



# Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 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: *Three Folk Hymn Improvisations*

**Albert Travis**

*Dr. Albert Travis (b. 1940) is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Organ at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He also served for over 40 years as Organist and Director of Music at Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth. He calls these pieces “improvisations” because of their free treatment of the hymn tunes.*

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## 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.

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.**

### The First Reading

**1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

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.

## **The Gospel**

**Mark 1:21-28**

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.

*Priest*      The Word of the Lord.

**People**    **Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon**

**Barbara White, Seminarian**

## **Music for Reflection: O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High**

**Hymn 448**

O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how passing thought and fantasy, that God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortals' sake. For us baptized, for us he bore his holy fast and hungered sore; for us temptations sharp he knew; for us the tempter overthrew. For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his daily works he wrought: by words and signs and actions, thus still seeking not himself, but us. All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad; the Trinity whom we adore for ever and for evermore.

**Eric Panter, soloist**

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt.

Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.;  
harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

## **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.**

## **A Message from the Day School**

### **The Offertory: *Prayer of Consecration***

**Deborah Dresie**

Lord of life, sing through me. Give my heart a melody so sweet and pure, good and true that I may offer a song to you. Come to me and still my fear until my song is yours alone. Sing through me, Lord of life; make my voice your own. Lord of life, pray through me. Fill my mind with quiet peace so sweet and pure, good and true that I may have only thoughts of you. Come to me and still my doubt until my dreams are yours alone. Pray through me, Lord of life, make my mind your own. Lord of life, live through me. Keep my soul in harmony so sweet and pure, good and true that through my living I'll honor you. Come to me and still my will until my deeds are yours alone. Live through me, Lord of life; make my heart your own.

## **Announcements**

### **The Peace**

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

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

### **Postlude: *Toccata in D Minor (“Dorian”), BWV 538***

**J. S. Bach**

*This dramatic toccata is often referred to by the nickname “Dorian,” a reference to the fact that the piece is written without a key signature—a notation that leads one to assume the Dorian mode. Bach (1685-1750) opens with a driving sixteenth-note motif that continues almost uninterrupted to the end of the piece, and includes unusually elaborate echo effects. Bach even notates manual changes for the organist, an unusual practice in the day as well as in Bach's organ output.*

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## 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:** Cristi Gehlken, Emily Peterek, Heidi Roure, Katie Yu, Audrey Callahan, Trish Dew, Evan Kochelek, Wyatt Gonzalez, Keith Kreitner, Ben Mishkin, Mateo Moreno, Riley Orr.

**For those celebrating anniversaries:** Jean & Frank Severn. Gail Weatherby & John Sieverman.

**For those whom the Daughters of the King pray**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**New Sunday school series begins today, January 31st, 9:45 a.m.** *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.

**Kid’s Club is back!** Check out our website [here](#) for the details.

**Ash Wednesday, February 17:** details forthcoming.

## 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](http://www.stmarksaustin.org).

**Lector:** Becky Janes



**ST. MARK'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Join us at [www.stmarksaustin.org](http://www.stmarksaustin.org), and  
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***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***