First Sunday after the Epiphany

January 7, 2024
10:00 AM
Note for parents: We love the “joyful noise” of kids and welcome them into our worship! If you need a quiet space, the rectory is open and available with toys and a diaper changing station. You are welcome there anytime or you can ask a greeter for help.

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN

Come, Thou fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy, never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the Mount, I’m fixed upon it
Mount of God’s unchanging love

Here I find my greatest treasure,
Hither by Thy help I’ve come.
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wandering from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
Bought me with His precious blood.

O to grace, how great a debtor
Daily I’m constrained to be
Let Thy grace now, like a fetter
Bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here’s my heart, O take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

WORDS: Robert Robinson

OPENING ACCLAMATION

+Celebrant + Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant 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.

Here’s my heart,
O take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

Here’s our world,
O take and heal it
May your will be fully done.

Here’s our church,
O take and fill it
May we shine the Light of love
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.
All: Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

PREPARING TO LISTEN

Here's my heart, Lord
Here's my heart, Lord
Here's my heart, Lord
Speak what is true.
(repeat)

WORDS/MUSIC: David Crowder

SCRIPTURE READING | Genesis 1:1-5
Reader: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM | Psalm 29

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;
worship the Lord in holy splendor.
The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over mighty waters.
The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.
The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.
The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl,  
and strips the forest bare;  
and in his temple all say, “Glory!”

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

May the Lord give strength to his people!

May the Lord bless his people with peace!

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.

GRADUAL HYMN  
Here’s My Heart, Lord

Here’s my heart, Lord
Here’s my heart, Lord
Here’s my heart, Lord
Speak what is true.
(repeat)

Celebrant +The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

GOSPEL  |  Mark 1: 4-11

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord
All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Children aged 3 and up are invited to a time of children’s worship; they return to the sanctuary in time for Communion.

SERMON  
Fully Alive for the Sake of the World  
The Rev. Christine Lee

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Please share any prayer requests  
or thanksgiving in the live chat:

We pray for us, your faithful people, and those who lead us, that we may walk in your way of love,  
manifesting your love to and for the sake of the world.  
Shine your light on your Church, Lord.
We pray for all the nations of the world that those in authority will work toward peace and equity for all people.

*Shine your light on your world, Lord.*

We pray for people everywhere, that their lives may be full, that their families may be secure, that their hearts be filled with their peace.

*Shine your light on your children, Lord.*

We pray for the community in which we live, that neighbors care for neighbors - creating a community of love and benevolence for all.

*Shine your light on this community, Lord.*

We pray for those who are suffering in ways that are known and hidden to us. We pray for those who struggle mightily in this life and for those whose light is dimming. For those who are ill and those who care for them. For those who are born today and those who will die. We pray especially for ________________.

*Shine your light into the seasons and passages of our lives, Lord.*

We pray for those who have been called into larger life with you, especially ____________.

*Shine your perpetual light upon them, Lord.*

Celebrant May our offerings of prayer be acceptable to you O God of Glory, revealed to all who seek you diligently and in faith.

**CONFESSION**

Celebrant 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.
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.

PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
All And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

Please connect with us on our website by using the QR code:

You can give in the offering box near the doors, through our website or by using the QR code:

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
All And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:
Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died.**
**Christ is risen.**
**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.
Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Here’s My Heart

Here’s my heart, Lord
Here’s my heart, Lord
Here’s my heart, Lord
Speak what is true.
(repeat)
The Kingdom is Yours

Blessed are the ones who do not bury
All the broken pieces of their heart
Blessed are the tears of all the weary
Pouring like a sky of falling stars

Blessed are the wounded ones in mourning
Brave enough to show the Lord their scars
Blessed are the hurts that are not hidden
Open to the healing touch of God

CHORUS
The kingdom is yours, the kingdom is yours
Hold on a little more, this is not the end
Hope is in the Lord, keep your eyes on him

Blessed are the ones who walk in kindness
Even in the face of great abuse
Blessed are the deeds that go unnoticed
Serving with unguarded gratitude

CHORUS
Blessed are the ones who suffer violence
And still have strength to love their enemies
Blessed is the faith of those who persevere
Though they fall, they'll never know defeat

WORDS/MUSIC: The Common Hymnal

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.

FINAL BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN Let it Rise
Let the glory of the Lord rise among us
Let the songs of the Lord rise among us
Oh—let it rise.

Let the glory of the Lord rise among us
Let the songs of the Lord rise among us
Oh—let it rise.

Let the praises of the King rise among us
Let the joy of the Lord rise among us

WORDS/MUSIC: Holland Davis

DISMISSAL
All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

WORDS/MUSIC: Holland Davis

8
WELCOME TO ST. PETER'S CHELSEA!

We're so glad that you joined us for worship today! Please sign up for our email newsletter at www.stpeterschelsea.org, follow us on Instagram and Facebook @stpeterschelsea and find out more ways to get connected.

MANHATTAN REGIONAL GATHERING, Thursday, January 11, 6-8:30 pm: Join members of congregations from across Manhattan for a night of prayer and song as we celebrate the ministries of the Episcopal Diocese of New York during this momentous year of leadership transition as Bishop Andy Dietsche retires and Bishop Matt Heyd is installed. RSVP to rsvp@stpeterschelsea.org to let us know you’re coming!

ANNUAL MEETING, Sunday, January 21, 11:30-12:30 pm: We'll look back over 2023, look ahead, vote on the 2024 budget and vote in new vestry members. We encourage everyone who considers St. Peter's their church home to attend. Those active at St. Peter's for the past 12 months through worshiping, serving and giving are eligible to vote. If you have questions about your voting eligibility or can only attend if the meeting is hybrid, please contact Christine at clee@stpeterschelsea.org.

NIGHT AT THE MOVIES: A CASE FOR LOVE, Tuesday, January 23, 6:30-9 pm: St. Peter's is partnering with other downtown Episcopal Churches to host a film screening at AMC 19 (890 Broadway) on A Case for Love on January 23rd at 7pm (doors open at 6pm, welcome at 6:30pm). A Case for Love is a documentary film exploring the legacy of Bishop Curry's ministry and the power of unselfish love in an increasingly divided world. Tickets are free for our community, but space is limited. Get tickest on our website using the link in the “Connect” section.

Cover art is Baptism of Christ by Ivanka Demchuk
https://en.ivankademchuk.com/