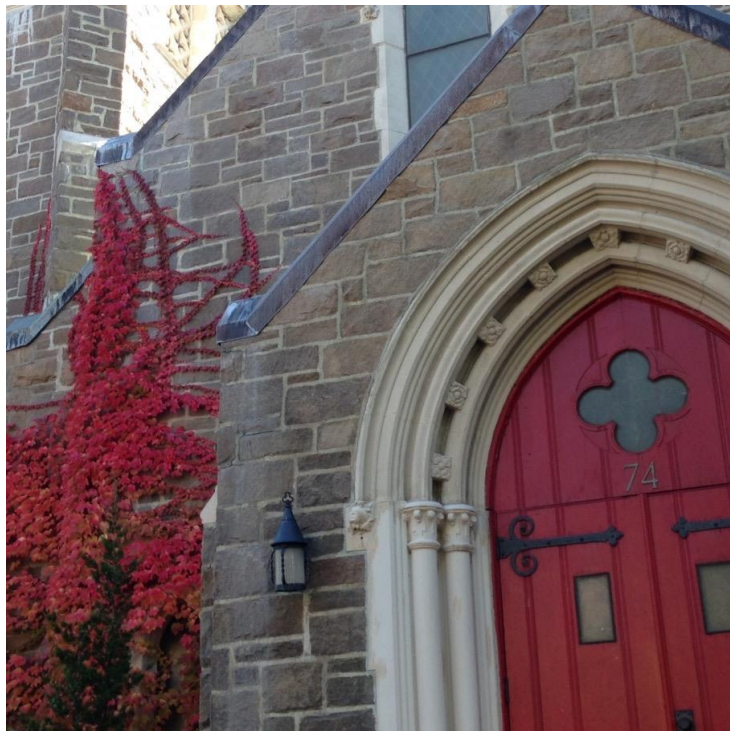


St. John's Episcopal Church
74 Pleasant Street
Arlington, Massachusetts

Last Sunday after Epiphany

February 11th, 2024



Sunday Worship Service

We welcome you to St. John's Church!

Parish Office: 781-648-4819

Web Site: <http://www.saintjohns-arlington.org>

Office Email: admin@saintjohns-arlington.org

Treasurer Email: treasurer@saintjohns-arlington.org

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsarlington>

Rector: The Reverend Diane Wong

Deacon: The Reverend Dawn Tesorero

Music Director & Organist: Henry Buck

Church School Coordinator:

Parish Administrator: Susan Brooks

Sexton: Erwin Rosales, Michael Axman

Nursery Assistants: Claire Dornin & Norah Mallam

VESTRY MEMBERS

Co-Warden: Christine Carney (2025); **Co-Warden:** Claire Walker (2026)

Treasurer: John Gibson (2025)

Clerks: Dorothy Mallam & David Wilcox (2025)

Kermit Argon & Cate Barr (2027)

David Wilcox & Dorothy Mallam (2026); Dawn Shearer (2027)

DELEGATES

Alewife Deanery –Emelia Blankson (2025) & Jan Ford (2026)

Alewife Deanery Co-Convener – Anson Stewart (2024)

Diocesan Delegates – Frank Foster (2025); Joe Curro (2026)

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS
Last Sunday after Epiphany

February 11th, 2024

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude: “Offertorio”
Pietro Cattaneo

Oreste Ravenello (1871-1938); arr. for violin and piano by

(Please stand if you are able.)

Processional Hymn: “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

#135 in 1982 Hymnal

Celebrant: Blessed be the One holy and Living God.

People: Glory to God forever and ever.

Collect for Purity:

All: 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:

S280 in 1982 Hymnal

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect for the Day:

All: 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.*

Readings

The First Lesson: 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

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 50: 1-6

- 1 The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; *
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *
God reveals himself in glory.
- 3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; *
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.
- 4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above *
to witness the judgment of his people.
- 5 "Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."
- 6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; *
for God himself is judge.

The Epistle: 2 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

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand if you are able.)

Gradual Hymn: "How Bright Appears the Morning Star" #497 in 1982 Hymnal
(Sing vs. 1&2 before the reading and vs. 3 after.)

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel: Mark 9: 2-9

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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Diane Wong

(Please stand if you are able.)

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

Prayers of the People

In our prayers today we remember those on our parish prayer list: Emelia Blankson; Nancy Brown; Chris Capaldo; Claire & Ralph; Barbara Curro; Presiding Bishop Michael Curry; Gene & Donna Downing; Alex Greenly; Anita Ho; Jack; Jessica & Xiong (pron Hong); Lester; Connie McKinley; Bruce & Winnie Oliver; Lucy Pachter; Cale & Liz Putnam; Savannah; Dawn Shearer; Phil & Pat; Tristan; Vivien; and Don Webb.

We remember also Military Families and Military Chaplaincies.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Our Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston; The Crossing; MANNA Community; The Cathedral Chapter; Episcopal Boston Chinese Ministry; and Postulants & Candidates for Holy Orders.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan.

Remembrances: In loving memory of Wilson Edison Wilcox by David Wilcox.

Form III **BCP p. 387**

Concluding Collect

The Peace **BCP p. 360**

Announcements

LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Music, Choir Anthem: “O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word)” Robert Buckley
Farlee

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. Amen.)

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B **BCP p. 367**
(Please stand or kneel as you are able.)

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 him thanks and praise.

the Celebrant continues:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, the Creator of heaven and earth...

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: **#S124 in 1982 Hymnal**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and

earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

the Celebrant continues:

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 your command, loving God:

Celebrant and People:

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

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 (_____) and 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 God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

The Fraction

BCP p. 364

Fraction Anthem: "O Lamb of God"

S158 in 1982 Hymnal

***Celebrant:* (Communion Invitation)** The gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion: (All are welcome at God's Table. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please stand with your arms crossed. Gluten-free wafers and apple juice are available. Please let the clergy know if you need them.)

Communion Hymn: "I Love to Tell the Story"

#64 in LEVAS

Communion Prayer for People on Zoom

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. *Amen.*

Prayer for the Election of the Presiding Bishop

Almighty God, source of all wisdom and understanding: Look graciously on your church, and so guide the hearts and minds of those who will choose our next presiding bishop, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for all of your people, equip us for our ministries, and proclaim your word to us and to the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer Offered by Archbishop Hosam Naoum, head of the Anglican province of Jerusalem & the Middle East

O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land. Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths, Jews, Muslims, and Christians, and for all people of the land. While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children for, to all of us, you are our Heavenly Father. In Jesus’s name we pray. *Amen.*

Prayer for the Bishop Search Nominating Committee (Diocese of MA)

Loving and Living God, as we seek a Bishop for the Diocese of Massachusetts, we also seek you. Help us to listen deeply as you speak through the members of this committee; through the people of our Diocese; through our parishes, missions, ministries and institutions; through our neighborhoods, towns, and cities; through our past and our present; through word and sacrament. When we are distracted by other voices, other tasks, other pressures, call us back to you. Give us courage, vision, and an ability to see past the surface of things. May we be patient and compassionate, trusting always in your mercy and goodness to us and to all that you have made. We pray this in the name of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, one God. *Amen.*

Post Communion Prayer *(Please stand if you are able.)* **BCP p. 366**

Blessing

Recessional Hymn: “Alleluia, Song of Gladness” **#318 in ELW**

Alleluia, Song of Gladness



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
here by Bab - y - lon’s sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

Dismissal

Postlude: “Built on a Rock (KIRKEN)” **Gilbert M. Martin**

Liturgical Ministers

Lectors: Claire Walker & Jan Ford

Crucifer/LEM: Claire Walker

Choir: St. John's Choir

Violin: Louie Steptoe

Altar Guild: Jan Ford & Joe Curro

Greeters/Ushers: Joe Curro & David Wilcox

Nursery Assistants: Claire Dornin & Norah Mallam

Coffee Hour Hosts/Hostesses

Dorothy Mallam & Kermit Argon

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OUR MISSION: We share the good news of God's love to all who worship with us, through fellowship with our neighbors, and through our service in partnership with the greater community.

OUR VISION: We seek to always grow in our understanding of God's plan for us as individuals, families, and as a Christian community. Together we will deepen our capacity to serve, to respond to God's call, and to grow our collective ability to be stewards of God's gifts.

MUSIC: The music for the day is listed in this booklet. Hymns are found in the 1982 Hymnal and LEVAS (Lift Every Voice and Sing). On the hymn board, blue next to the numbers indicates the 1982 Hymnal; red indicates LEVAS; and green indicates Wonder Love and Praise (WLP) – usually there is an insert for that.

CHILDREN: Children are welcome in our worship services! Church School is available during the 10 a.m. service in the church school room downstairs.

COMMUNION: Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion. Those not receiving the sacrament may come forward with their arms crossed to receive a blessing. Both communion wine & juice are offered. We also have gluten-free wafers. If you need one, please let the clergy know during the Peace.

BAPTISM: If you desire to be baptized, or have questions about baptism, please see the clergy following the worship service.

RESTROOMS: To access the restrooms from the Sanctuary, exit through the door to the left of the altar, turn to your right, and go downstairs. Or use the handicap-accessible restroom on the same level as the Sanctuary. Just keep walking straight ahead; it is in the Library.

WELCOME TO ALL WHO GATHER FOR WORSHIP TODAY: If you are visiting, please sign our guest book. We would love to get to know you a little better. Please join us after the worship service for refreshments and hospitality. If you would like to know more about this congregation, please feel free to speak to the clergy, the Greeters/Ushers, or with any parishioners. In addition, there is printed material about the congregation at the rear of the Sanctuary.