



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 7th, 2021

9:00 a.m.: Virtual Worship

GATHERING

Preparing for Virtual Worship

Set up a space in your home for worship and prayer. Light a candle, set out a cross or icon to help you focus; set your phone on Do Not Disturb, wash your hands. Take a few deep breaths and say a short prayer to prepare your heart to “enter” a different kind of space. We recommend the Collect for Purity:

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.

Prelude: Two Movements from Sonata No. 1 in F Minor

Felix Mendelssohn

Allegro moderato e serioso

Adagio

German composer Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) was a skilled organist, and during his visits to England he gave many recitals. His performances were so well-received that an English publisher commissioned him to write six organ sonatas. During his visits to England, Mendelssohn was a frequent guest of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. Together, they played and sang many of Mendelssohn's compositions. Albert was especially fond of playing his organ works. This [video](#) about Victoria's organ features the first movement of this sonata.

This Edition Copyright © 1845 C. F. Peters, Frankfurt, Germany

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

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

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

The Collect of the Day

Priest 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.**

The First Reading

Isaiah 40:21-31

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.

The Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

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.

Priest The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Rev. Zac Koons

Music for Reflection: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Hymn 423

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise. Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love. To all life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish, like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but nought changeth thee. Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all laud we would render: O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

Christa Tumlinson, soloist

The author of this text, Walter C. Smith (1824-1908) was a minister of the Free Church of Scotland. He said that he wrote poetry as a retreat from work and to say what could not be fully expressed in the pulpit. Like many classic hymns, the text is a set to 19th-century Welsh melody.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt.

Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877);
harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

Form II, BCP 385

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop(s); for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence.

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

Silence.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers for those in our community _____.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored especially whom we remember today. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The celebrant concludes with prayers and a collect

The Lord's Prayer

Priest 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.**

The Offertory: *On Eagle's Wings*

Michael Joncas, arr. Mark Hayes

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life, say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!" *Refrain: And he will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.* The snare of the fowler will never capture you and famine will bring you no fear. Under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. *Refrain.* You need not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day. Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. *Refrain.* For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways. Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. *Refrain.*

The body of this text is a paraphrase of Psalm 91. The refrain combines allusions to care of God described in Exodus and Isaiah. Written by Catholic priest Michael Joncas (b. 1951) in response to the death of a friend's father in 1978, this hymn has become a source of consolation to Christians around the world.

Copyright © 1979, 1991 New Dawn Music, Portland, Oregon
This Arrangement Copyright © 2000 Alfred Music Publishing Co., Inc.

Announcements

The Peace

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Postlude: *Allegro assai vivace*
from Sonata No. 1 in F Minor

Felix Mendelssohn

This Edition Copyright © 1845 C. F. Peters, Frankfurt, Germany

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Join us each Sunday for the series: *Who do you say that I am?* Who is Jesus? We will discuss classical ecclesial definitions, the so-called “offices” of Christ (Prophet, Priest and King) and, from there, engage how Jesus comes to us and saves us in our times and conditions. Class led by Rev. Dr. Nathan Jennings.

Ash Wednesday, February 17th, virtual services at 12pm and 7pm. Individually packaged ashes will be available for pickup on Ash Wednesday, between 8am-5pm, outside of the church offices, including instructions for you to use during your participation in the virtual service or at a different time with your household.

Wednesdays in Lent, 6:30 p.m. beginning February 24th: *Finding Christ in the Darkness: Paint, Prayer & Poetry.* Fr. Zac, along with special guests, including the exhibits’ curator Sandra Bowden, will lead discussions on St. Mark’s new art exhibit by [Georges Rouault](#), on loan from The Sandra Bowden Collection. More details coming soon about opportunities to view the exhibit in person.

Lenten Retreat, Saturday, February 20th, 9 a.m. - noon: “Artful Contemplation.” The retreat, open to all, is designed to allow you to come and go as desired. This Zoom event is free & open to *all* members of the parish.

- ❖ Bracketed by Morning Prayer & Noonday Prayer, our morning will include: Barbara White, St. Mark’s seminarian, speaking on “God in the Wilderness;” a workshop titled “Create a Lenten Journal” by Cindy Cabler; and Mother Mary will talk about “The Beauty in Brokenness.” In addition there will be a guided meditation and contemplative video interludes.
- ❖ Register [here](#) for the retreat. You will receive an email with all the details and zoom link in advance of the retreat. The retreat is sponsored by The Daughters of the King (DOK).

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Sunday Virtual Worship, 9:00 a.m.: *Please join us online*** - links available on our website.
- **Tuesday Noon Bible Study:** the link will be shared on our website. Focus of Study is 1 Samuel. All are welcome!
- **Morning Prayer meets 8:30 a.m. M-F.** Check our home page for the link: www.stmarksaustin.org.

PARISH INTERCESSION LIST

You are invited to use this Intercession List to pray for those listed below.

For healthcare workers and teachers: Heather, Michael B., Christine, Eric, Joan, Beth, Mac, Jodi, Courtney, Russ, Nicole, Jewellyn, Jana Kay, Steven, Pam, Marcille, Jesse, Laurie, Charles, Cilla, Jonea, Jennifer R., Jennifer S., Samuel, Mary, Jordan, Jeffrey, Kim, Michael T., Amber, Aaron, Sarah, Laurie, Carolyn, Jennifer, Chez, James., Cindy.

For those celebrating birthdays: Sydney Davis, Mike Freeman, Kristen Kochelek, Ted Smouse, Quincy Dew, Joe Moldenhauer, Lori Kreitner, Maria Lubeck, Jonathon Mayor, Gary Schroeder, John Chenoweth, Luisa Kempff, Marina Kempff, Lindsey Stanley, Heather Azarmehr, Adam Gates, David Anthony, Brian Kelly, Michael Portman, David Randle.

For those celebrating anniversaries: Barbara & Stephen Wilson.

For those whom the Daughters of the King pray.

Lector: Melissa Blanding



ST. MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Join us at www.stmarksaustin.org, and
on Instagram and Facebook and YouTube
[@stmarksaustin](https://www.instagram.com/stmarksaustin)

St. Mark's Staff

The Rev. Zac Koons, *Rector*

The Rev. Dr. Nathan Jennings, *Theologian-in-Residence*

Casey Bushman, *Director of Christian Formation*

Barbara Gausewitz, *Seminarian*

Brandon Haynes, *Seminarian*

The Rev. Mary Keenan, *Curate*

Mark Reed, *Organist/Director of Music and Bookkeeper*

Joanne Foote, *Parish Administrator*

Karon Hammond, *Head of St. Mark's Day School*

Irma Glover, *Sexton*

The Rt. Rev. Andy Doyle, *Bishop of Texas*