

**Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**

January 29, 2023

Welcome to the Church of St. Peter and St. Simon-the-Apostle.

**Choral Evensong at 4:00 pm.**

Officiant: The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine

Director of Music: Robin Davis

Organist: Alison Jane

The service begins on page 17 of the *Book of Common Prayer*.

**Prelude** *Meditation on Wie schön leuchtet* David Bednall

**Hymn 556** *O For A Closer Walk with God* Caithness

**Versicles & Responses** – *BCP* pp. 20-21

*Officiant* O Lord, open thou our lips;

***All* And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us;

***All* O Lord, make haste to help us.** *You are invited to stand.*

*Officiant* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

***All* As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

*Officiant* Praise ye the Lord;

***All* The Lord’s Name be praised.**

**Psalm 107. 1-9, 43** *Confitemini Domino. Sung by all. Please remain standing.*

1 O GIVE thanks unto the Lord, for | he is | gracious, /

and his | mercy en | dureth for | ever.

2 Let them give thanks whom the | Lord · hath re | deemed, /

and de | livered | from ad | versity;

*2nd* 3 And gathered them out of the lands, from the east and | from the | west, /

from the | north and | from the | south.

4 They that wandered in the wilderness, even in a | desert | place, /

found no way to a | city where | mortals | dwelt.

5 Hung | ry and | thirsty, /

their | soul | fainted | in them.

6 So they cried unto the | Lord · in their | trouble, /

and he delivered | them from | their dis | tress.

7 He led them forth by the | right | way, /

that they might go to a | city where | people | dwelt.

8 O that all would therefore praise the | Lord · for his | goodness, /

and declare the wonders that he doeth | for the | children of | men!

9 For he satisfieth the | empty | soul, /

and filleth the | hungry | soul with | goodness.

*2nd* 43 Whoso is wise will | ponder these | things; /

and they shall understand the loving | -kindness | of the | Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and | to the | Son, /

\* and | to the | Holy | Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be, /

\* world without | end. A | — | men.

**The First Lesson** *Isaiah 54.1-14 Read by Carol Peck*

*Reader* The first lesson is written in the 54th chapter of the Book of Isaiah, beginning at the 1st verse.

Sing, O barren one who did not bear; burst into song and shout, you who have not been in labour! For the children of the desolate woman will be more than the children of her that is married, says the Lord. Enlarge the site of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and to the left, and your descendants will possess the nations

and will settle the desolate towns. Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; do not be discouraged, for you will not suffer disgrace; for you will forget the shame of your youth, and the disgrace of your widowhood you will remember no more. For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. For the Lord has called you like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, like the wife of a man's youth when she is cast off, says your God. For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with great compassion I will gather you. In overflowing wrath for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the Lord, your Redeemer. This is like the days of Noah to me: Just as I swore that the waters of Noah would never again go over the earth, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you and will not rebuke you. For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you. O afflicted one, storm-tossed, and not comforted, I am about to set your stones in antimony, and lay your foundations with sapphires. I will make your pinnacles of rubies, your gates of jewels, and all your wall of precious stones. All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the prosperity of your children. In righteousness you shall be established; you shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; and from terror, for it shall not come near you.

*Reader* Here ends the first lesson.

**Magnificat in G** Opus 81**–** *Choir*  Charles Villiers Stanford

Soprano Solo – Sophie Knowles

MY soul doth magnify the Lord, / and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded / the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold, from henceforth / all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me; / and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him / throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; / he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, / and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things; / and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy / hath holpen his servant Israel; As he promised to our forefathers, / Abraham and his seed for ever.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, / world without end. Amen.

*St. Luke 1.46*

**The Second Lesson** *Luke 13.1-17 Read by Carol Peck*

*Reader* The second lesson is written in the 13th chapter of the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, beginning at the 1st verse.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the other people living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish just as they did.” Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the man working the vineyard, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.’ ” Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

*Reader* Here ends the second lesson.

**Nunc Dimittis in G** Opus 81 **–** *Choir*  Charles Villiers Stanford

Baritone Solo – James Coole-Stevenson

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, / according to thy word.  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, / which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, / and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, / world without end. Amen.

*St. Luke 2.26*

**The Apostles’ Creed** – *BCP* p. 22

*Officiant* I believe in God

***All*** **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.**

*Officiant* The Lord be with you;

***All*** **And with thy spirit.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy upon us.

***All* Christ, have mercy upon us.**

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Officiant* Our Father

***All* 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 them that trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

*Officiant* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

***All* And grant us thy salvation.**

*Officiant* O Lord, save the King;

***All* And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

*Officiant* Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

***All* And make thy chosen people joyful**.

*Officiant* O Lord, save thy people;

***All* And bless thine inheritance.**

*Officiant*  Give peace in our time, O Lord;

***All* And evermore mightily defend us.**

*Officiant*  O God, make clean our hearts within us;

***All* And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

**The Collects**

*Officiant* O GOD, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant to us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Collect for Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany*

*Officiant* O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen*.

*Collect for Peace*

*Officiant* LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

*Collect for Aid against all Perils*

**Anthem** *Evening Hymn* Balfour Gardiner

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| Te lucis ante terminum, Rerum Creator poscimus, Ut solita clementia Sis præsul ad custodiam. | Before the ending of the day, Creator of the world, we pray That with thy wonted favor, Thou Would'st be our guard and keeper now. |
| Procul recedant somnia, Et noctium phantasmata; Hostemque nostrum comprime, Ne polluantur corpora. | From all ill dreams defend our eyes, From nightly fears and fantasies; Tread under foot our ghostly foe, That no pollution we may know. |
| Præsta, Pater omnipotens, Per Iesum Christum Dominum, Qui tecum in perpetuum Regnat cum Sancto Spiritu. Amen. | O Father, that we ask be done, Through Jesus Christ, Thine only Son; Who, with the Holy Ghost and Thee, Shall live and reign eternally. Amen. |

**Homily** The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine

**Hymn 13** *O Gladsome Light, O Grace* Nunc Dimittis

*During the hymn a collection will be taken.*

**The Prayers**

**General Thanksgiving**

***All*** O MOST merciful Father, we humbly thank thee for all thy gifts so freely bestowed upon us. For life and health and safety, for power to work and leisure to rest, for all that is beautiful in creation and in the lives of people, we praise and magnify thy holy Name. But, above all, we thank thee for our spiritual mercies in Christ Jesus our Lord, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  Amen.

**Evening Respond**

Diagram

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**Prayer of St Chrysostom** – *BCP* p. 24

**The Grace** – *BCP* p. 24

***All* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,**

**and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

**Hymn 506** *Lord of All Hopefulness* Slane

**Postlude** *Finale Jubilante* Healey Willan

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