

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

8 Sunnyside Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius, Rector

Stjohnspleasantville.org

914-769-0053



5TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

MORNING PRAYER: RITE TWO 9:30AM

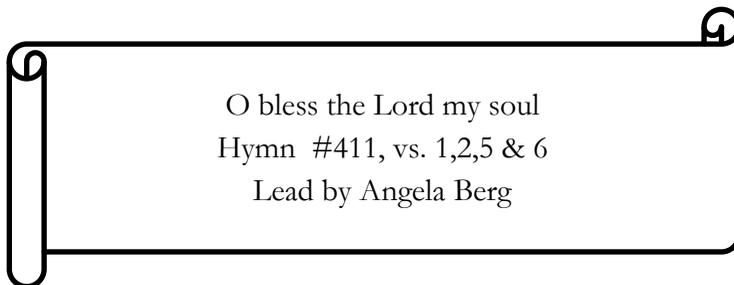
ONLINE SERVICE

February 7th, 2021

This morning we celebrate a Service of Morning Prayer. This service is taken from the *1979 Book of Common Prayer*. **Words printed in bold are spoken by the congregation.**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE



1 O bless the Lord, my soul!
His grace to thee proclaim!
And all that is within me join
to bless his holy Name!

2 O bless the Lord, my soul!
His mercies bear in mind!
Forget not all his benefits!
The Lord to thee is kind

5 He clothes thee with his love,
upholds thee with his truth;
and like the eagle he renews
the vigor of thy youth.

6 Then bless his holy Name,
whose grace hath made thee whole,
whose loving-kindness crowns thy days:
O bless the Lord, my soul!

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Officiant: “If [we] proclaim the gospel, this gives [us] no ground for boasting, for an obligation has been laid on [us] and woe to [us] if we do not proclaim the gospel!” (1COR 9:16)

CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **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.**

Officiant: 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 AND PSALTER

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **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 for ever. Amen.

Jubilate *Jubilate Deo*

Be joyful in the Lord, *
all you lands;

2 serve the Lord with gladness
and come into the divine presence with a song.

3 Know this: the Lord, the Lord, is God; *
the One made us and to whom we belong;
we are God’s people, the sheep of God’s pasture.

4 Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving;
go into these courts with praise; *
give thanks to God and call upon the name of the Lord.
5 For the Lord is good, whose steadfast love is everlasting;
And whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

Officiant:
People:

The Lord has shone forth glory;
Come let us adore our God.

PSALM 147 :1-12, 21C *Laudate Dominium*

1 Hallelujah!
How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
How pleasant it is to honour God with praise!
2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem *
and gathers the exiles of Israel.
3 The Lord heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.
4 The Lord counts the number of stars *
and calls them all by their names.
5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to the wisdom of God.
6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.
7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.
8 The Lord covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth,
9 making grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve humankind.
10 The Lord provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.
11 The Lord is not impressed by the might of a horse *
and has no pleasure in human strength,
12 but finds pleasure in those who fear God, *
in those who await the gracious favor of the Lord.
21 Hallelujah!

10 THE SECOND SONG OF ISAIAH

Quaerite Dominium

Isaiah 55:6-11

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.

A READING FROM ISIAH 40:21-31

Read by: Peter Russell

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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

12 A SONG OF CREATION

Benedicite, omnia opera Domini
Song of the Three Young Men, 35-65

Invocation: Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

I The Cosmic Order: Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, *
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.
Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, *
all winds and fire and heat.
Winter and Summer, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, *
drops of dew and flakes of snow.
Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, *
O shining light and enfolding dark.
Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Doxology: Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK 1:29-39

Reader: The Rev. Deacon Lynn Werdal

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Deacon: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

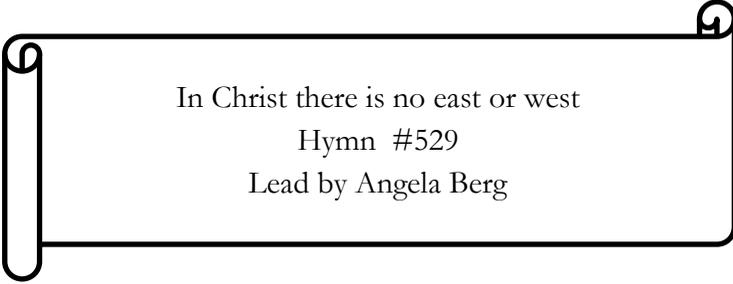
THE HOMILY

THE REV. MARY B. GREGORIUS

THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE: I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*



In Christ there is no east or west
Hymn #529
Lead by Angela Berg

1. In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

2. In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

3. Join hands, companions in the faith,
whate'er your race may be!
Who loves and serves the one in him,
throughout the whole wide earth.

4. In Christ now meet both east and west;
in him meet south and north,
all Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth. .

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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.

SUFFRAGES: SET A

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.

PRAYER LIST

We pray for all those suffering with COVID-19, Cindy and Dave.

We pray for all those struggling to find the light of Christ in this skeptical world.

We pray for peace and unity among us as we seek a new way forward as people of faith.

We pray for our Nation may we work to build harmony.

We pray for those who are in the hospital or home recuperating, especially: **Laura** O'Malley (John & Clare McAndrew's niece), **Hudson** Beauregard; **Yumi, Linda** Hill, **Ronald** Garvey, **Max, Anne, Cathy, Barbara, Ellie** Ruvo, **Steven** Schubert, **Martha** Thornley and **Shlomo** Teladano.

We pray for those who are homebound: **Esmerilda** Hastings, **Margaret** Vaccaro, **John & Lee** Williams, **Dorothy** Dushin, **Ronald** Acheson, **Jim, Marge, Joe** Smith, **Carolyn** Damiano, **Deanna** Ammirato and **Bill & Dorothy** D'Amato.

We pray for those struggling with chronic illness, especially: **Liz & Jeff** Daniele, **Andrew** Tom, **Rena** Kaplan, **Rebecca, Vince** Servio, **Sarah** Paruolo, **Annaliese** Haag, **Martha, Gerald, Marilyn** Griffin, **Joyce, Paul** Ruvo, **Helene, Jason, Peter, Hannelore,** and **Jeff.**

We pray for **Edwin Sanchez and the students at El Hogar School,** and the **American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.**

We pray for those who have died, especially **Amity** Curry and the over 450,000 in this country who have died from COVID-19.

We pray for those in our hearts whom we now name, either silently or aloud.

The Collect at the Prayers: Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. *Amen*

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by our Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A PRAYER ATTRIBUTED TO ST FRANCIS

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where

there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Amen.*

Announcements

THE BLESSING

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

STEWARDSHIP

Accepting the good news of God in Jesus Christ calls for a response to proclaim the good news. Our reward for responding is the joy of being entrusted with a sacred call, freely offered, willingly given. There is much work to be accomplished, please support the effort of St. John's to proclaim God's salvific presence in this broken world. If you have not yet made your 2021 Pledge to St. John's please do so at your earliest convenience. Pledge cards available on our website, stjohnspleasantville.org.

NOTICE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:

TODAY, 7 February 2021 at 12 noon

Via ZOOM

[Click here for Annual Meeting Zoom Link](#)

Tuesday Noon Prayer; join us via ZOOM for a brief moment of calm in your all to hectic day.

Bible Study; Thursday's at 11am; feel free to ZOOM in. we have just begun our study of Paul's Letter to the Romans

The Pleasantville Interfaith Emergency Food Pantry

NEEDS YOUR HELP

The pantry has moved to a site on Commerce St. in Hawthorne for which they need to pay rent. Please, either donate funds through St. John's, through the Pantry website or through their GoFundMe page accessible from their website

**Please join us for Ash Wednesday Services At
St. John's Episcopal Church
2-17-2021; 7am and 7pm—Outdoors in our Cloister**

There will be fire.

Masks and social distancing required.

Each year the Church invites us to the observance of a holy Lent and despite the fact that COVID continues to create differences in our prayer life, it will not change our need to accept this invitation to re-examination and repentance.

In preparation, please write out your concerns, petitions and/or intended sacrificial practice for the season on a paper you bring with you to burn as an offering to God.

Please **[CLICK HERE](#)** to listen to the Prophet Joel's clarion call, typically read during the Service, but read here instead by our own Patricia Conolly.

We will begin with a brief tolling of the bell, followed by prayer, a reading from the Gospel Mark, the invitation to "remember we are but dust and to dust we shall return," followed by the Litany of Penitence. The Service will be less than 15 minutes in length. While COVID will prevent us from the imposition of ashes, after the Litany and during the reading of Psalm 51, you are invited to place your written petitions in the fire as a holy offering to God. Many may lament the absence of ashes imposed on their foreheads, but the customary ashes are merely an outward sign of our inward determination to re-orient our lives toward God, toward kindness, harmony, and peace. The practice of a holy Lent is far more than ashes on our foreheads. To quote Joel, Lent is a time for us to "...rend [our] hearts..." and to "Return to the Lord..."

The 7am Service will be broadcast on our YouTube channel at 12noon, for those unable to attend in person.

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius mothermarystjohns@gmail.com

The Rev. Deacon Lynn Werdal lynn.werdal@gmail.com

Parish Administrator stjohnspleasantville@gmail.com

Megan Whalen, Parish Bookkeeper bookkeeper@stjohnspleasantville.com

Warren Blyden

Debbie Paruolo, Warden dparuolo@aol.com

Matt Ruvo, Property Warden mattsunset@yahoo.com

Ken Foley, Treasurer foleyken6@gmail.com

Hal Gregorius, Videographer,

Raphael Wong, video editor

Angela Berg, Cantor

Webmaster, Jonathan Pytell.

Vestry: Ken Foley, Laura Simpson, Jim Dirlam, Sarah Hoadley, Lynn Russell, Joan Scire-Vitkevich, Philippa Seltzer-Muschko