

Holy Trinity Church
446 Hamilton St. Southbridge, Massachusetts 01550
A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21, 2024

9:15 a.m. Children's Chapel

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Religious Life Sunday

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

[Isaiah 43:19]

The Rev Judith Lee, *Celebrant & Preacher*

Anne Bouvier-Monroe, *Musician*

Josh Spooner, *Eucharistic Minister*

Laura Gervais, *Reader*

Prelude *Alleluia, Song of Gladness*
Opening Hymn *Jesus calls us o'er the tumult*

R. Powell
Hymnal #550

Blessed are you, holy and living One.

You come to your people and set them free.

Collect for Monastics and Vocations *in unison*

O Lord Jesus Christ, you became poor for our sake, that we might be made rich through your poverty: Guide and sanctify, we pray, those whom you call to follow you under the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, that by their prayer and service they may enrich your Church, and by their life and worship may glorify your Name; for you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Song of Praise *Gloria*

Hymnal #S280

Collect of the Day *in unison*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Jonah [3:1-5, 10]

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

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

Silence

Psalm 62:6-14 *Nonne Deo?*

6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; * truly, my hope is in him.

7 He alone is my rock and my salvation, *
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.

8 In God is my safety and my honor; * God is my strong rock and my refuge.

9 Put your trust in him always, O people, *
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, *
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.

11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, * all of them together.

12 Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; *
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, * that power belongs to God.

14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, *
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

Silence

The Second Lesson: A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians [7:29-31]

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

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

Sequence Hymn *I want to walk as a child of the Light v. 1 & Refrain*

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. / I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. / The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain: In him there is no darkness at all. /

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. / Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

The Gospel: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ According to Mark [1:14-20]

Response: Glory to you, Lord Christ

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little

farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Judith Lee

Silence

The Nicene Creed

BCP, 358

Prayers of the People

The Prayers of the People

God calls on us to follow Christ in all the world. Let us earnestly call on God to hear our prayers for the needs, concerns, and hopes of all peoples.

For the church of Jesus Christ in every place, especially for our religious and monastic communities. *Pause.*

This day and always, **Christ be our Light.**

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Douglas our bishop, Judith our Priest-in-Charge, and all who minister in Christ. *Pause.*

This day and always, **Christ be our Light.**

For this country, especially our president Joseph, the leaders in Congress, and the elected officials of all our communities. *Pause.*

This day and always, **Christ be our Light.**

For all nations and their leaders, for those in the armed forces who guard the peace, and for those who seek nonviolent resolution to conflicts. *Pause.*

This day and always, **Christ be our Light.**

For all those in danger and need: the sick and the suffering, refugees, prisoners and their families, the hungry, homeless, and oppressed, especially the guests of St. Luke's Guesthouse, and the children at Mapong Babies Home and those we now name, silently or aloud. *Pause.*

This day and always, **Christ be our Light.**

For this holy gathering and for all who are called to follow Jesus, *Pause.*

This day and always, **Christ be our Light.**

For ourselves, our families, and those we love, especially those we now name, silently or aloud *Pause.*

This day and always, **Christ be our Light.**

For those who rest in Christ, and for all the departed, especially those whom we now name, silently or aloud. *[Pause.]*

This day and always, **Christ be our Light.**

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for the Parish

Merciful God, your creation began with light that you called forth, and declared good. The light from a star led the Wise Men to Bethlehem at the birth of Jesus, your Son. May your light shine in our hearts so that those around us may witness your love in our lives. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen

The Peace

Announcements and Sharing "God Moments"

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Hymn *You have come down to the lakeshore*

WLP #758

Presentation Hymn *In the bleak midwinter, v. 4*

Hymnal #112

What can I give him, poor as I am?]

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him—Give my heart

The Eucharistic Prayer **B**

BCP, 367

Sanctus

Hymnal #S130

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal #S164

Communion

Thuman Mina

WLP #808

Prayer of Thanksgiving *Let us pray.*

O God among us, we give thanks that you have made us one with you through this holy communion. May we be visited by angels, may we follow stars, may we bring gifts we have to offer. May we embrace the journey and travel in love. May Christ bless our homes and find a home in our hearts throughout the year. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn *Will you come and follow me?*

WLP #757

Dismissal

Postlude *Variation on "Puer Nobis Nascitur"*

Arr. by Hopson

Music reprinted and streamed under Onelicense.net #A722242

Announcements

The 2023 Annual Reports were sent out this week, and some copies are available in the narthex. Please let the Wardens or Ushers know if you have not been able to get a copy.

Annual Parish Meeting: Next Sunday January 28th after the service in the Parish Hall. It will also be possible to participate via zoom. Your vestry will host a special coffee hour. Children (preschool through grade 6) will go directly downstairs for VBS, and will come to the parish hall at 10:15. The Annual Reports were sent out and posted on the website this week. Copies are available in the narthex for your convenience. Nancy and Susan will lead a review and discussion of the 2024 budget in the Parish Hall, 8:45-9:15.

Our **Mission Plate for January & February** will go to the Worcester Community Action Fuel Assistance Program.

Monthly Mission Sponsorship for the Mampong Babies Home in Kumasi, Ghana. A sign-up for monthly sponsorships is in the back of the church.

Food Pantry Collection: Our January donations will go to the Bridge Fridge in Southbridge. Our focus will be canned meats and vegetables.

Deadline for February Tidings submissions: Tuesday January 23rd

**Winter Parking limits on Hamilton Street: December 1 - April 1:
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH IS ON THE EVEN SIDE OF THE STREET.**

On Even Dates:

- Midnight to 7pm, park on the ODD side of the street
- 7pm to midnight park on the EVEN side of the street

On Odd Dates:

- Midnight to 7pm park on the EVEN side of the street
- 7pm to midnight park on the ODD side of the street

***If you are parking at the church for a class or meeting BEFORE 7 pm, you must obey the rules for that DATE for parking before 7 pm! You are not required to leave the class or meeting to move your car.**

What are the “religious” communities in The Episcopal Church?

Religious communities in The Episcopal Church include monastic communities, whose members live together under a rule of life and under vows such as poverty, chastity, and obedience. “Religious life” also includes dispersed Christian communities whose members are from all walks of life, who have jobs, who live in their own homes, some with families, and who live under religious vows.