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**The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany ~ February 2, 2025**

**10:00 A.M. MORNING PRAYER ~ RITE 2**

**Book of Common Prayer page 75**

**Opening Hymn: #437: "Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord"**

**The Confession** **BCP p. 79**

**The Absolution** **BCP p. 80**

**The Invitatory and Psalter** **BCP p. 80**

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

*People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

*All: 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.*

Officiant: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

Come let us adore him.

**Jubilate (Psalm 100)** *The Officiant and people* **BCP p. 82**

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \***

**serve the Lord with gladness**

**and come before his presence with a song.**

**Know this: The Lord himself is God; \***

**he himself has made us, and we are his;**

**we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise\***

**give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

**For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \***

**and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

## The Readings & The Canticles

### Psalm 24:7-10

**7** Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.

**8** "Who is this King of glory?" \*  
"The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord, mighty in battle."

**9** Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.

**10** "Who is he, this King of glory?" \*  
"The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory."

**The First Lesson** Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader: Hear ends the Lesson

**The Second Song of Isaiah (*Isaiah 55:6-11*)**

**BCP p. 86**

**Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; \*  
call upon him when he draws near.**

**Let the wicked forsake their ways \*  
and the evil ones their thoughts;**

**And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion\*  
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.\***

**For my thoughts are not your thoughts, \*  
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.**

**For as the heavens are higher than the earth, \*  
so are my ways higher than your ways,  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

**For as rain and snow fall from the heavens \*  
and return not again, but water the earth,**

**Bringing forth life and giving growth, \*  
seed for sowing and bread for eating,**

**So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; \*  
it will not return to me empty;**

**But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, \*  
and prosper in that for which I sent it.**

**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 Second Lesson: Hebrews 2:14-18**

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free

those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader: Hear ends the Lesson

**Canticle 21 You are God**

**BCP p. 95**

**You are God: we praise you;  
You are the Lord; we acclaim you;  
You are the eternal Father: All creation worships you.  
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.  
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;  
Father, of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.  
the eternal Son of the Father.  
When you became man to set us free  
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.  
You overcame the sting of death**

**and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come and be our judge.  
Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.**

## **Sequence Anthem**

### **The Gospel: Luke 2:22-40**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Reader: Hear ends the Lesson

**Sermon**

**Doug Bowman**

**The Apostles' Creed** (*The Officiant leads the people*) **BCP p. 96**

**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 Intercessor leads the people in the prayers.*)

Intercessor: The Lord be with you.

***People: And also with you.***

Intercessor: Let us pray.

**The Lord's Prayer** (*Said in unison.*)

**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 Suffrages (A)

BCP p. 97

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
**R. And grant us your salvation.**
- V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
**R. Let your people sing with joy.**
- V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
**R. For only in you can we live in safety.**
- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
**R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
- V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
**R. Your saving health among all nations.**
- V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
**R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
- V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
**R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## Collect of the Day

**Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.***

## A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***



### **A Collect for Peace**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

### **A Collect for Mission**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

### **The Prayers of the People**

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For our Bishops and all clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for Christ & the Epiphany, East Haven; St. John's, East Windsor; Christ Church, Easton; Holy Trinity, Enfield; Comite Hispano, Spanish-language Cursillo, Latino/Hispanic ministry in Connecticut. The Anglican Church in New Zealand & Polynesia.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and the will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For those who rejoice this week as they celebrate their birthdays: Tessa Gianoni (2/3), and those celebrating anniversaries, that they might obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing might flee away, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, remembering especially Peggy Cobb and the Cobb Family, Coco, Sheila and those who are listed in our Continuing Prayers list, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially DonnaLee Kay and Joan Hamilton, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace. let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

***To thee, O Lord our God.***

*Presider: For what else shall we pray on this day?*

### ***Announcements***

#### **The Offertory**

**Offertory Hymn: #436: “Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates”**

Officiant: In thanksgiving for the many blessings of our lives, let us pray:

**The General Thanksgiving** (*all standing*)

**BCP page 101**

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give**

**us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

*The Officiant concludes the service with the following prayer:*

**Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

**BCP page 102**

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.**

**The Blessing:**

Officiant: Let us Bless the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Closing Hymn: #493: "O for a thousand tongues to sing"**

## **Parish Family Remembrances and Thanksgivings for February 2, 2025**

**We pray for our clergy:** our retiring Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Presiding Bishop Sean, our bishops, Jeff and Laura, our priest, Ron, our seminarian Doug, our deacons Donna and Marge and all priests and deacons.

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer,** we pray for Christ & the Epiphany, East Haven; St. John's, East Windsor; Christ Church, Easton; Holy Trinity, Enfield Comite Hispano, Spanish-language Cursillo, Latino/Hispanic ministry in Connecticut. The Anglican Church in New Zealand & Polynesia.

**In St Peter's Cycle of Prayer,** we pray for all our parish family and especially for those who have requested our prayers including for Peggy Cobb and the Cobb Family, Coco, Sheila, and for those in our Continuing Prayer List, that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs.

**We pray for those who celebrate their birthdays this week,** remembering especially Tessa Gianoni (2/3).

**We pray for the deceased** remembering especially for DonnaLee and Joan Hamilton.

### **Continuing Prayer List**

Adrian Mandeville, Neal, Gloria, Loretta, Tim O'Shea, Bill Baldwin, Judy, Robin, Brenda, Richard Taylor, Jim, Jeff Baez, Lydia, David Rigby, Judy Knox, Deanne Bowen, June Beauvais; Star, Norm, Laura Beaudoin, Bill Houle, Aimee Goodrich, Cara Begin, Justin, Derek Anderson, Janet Nixon, Bill D., Steve Dubin, Ryan, Roberto Rodegher, Marlin Corbean; Brian; Joan Hamilton, Kathryn & Olivia; Caroline, Ron Lamp, Rina Bettancourt; Susan Hicks & family, Ambrosio Vidal & Family, Jeannette Farren & Family; Noel, Daryl, Scott Goodrich, Ella & Nicole, Lou and Heidi Schluntz.

### On Going Activities

- **Balance Class: Mondays 10:00 a.m. \$5 per session.**
- **Cub Scouts: 1st Mondays 5:30-7 p.m.**
- **Hebron Greater Together Community Fund: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 6-8 pm**
- **Buildings & Grounds: first Tuesdays, 7 p.m.**
- **Boy Scouts: Wednesdays, 7 p.m.**
- **Vestry: Third Thursdays, 6 p.m.**
- **BNI (Business Networking International): Fridays, 7:30-8:30 a.m.**

**Blood Drive:** We will be hosting another **Blood Drive for the Red Cross** on Thursday, February 20 from 1-6 p.m. There is always a need, but after the horrendous fires in California, the need is greater than ever. Please consider giving this life saving donation. One donation can save the lives of three people.

### **Valentine's Day Concert February 16<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m.**

Jason Castonguay is once again going to bring happy Valentine's wishes and beautiful love songs to St. Peter's on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. His concerts are always amazing so don't miss it!



*Sanctuary Performing Arts presents*

*A Valentine of Love from  
Jason Castonguay in Concert*

*Sunday, February 16 at 3 p.m.  
at St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
30 Church St., Hebron, CT  
860-228-3244*

*A \$10-\$20 Goodwill Offering is Encouraged  
Reception to Follow to Meet the Artist*



Jason will offer a compilation of traditional and unique love songs. He will delight us all as he takes us on a journey of love and remembrance this Valentine's Day.

