

*The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Morning Prayer
January 28, 2024*

9:30 AM

*Grace Episcopal Church
Bath, Maine*

Please note that our service is recorded.

Morning Prayer

Opening Hymn. #493

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Azmon

Please stand as you are able.

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;

1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains five verses of lyrics, and the second system contains five verses. Verse 6 is a separate line of lyrics. The music is a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady bass line.

Officiant: Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.*Sharon Steele***Confession of Sin***Deacon:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.*Silence may be kept.**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.**

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

Invitatory and Psalter. *Please be seated.*

Jim Paterson

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouths 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 for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

Officiant: The Lord has shown forth His glory

All: **Come let us adore Him.**

Psalm 95:1-7 (Venite)

-said in unison-

**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.**

Psalm 111 *Read responsively by whole verse*

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation

Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

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 for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Readings

A period of silence will follow each reading.

First Reading Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Nancy Kinner

Lector: A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet.

This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die."

Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said.

I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command.

Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable.

But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak--that prophet shall die."

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 16,

Sharon Steele

The Song of Zechariah Benedictus Dominus Deus Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
 he has come to his people and set them free.
 He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
 born of the house of his servant David.
 Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
 that he would save us from our enemies, *
 from the hands of all who hate us.
 He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
 and to remember his holy covenant.
 This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
 to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
 Free to worship him without fear, *
 holy and righteous in his sight
 all the days of our life.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Nancy Kinner

Lector: A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 21

Jim Paterson

You are God Te Deum laudamus

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.

Gospel Reading Mark 1:21-28. *Please stand as you are able.*

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Deacon: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

Homily

The Rev. Stephanie Batterman

Apostles' Creed. *Please stand as you are able*

Deacon

**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.**

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

Sharon Steele

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

All: **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**

Please be seated.

Suffrages B, Said responsively.

Jim Paterson

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. Govern them and uphold them, now and always.

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. We praise your name for ever.

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. For we put our trust in you.

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. And we shall never hope in vain.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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.*

Prayers of the People

Glenis Elliott

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

People: **Pray for the church.**

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

People: **Pray for justice and peace.**

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

People: **Pray for those in any need or trouble.**

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

People: **Pray that they may find and be found by him.**

Intercessor: Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

People: **Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.**

Intercessor: A prayer during our transition

People: **Gracious God, we thank you for your unfailing presence among us as we prayerfully followed your guidance in our journey to finding and being found by our new Rector. We are grateful for the thoughtful input of the congregation; the dedicated work of the Preparation, Prayer, Hospitality, and Discernment committees throughout this process; and the faithful diligence of the Vestry in making the final decision. Our hearts were full as we bid a loving farewell to Pam. We now are joyfully preparing to welcome Misty into our Grace family. We ask for your continued guidance that we may follow a path of love and acceptance during this time of transition and new beginning. May all we do and say be motivated by our steadfast love of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Intercessor: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church Southern Africa; and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Peter's, Rockland; St. Columba, Boothby Harbor; and for the wardens and vestries of our congregations; and in the Parish Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Daniel & Mari Eosco, Elaine Erickson, and Jane Eslinger. You are invited to add your prayers, thanksgivings, and intercessions. Those on Zoom are invited to unmute to add your prayers.

-silence for prayers-

The General Thanksgiving, Please stand as you are able.

Sharon Steele

Officiant and People:

**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 our selves 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.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

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.*

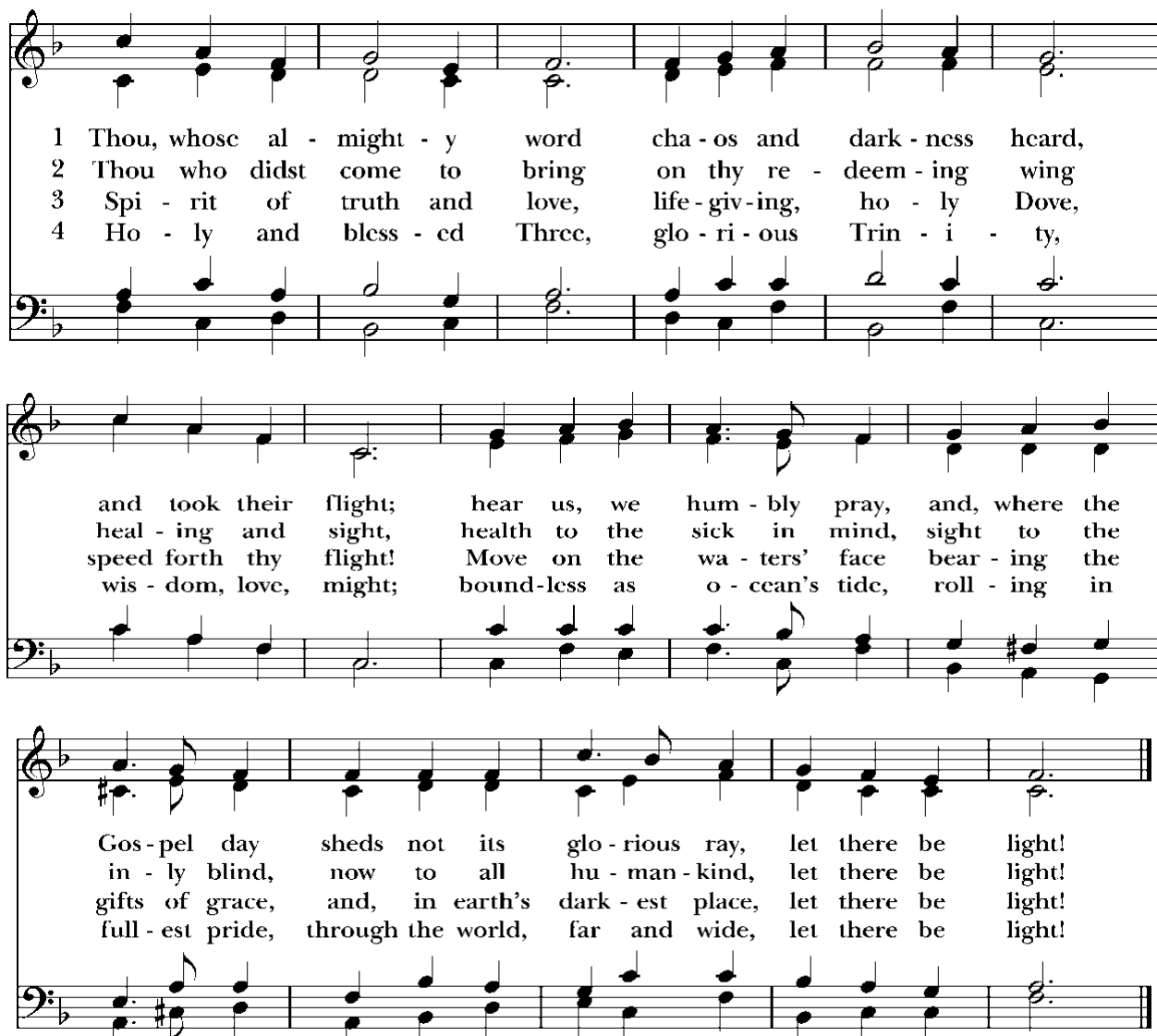
Let us bless the Lord. *All: Thanks be to God.*

Hymn #371

Please stand as you are able.

Thou, whose almighty word

Moscow



1 Thou, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard,
 2 Thou who didst come to bring on thy re - deem - ing wing
 3 Spi - rit of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly Dove,
 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed Three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,

and took their flight; hear us, we hum - bly pray, and, where the
 heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the
 speed forth thy flight! Move on the wa - ters' face bear - ing the
 wis - dom, love, might; bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in

Gos - pel day sheds not its glo - ri - ous ray, let there be light!
 in - ly blind, now to all hu - man - kind, let there be light!
 gifts of grace, and, in earth's dark - est place, let there be light!
 full - est pride, through the world, far and wide, let there be light!

Please be seated.

Announcements

Dismissal

Deacon: 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. 2 Corinthians 13:14*

Service Participants

*The Rev. Stephanie Batterman, Deacon Sharon Steele, Officiant Jim Paterson, Officiant
 Glenis Elliott, Intercessor Nancy Kinner, Lector. Bethel Keith, Zoom Manager
 Connie Burt and Brian Buck, Ushers. Liz Prest, Altar Guild
 Greg Canyon, Organist, Mary Canyon, Music*

Announcements for week of January 28, 2024

Save the Date!
5:30 PM on Shrove Tuesday, February 13th,

We will be welcoming our new Rector with a special Mardi Gras style Pancakes Plus Supper in Tubbs Hall. Please join us in extending our warmest Grace hospitality to Misty Kiwak Jacobs. There will be an attendance signup sheet posted in the narthex, along with a signup sheet for volunteers willing to help with setup, food prep, serving and cleanup. Those who are away can sign up remotely by leaving a message with the church office. Donations will be accepted at the door.

Sharing Grace

It's time for another issue of Sharing Grace to "hit the press" and to share the turning points in our lives with our fellow parishioners. So, hopefully, you will all "put your thinking caps on" and come up with a time in your life when you started looking at things in a new way, and felt led in a new direction. Cindy Young will interview newcomers to Grace, and I will take care of the rest. Please send your offerings to loishartmaine@gmail.com. Wouldn't it be nice to have it ready to share with our new rector when she arrives in February!



BATH AREA FOOD BANK

NEEDS



CANNED PASTA



JAM & JELLY



BAKED BEANS



CANNED CHICKEN AND TUNA



THANKS FOR CONTINUING TO HELP FEED OUR
COMMUNITY!

This Week at Grace Church

Sunday, January 28

9:30 AM. Morning Prayer

Annual Meeting

Monday, January 29

7:00 PM. Evening Prayer on Zoom

Tuesday, January 30

Tedford Meals

Wednesday, January 31

9:30 AM. Bible Study on Zoom

Sunday, February 4

9:30 AM. Holy Eucharist

Bath Area Food Bank Sunday

Remember in our Prayers

January 2024

We pray for those in our parish family and for family and friends: Nora, For the family of Lynne Macias, Connie Halterman, Stephanie, John Beaven, Sue Musk, Elenore, Bruce, his family and medical team, Dave and Diane, Allison, Meridel and Richard Cosgrove, Margaret Intonti, Halloway Bird, Jerry and Cheryl Hinds, Len Barker, Carolyn, Beck Lovely, Jane.

If you would like to put someone on the prayer list for the month. Please contact the office (churchoffice@gracebath.org) or Karen Kenny (fabricden1@gmail.com) A name will stay on our list for one month. If you would like us to pray for a person, please resubmit at the beginning of the month.

*During this season of changing weather,
please check your email on Sunday
morning for closure information.*