



January 17th, 2021 at 10 am

Morning Prayer

Second Sunday in Epiphanytide

Please remember to keep your microphone on mute unless you are speaking; it's hard to hear otherwise. You are most welcome, however, to unmute for the prayers we say together. All **bold** text is spoken by the congregation, and the holy cacophony is good for us. You might also consider being a lesson reader or intercessor; volunteers are welcome!

ORGAN PRELUDE

"Soliloquy" by H. Alexander Matthews

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth. (*Isaiah 49: 6b*)

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Savior Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. In the presence of the God and Father of us all, we meet together to give thanks for the spiritual unity which is already ours as members of the Body of Christ. Let us acknowledge our sin, that this unity may, by God's grace, become a visible unity, so that his Church in every place may demonstrate the healing power of the gospel, and be an instrument of his peace in the life of the world.

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.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

The Lord has shown forth his glory: Come, let us adore him.

THE FIRST HYMN – "How Bright Appears the Morning Star"

The hymns are located at the end of this bulletin.

THE PSALM OF THE DAY – 139: 1-5, 12-17

Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
 you know my sitting down and my rising up;
 you discern my thoughts from afar.

**You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
 and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
 but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

**You press upon me behind and before *
 and lay your hand upon me.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
 it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

**For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
 you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
 your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

**My body was not hidden from you, *
 while I was being made in secret
 and woven in the depths of the earth.**

Your eyes beheld my limbs,
 yet unfinished in the womb;
 all of them were written in your book; *
 they were fashioned day by day,
 when as yet there was none of them.

**How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
 how great is the sum of them!**

If I were to count them, they would be more in
 number than the sand; *
 to count them all,
 my life span would need to be like yours.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
 and to the Holy Spirit:
 as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and will be forever. Amen**

THE FIRST READING – 1 Samuel 3: 1-20

A reading from the Book of Samuel.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him." As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE – A Prayer by Saint Martin Luther King, Jr.

Most gracious and all wise God, before whose face the generations rise and fall;
 thou in whom we live, and move, and have our being:
 We thank thee for all of thy good and gracious gifts, for life and for health;
 for food and for raiment;
 for the beauties of nature and human nature.
 We come before thee painfully aware of our inadequacies and shortcomings.
 We realize that we stand surrounded with the mountains of love
 and we deliberately dwell in the valley of hate.
 We stand amid the forces of truth and deliberately lie.
 We are forever offered the high road
 and yet we choose to travel the low road.
 For these sins, O God, forgive.
 Break the spell of that which blinds our minds.
 Purify our hearts that we may see thee.
 O God, in these turbulent days when fear and doubt are mounting high,
 give us broad visions, penetrating eyes, and power of endurance.
 Help us to work with renewed vigor for a warless world,
 for a better distribution of wealth,
 and for a brotherhood and sisterhood that transcends race or color.
 In the name and spirit of Jesus we pray. Amen.

THE SECOND READING – 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE THIRD HYMN – “Blessed Martin, Pastor, Prophet”

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 1: 43-51

A reading from the Gospel of John.

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOMILY – The Rev'd Canon Matthew Dayton-Welch

"Blessed Jesus at Thy Word" by J. R. Able, and sung by Eva Moos

THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray: **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.**

Let us worship the Savior with joy and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

The magi came from the east to worship your Son: Father, grant to Christians everywhere the spirit of adoration; fill our hearts with a hunger for your holy sacraments, that we might soon taste again what we remember in faith; and teach us to adore your holy presence in the lives of those whom you have created, that in honoring one another, we honor you. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh: Father, accept the offering of our hearts and minds at the beginning of this year; accept our fears and hopes as holy gifts, and teach us to give to one another the gift of your kindness and grace. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ: Father, grant an abundance of peace to your world, remembering especially those communities and homes in which violence and dehumanization is found, and for our nation in its time of harrowing discord. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death: Father, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless, and all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; give them the courage of the Holy Family who traversed the desert, and send to them caring advocates and friends. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son shared the life of his home and family at Nazareth: Father, protect in your love our neighbors, our families and the communities here assembled, that those we raise up may, like Jesus, be raised in love and with the knowledge of your goodness. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Father, we rejoice in our fellowship with the shepherds, the angels, the magi, the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and all the faithful departed. May they meet us when we too are returned to you. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

In your unfailing love for us and for all people, hear and answer our prayers through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray:

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

God, we thank you for the inspiration of Jesus. Grant that we will love you with all our hearts, souls, and minds, and love our neighbors as we love ourselves, even our enemy neighbors. And we ask you, God, in these days of emotional tension, when the problems of the world are gigantic in extent and chaotic in detail, to be with us in our going out and our coming in, in our rising up and in our lying down, in our moments of joy and in our moments of sorrow, until the day when there shall be no sunset and no dawn. **Amen.** (*A prayer also by St. MLK, Jr.*)

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

The Officiant offers other prayers and invites the people to add their own petitions. Then, the Officiant continues:

Christ our God, who at all times and through every hour is worshiped and glorified both in heaven and on earth; you who are so patient, full of mercy and compassion; who love the just and show mercy to sinners; who summon all to salvation through the promise of good things to come: Lord, now receive our prayers at this present hour and direct our lives in accordance with your commandments. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, correct our minds, clarify our intentions, and deliver us from every calamity, evil, and distress. Stand your holy angels around us, that, guided and protected by their ranks, we may come into the unity of faith and the knowledge of your unapproachable glory—for blessed are you to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

THE FINAL HYMN – “Ye Servants of God”

A PRAYER OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Then the Officiant offers a blessing.

May God the Father, who led the wise men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from light, lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord. May God the Son, who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. May God the Holy Spirit, who came upon the beloved Son at his baptism in the river Jordan, pour out his gifts on you who have come to the waters of new birth. And the blessing of God Almighty, the † Father, the † Son, and the † Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

“O, Hear the Joyful Tidings” by Alexander Schreiner

Please stay logged on for a virtual coffee hour.

THE FIRST HYMN – “How Bright Appears the Morning Star”

1 How bright ap - pears the Morn - ing Star, with mer - cy beam - ing
 2 Though cir - cled by the hosts on high, he deigned to cast a
 3 Re - joice, ye heavens; thou earth, re - ply; with praise, ye sin - ners,

from a - far; the host of heaven re - joic - es;
 pit - ying eye up - on his help - less crea - ture;
 fill the sky, for this his In - car - na - tion.

O right - eous Branch, O Jes - se's Rod! Thou Son of Man and
 the whole cre - a - tion's Head and Lord, by high - est ser - a -
 In - car - nate God, put forth thy power, ride on, ride on, great

Son of God! We, too, will lift our voic - es;
 phim a - dored, as - sumed our ve - ry na - ture;
 Con - quer - or, till all know thy sal - va - tion.

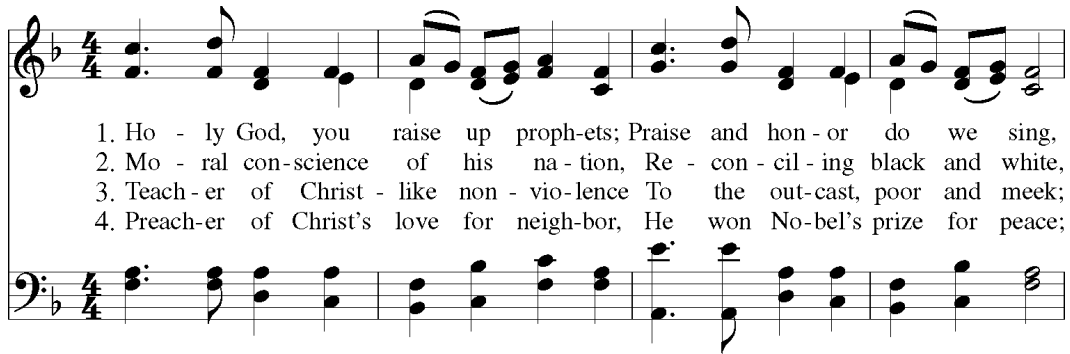
Je - sus, Je - sus! Ho - ly, ho - ly, yet most low - ly,
 Je - sus, grant us, through thy mer - it, to in - her - it
 A - men, a - men! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

draw thou near us; great Em - man - uel, come and hear us.
 thy sal - va - tion; hear, O hear our sup - pli - ca - tion.
 Praise be giv - en ev - er - more, by earth and hea - ven.

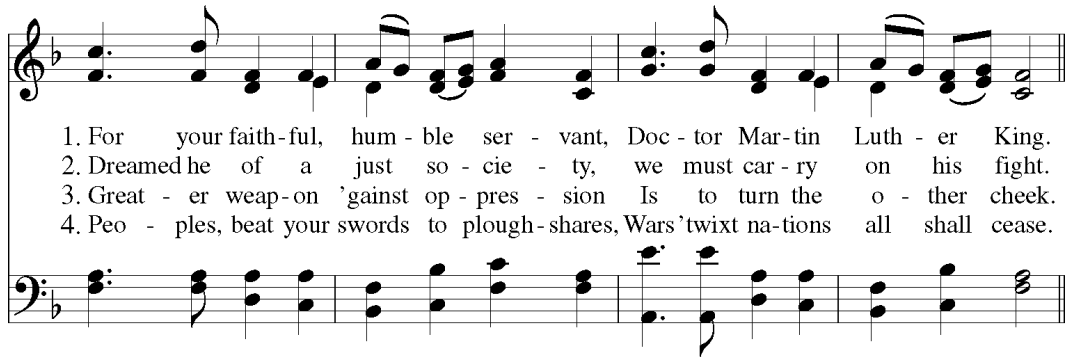
Words: William Mercer (1811-1873), after Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608)

Music: *Wie schön leuchtet*, melody att. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

THE SECOND HYMN – “Blessed Martin, Pastor, Prophet”



1. Ho - ly God, you raise up proph-ets; Praise and hon - or do we sing,
 2. Mo - ral con-science of his na - tion, Re - con - cil - ing black and white,
 3. Teach - er of Christ - like non - vio-lence To the out-cast, poor and meek;
 4. Preach-er of Christ's love for neigh-bor, He won No-bel's prize for peace;

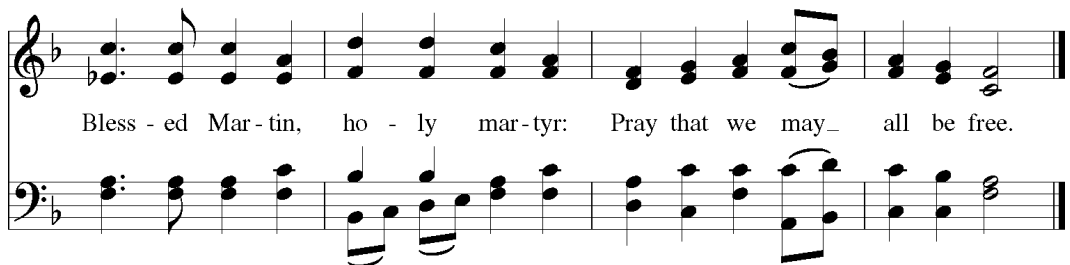


1. For your faith-ful, hum - ble ser - vant, Doc - tor Mar-tin Luth - er King.
 2. Dreamed he of a just so - cie - ty, we must car - ry on his fight.
 3. Great - er weap-on 'gainst op - pres - sion Is to turn the o - ther cheek.
 4. Peo - ples, beat your swords to plough-shares, Wars 'twixt na-tions all shall cease.

Refrain



Bless - ed Mar-tin, pas - tor, proph-et, you the moun-tain - top did see;



Bless - ed Mar-tin, ho - ly mar-tyr: Pray that we may_ all be free.

5. Champion of oppressed humanity
 Suff'ring throughout all the world;
 He offered pride and dignity
 Let Christ's banner be unfurled!
Refrain

6. So, when felled by sniper's bullet,
 Under heavens overcast,
 He could cry, "Thank God Almighty,
 I am free, I'm free at last!"
Refrain

THE FINAL HYMN – “Ye Servants of God”

1 Ye ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
 2 God rul - eth on high, al - might - y to save;
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne!
 4 Then let us a - dore, and give him his right:

and pub - lish a - broad his won - der - ful Name;
 and still he is nigh: his pres - ence we have.
 Let all cry a - loud, and hon - or the Son.
 All glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,

the Name all - vic - to - rious of Je - sus ex - tol:
 The great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
 The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
 and hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove,

his king - dom is glo - rious; he rules o - ver all.
 as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus our King.
 fall down on their fa - ces, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 and thanks nev - er - ceas - ing and in - fi - nite love.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: Paderborn, melody from *Catholisch-Paderbornisches Gesang-buch*, 1765; harm. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)