

**While we sing and hear music from African American composers throughout the year, we pay special tribute as we celebrate Black History Month by selecting the majority of our music for February from this great tradition of American music.**

**9:25 AM — At the ringing of the bell, please prepare for worship in silence.**

**Prelude**

**Adoration**

Composed by Florence B. Price

With over 300 compositions to her credit, FLORENCE B. PRICE (1887-1953) was the first African American woman to have a symphony performed by a major American orchestra—the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, June 15, 1933.

**9:30 AM — All stand as able at the ringing of the bell to begin worship.**

**Processional Hymn (9:30 AM)**  
**#1, Lift Every Voice and Sing**

**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

Words: James W. Johnson

Music: J. Rosamond Johnson

*Written in 1900 for a celebration of Abraham Lincoln's birthday held in Jacksonville, Florida, brothers J. ROSAMUND JOHNSON (1873-1954) and JAMES WELDON JOHNSON (1871-1938) taught this song to a chorus of 500+ African American schoolchildren. Following this event, both teachers and children continued singing this work and its popularity spread throughout the South and the country.*

1 Lift ev'ry voice and sing,  
 Till earth and heaven ring,  
 Ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
 Let our rejoicing rise  
 High as the list'ning skies,  
 Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
 Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
 Facing the rising sun  
 Of our new day begun,  
 Let us march on till victory is won.

2 Stony the road we trod,  
 Bitter the chast'ning rod,  
 Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
 Yet with a steady beat,  
 Have not our weary feet

Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
 We have come over away that with tears has been watered;

We have come, treading our path through  
 the blood of the slaughtered;  
 Out from the gloomy past,  
 Till now we stand at last  
 Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3 God of our weary years,  
 God of our silent tears,  
 Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
 Thou who hast by thy might,  
 Led us into the light,

Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
 Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,  
 where we met thee;

Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world,  
 we forget thee,

Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
 May we forever stand,

True to our God, true to our native land.

**Opening Acclamation**

p. 355, Book of Common Prayer

Officiant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Officiant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **The Collect of the Day**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.**

*Please be seated for the readings.*

### **The First Lesson: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah**

Isaiah 58:1-9a

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 112:1-10 (read in unison)**

p. 755, Book of Common Prayer

**1 Hallelujah!**

**Happy are they who fear the Lord \***  
**and have great delight in his commandments!**

**2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \***  
**the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

**3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, \***  
**and their righteousness will last for ever.**

**4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \***  
**the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

**5 It is good for them to be generous in lending \***  
**and to manage their affairs with justice.**

**6 For they will never be shaken; \***  
**the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

**7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \***  
**their heart is right;**  
**they put their trust in the Lord.**

**8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, \***  
**until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

**9 They have given freely to the poor, \***  
**and their righteousness stands fast for ever;**  
**they will hold up their head with honor.**

**10 The wicked will see it and be angry;**  
**they will gnash their teeth and pine away; \***  
**the desires of the wicked will perish.**

## The Second Lesson: A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

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

**The Sequence Hymn (9:30 AM)**  
**#488, The Hymnal 1982 vss. 1-2**

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart**

Words: Irish, ca. 700;  
versified Mary E. Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt.

Music: Slane

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
all else be nought to me, save that thou art—  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my great Father; thine own may I be;  
thou in my dwelling, and I one with thee.

## The Holy Gospel

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Matthew 5:13-20

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.  
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*Sequence hymn continued.*

3 High King of heaven, when victory is won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*All are seated as invited by the preacher.*

## The Sermon

*All remain seated for a moment of silence following the sermon.*

The Rev. Stephanie Yancy, Interim Rector

All stand in body or spirit for  
**The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius  
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and  
his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son  
he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Prayers of the People—Form IV** (*The Leader and People pray responsively*)

p. 388, Book of Common Prayer

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and all of the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, especially; **Charlotte, Megan, Carol, John, Tammy, Jim, Pat, Jane, Reta, Greta, Cindy, Jack.** We pray for all those on our parish prayer list who live with chronic illnesses, and for all those we name to you now... (*You may speak additional names aloud or in silence*).

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week; Chuck Barham, Barb Wilbur, Marybeth Giglio, Anne Powell, Erin Gruber, Marianne Gramza, Alexis Cooke, Jessica Lehman, Ken Harrison, Beth Balas, Susan Inscore... (*You may speak additional names aloud or in silence*).

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died. We pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom...  
(*You may speak additional names aloud or in silence*).

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Let us say together the Prayer for Transition (*Composed by Lois Sauer, Licensed Lay Preacher*)

**People** **Ever-present and Holy God, as you continue to invite new people into St. John's, we ask your ongoing guidance and blessing upon us, that we may always become more fully the people and congregation you would have us to be. Keep our hearts deeply grounded in your divine love, that we may grow in steadfast love and gentleness for one another. Inspire our leadership with wisdom and creativity to navigate the ongoing changes that lay before us. In this season of transition, we particularly pray for our Sr. Warden Camille, vestry, staff, search committee, our Interim Rector, Rev. Stephanie, and our eventual new rector. Fill all of us with courage, kindness, and patience as we walk the Way of Love with one another and with the broader diverse community around us. All this we ask in the name of your son Jesus, who lives and reigns in each of us every day. Amen.**

Celebrant

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Confession and Absolution**

p. 360, Book of Common Prayer

Deacon/Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**People** **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.**

Celebrant 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 Peace**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*Please be seated.*

### **Welcome & Parish Announcements**

Commissioning of Vestry Members

Celebrant Let us pray. *Silence.*

O Eternal God, the foundation of all wisdom and the source of all courage: Enlighten with your grace the Wardens and Vestry of this congregation, and so rule their minds, and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek your glory and promote the mission of your Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In the Name of God and of this congregation, I commission you as members of the Vestry of St. John's.

## **The Holy Communion**

### **The Offertory**

*If you are viewing our livestream, you may wish to prepare your financial offering for mailing at this time. Anyone may give online at [www.stjohnswf.org/give](http://www.stjohnswf.org/give) OR Text "STJOHNSWF" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.*

**Offertory Anthem (9:30 AM)****Longing for Light**

Setting by Joel Raney/Words &amp; Music by Bernadette Farrell

CANTATE

*Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.**Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.**Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.**Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice.**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.**Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst.**Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.**Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.**Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come.**All stand in body or spirit for***The Doxology**

(7:45 AM—spoken)

**All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.**

(9:30 AM—sung—Hymn 380 vs. 3)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***All stand in body or spirit for***The Great Thanksgiving**

p. 361 Book of Common Prayer, Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

**People We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing...who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**The Sanctus—holy, holy, holy (7:45 spoken, 9:30 sung)****S-130 (front of hymnal)**

Franz Schubert/arr. Richard Proulx

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and might,  
heaven and earth are full , full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation ...Therefore, according to his command, O Father:

**All We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;***The Celebrant continues.*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. ....

....By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**All 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.**

*All stand in body or spirit.*

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

#### **Fraction Anthem**

*Recognized as one of the leading Episcopalian musicians in the United States, DAVID HURD (b. 1950) has served in academia as a faculty member of The General Theological Seminary in New York City, heading the Church Music and Chapel Music Divisions.*

#### **At 7:45 AM, spoken**

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People Therefore let us keep the feast.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

#### **At 9:30 AM, sung**

**S-154** (front of Hymnal 1982), **Christ our Passover**  
Setting by David Hurd

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore let us keep the feast.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

### **The Communion of the People**

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion or to receive a blessing (instead of the bread and wine) at the altar rail. If you prefer to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest to signal the clergy. If you need a gluten free wafer, please extend your hands with palms down. If you need to be served in your seat, please inform an usher. At this time, we will refrain from offering the common cup (drinking from a common chalice) and will offer the wine by intinction only (dipping the communion wafer in the cup of wine.) If you wish to receive the wine, please hold the wafer in your fingers as the chalice bearer comes to you and take care to dip only the wafer into the wine (and not your fingers.) If you are not comfortable receiving the wine this way, please know that receiving only the consecrated bread at Holy Communion (or the wine only) is still considered full Communion.

**Communion Hymn (9:30 AM)  
#325, The Hymnal 1982**

**Let us break bread together on our knees**

Words: African-American spiritual  
Music: Let Us Break Bread

1 Let us break bread together on our knees;  
let us break bread together on our knees;  
when I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
let us drink wine together on our knees;  
when I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;  
let us praise God together on our knees;  
when I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

*All stand in body or spirit for*

### **The Postcommunion Prayer**

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Celebrant blesses the People.*

(9:30 AM) **All children here today are invited to join the clergy at the church door during the hymn. The children will help send us out with the words of Dismissal.**

**The Dismissal Hymn (9:30 AM)**  
**#529, The Hymnal 1982**

**In Christ there is no East or West**

Words: John Oxenham

Music: McKee, Afro-American Spiritual;  
adapt. And harm. Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

*The tune of this hymn is an Afro-American spiritual with this hymnal adaptation and harmonization created by HARRY T. BURLEIGH (1866-1949). A composer and arranger of classical music, particularly art songs (over 200), Burleigh also concertized as a professional baritone soloist.*

- 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 Join hands, disciples of the faith,  
whate'er your race may be!  
Who serves my Father as his child  
is surely kin to me.

- 3 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 Dismissal**

Youth Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

**This Little Light of Mine**

Setting by Edwin T. Childs

*Originating in the 1920s, this African American Spiritual was first sung in Christian churches and in penitentiaries. Attributed to evangelist Harry Dixon Loes, his inspiration was taken from Jesus' Parable of the Lamp under the Bushels (read in today's Gospel Lesson from Matthew). Over the years, this Spiritual has been transformed into a song of resistance adopted by Civil Rights Movements.*

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