

# Last Sunday after the Epiphany

February 14, 2021

Words of Welcome

Gathering Hymn: "Songs of thankfulness"

Hymn #135

**1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,  
manifested by the star  
to the sages from afar;  
Branch of royal David's stem,  
in thy birth at Bethlehem;  
Anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.**

**2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;  
and at Cana, wedding guest,  
in thy Godhead manifest,  
Manifest in pow'r divine,  
changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.**

**3 Manifest in making whole  
palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
manifest in valiant fight,  
quelling all the devil's might;  
manifest in gracious will,  
ever bringing good from ill;  
Anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.**

**4 Manifest on mountain height,  
Shining in resplendent light,  
Where disciples filled with awe  
Thy transfigured glory saw.  
When from there thou leddest them  
Steadfast to Jerusalem,  
Cross and Easter Day attest  
God in man made manifest.**

## The Confession & Absolution

### *Officiant*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth God's praise, to hear the holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind for worship, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

*A substantial silence for reflection is kept.*

*Officiant* You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:  
Lord, have mercy.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Officiant* You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:  
Christ, have mercy.

*People* **Christ, have mercy.**

*Officiant* You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:  
Lord, have mercy.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Celebrant* The almighty and merciful God grant us pardon and remission of all our sins, renewal of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**  
Rise, O shine, for your light has come! For, look, darkness covers the earth, and gloom enshrouds the peoples; but the glory of the LORD has dawned upon us.

### Song of Praise

**Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you!**

*Ruth Cunningham, used by permission*

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray. 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.

The First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-15

*Reader* A reading from the second book of Kings.

Now 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,

*Elisha* As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.

*Reader* So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him,

*People* **Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?**

*Reader* And he answered,

*Elisha* Yes, I know; keep silent.

*Reader* Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said,

*Elisha* As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.

*Reader* So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him,

*People* **Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?**

*Reader* And he answered,

*Elisha* Yes, I know; keep silent.

*Reader* Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said,

*Elisha* As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.

*Reader* 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,

*Elisha* *Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.*

*Reader* 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,

*Elisha* Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!

*Reader* But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying,

*Elisha* Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?

*Reader* When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over. When the company of prophets who were at Jericho saw him at a distance, they declared, 'The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.' They came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him. Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: 2 Corinthians 4:6

*Reader* The God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness"  
has shone in our hearts,

*People* **To give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God  
in the face of Jesus Christ.**

The Second Reading: Mark 9:2-13

*Reader* A reading from the gospel of Mark.

Six days later, 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. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean. Then they asked him, 'Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?' He said to them, 'Elijah is indeed coming first to restore all things. How then is it written about the Son of Man, that he is to go through many sufferings and be treated with contempt? But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written about him.'

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Reader* The God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness"  
has shone in our hearts,

*People* **To give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God  
in the face of Jesus Christ.**

Office Hymn: "I want to walk as a child of the Light"

Hymnal #490

*Musical accompaniment by Deanna Clement and Father Tom McAlpine.*

**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.**

**2. I want to see the brightness of God,  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father.**

**3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus.**

### The Prayers

*Celebrant* We now enter a time of prayer. You may wish to bow your head, open your hands, or prepare your body for prayer in some other way.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Now, let us pray as God's beloved children, using the prayer Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

### The Prayers of the People

*Send prayer requests to to [prayers@stdunstans.com](mailto:prayers@stdunstans.com).*

*Officiant* Let us continue in prayer. We will hold up our needs and blessings to God. You can speak your prayers out loud, type them into the Chat area, or hold them in

your heart. As you are able, please hold others' prayer requests before God in your heart as well.

Let us pray for all churches and their leaders, and for all God's people everywhere.

*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*

*Officiant* Let us pray for all those in authority. In this season, we pray especially for all newly-elected public officials, for those working to alleviate the pandemic, for all those working for justice and equity, and for those you now name.

*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*

*Officiant* Let us pray for all nations and peoples.

*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*

*Officiant* Let us pray for the earth and the whole created order.

*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*

*Officiant* Let us pray for our local communities. We pray for all essential workers and healthcare workers. This week I invite your prayers for .... , and those whom you now name.

*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*

*Officiant* Let us pray for those in any need or trouble, especially those on our parish prayer list: ....

You are invited to name others in need of prayer, and to hold up your own struggles to the light of God's love.

*The people may offer additional names.*

*Officiant* Let us pray for all who have died, and for those who mourn.

*The people may offer additional names.*

*Officiant* Let us pray for our common life and work as God's people.

*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*

*Celebrant* Lord God, the bright splendor whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light, discern the glory of your presence in the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Savior. Guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in him. **Amen.**

The Peace

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you!

*All* **And also with you!**

*We greet one another in the name of Christ.*

## The Blessing

*Celebrant* May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ shine in our hearts and fill our lives with joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen!**

## Dismissal

*Officiant* Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen. *Ephesians 3:20,21*

Let us bless the Lord,

*People* **Thanks be to God!**

## Sending Song: Torah Ora

*“Torah ora” is Hebrew for “God’s Law is our light.”*

**God has spoken to his people, Alleluia!**  
**And his words are words of wisdom, Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**God has spoken to his people, Alleluia!**  
**And his words are words of wisdom, Alleluia!**

*Alternate words: Torah ora, Torah ora... (repeat)*