful to these two congregations. The day will include activities related to Celtic art and imagery, and an exercise connected to the Stations of the Cross.

**Celebration of Ministry and Installation of Rector, Sunday, March 17, 3 pm** beginning at St. John's and continuing at St. Patrick's; Reception to follow at St. Patrick's. (Please note: Combined Morning Service for the Fifth Sunday of Lent will be offered at 9 am at St. John's only.)

**The Flower Chart for 2024** is posted on the big bulletin board downstairs. Choose your Sundays for 2024 while most of them are still available.

**Live-Stream Worship** Zoom access

link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87353789589?pwd=OWlmaElNYnpDZiN2ZVFSWDNlKoZDUT09>

and Meeting ID: 873 5378 9589. Password: 2020. Or, [zoom.com/join](https://zoom.com/join) Meeting ID: 873 5378 9589 and Password: 2020.