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**WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER:** In order to keep our church family abreast of our latest updates and church reminders, we have been sending out a weekly e-newsletter. If you, or someone you know would like to be included on our email list, contact secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org or sign up from our website's homepage.

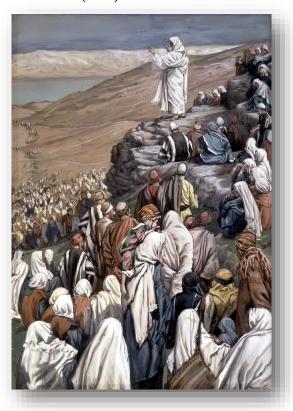
**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:** Stay connected with the church and your friends by following us on our Facebook page: StJohnSouthampton. You can also worship online LIVE on Sundays.

**ONLINE GIVING:** Links are available on St John's Homepage at www.stjohnsouthampton.org. You may also make an online gift by texting the keyword StJohnSouthampton to 73256 on your cell phone.

**BULLETINS:** You can follow along our Sunday services by downloading our Bulletins from our website, stjohnsouthampton.org The Bulletins are uploaded every Saturday afternoon for your convenience.

## St. John's Episcopal Church

100 South Main Street | P. O. Box 5068 Southampton, New York 11969-5068 (631) 283-0549



The Beatitudes Sermon by James Tissot in the Brooklyn Museum

## Services are available online through Facebook Live: Facebook.com/StJohnSouthampton

#### **Sunday Services**

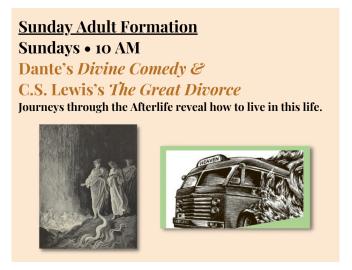
8:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Rite II 11:00 A.M. - Morning Prayer, Rite I Holy Eucharist, Rite I (1st Sundays each month)

## <u>Weekday Services</u> Monday – Friday

7:30 A.M. – Morning Prayer, Rite I 6:00 P.M. – Evening Prayer, Rite I **Wednesday** 10:00 A.M. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

# The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany January 29, 2023 • 9:00 A.M.





In the 14th century, Dante Alighieri wrote the greatest epic poem of human history, tracing a mythical journey through Hell, Purgatory, and Heaven that was representative of the medieval worldview as it existed. Over the seven hundred years since this work was completed, it has been recognized as representing the soul's journey towards God from our recognition and rejection of sin (Inferno), the penitent life of the Christian (Purgatorio), and finally the soul's ascent to God (Paradiso).

Written by C.S. Lewis in 1945, *The Great Divorce* is a vision in which Lewis reflects on the Christian conceptions of Heaven, Purgatory, and Hell. A classic Christian allegorical tale about a bus ride from Hell and Purgatory to Heaven. It is an extraordinary meditation upon good and evil, grace and judgment, Lewis's idea in *The Great Divorce* is that the gates of Hell are locked from the inside. Using his extraordinary descriptive powers, Lewis changes the way we think about good and evil, salvation and damnation, in this life and the next.

Join Fr. Patrick **beginning on 5 February 2023**, in the Parish Hall on Sundays at 10 AM to delve into these two insightful and famous works searching for the nature, struggles, and victories of our lives here and after death. Important parallels between the two famous works will be examined as well as the common lessons about the here and the hereafter.

For Pastoral Emergencies, please contact Fr. Patrick at 404-660-3592.



### Help us to maintain our prayer intercession list.

The personal and collective intercessions we make asking our Lord to intercede in our lives and on behalf of others are a central aspect of our private and common worship. At St. John's we have always made an aural reading of our prayer list a part of our regular services. However, there comes with this an important responsibility to maintain it as current and accurate. To accomplish this we are asking our community to take that personal responsibility to heart in the following way:

We ask everyone to please let us know when someone should be added, removed, or otherwise amended on our prayer list. This is accomplished best by either dropping a note in the collection plate or by emailing or calling the parish secretary at (631) 283-0549 or secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org.

To avoid a name being orphaned on the prayer list names will be removed after 60 days of being added, unless the parish secretary is contacted to extend that time for another 60 days.

Of course, there is no limit to the number of persons we will faithfully include on our prayer list, nor a limit to the duration we will intercede on their behalf. This policy is to take special care in maintaining the names we bring before the Throne of Grace in prayer each time we gather together.

### **Opening Acclamation**

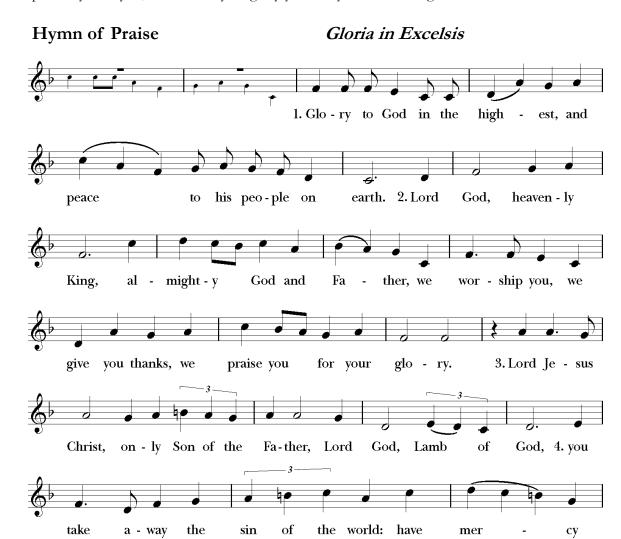
Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

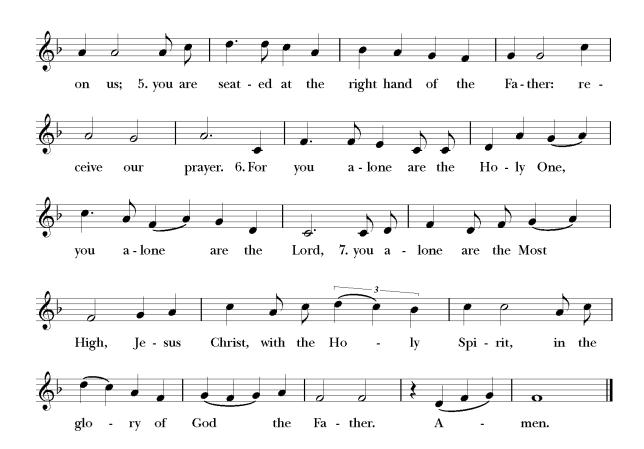
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

## **Collect of Purity**

The Celebrant says

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.** 





#### The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you. People And also with you.

Officiant 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.** 

## Dedications

The flowers at the altar this week are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of the Grimm and Rogers families by Ann Grimm.

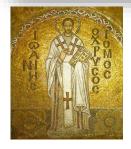
## Verse of the Week

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Micah 6:7-8

## e Quote of the Week ??

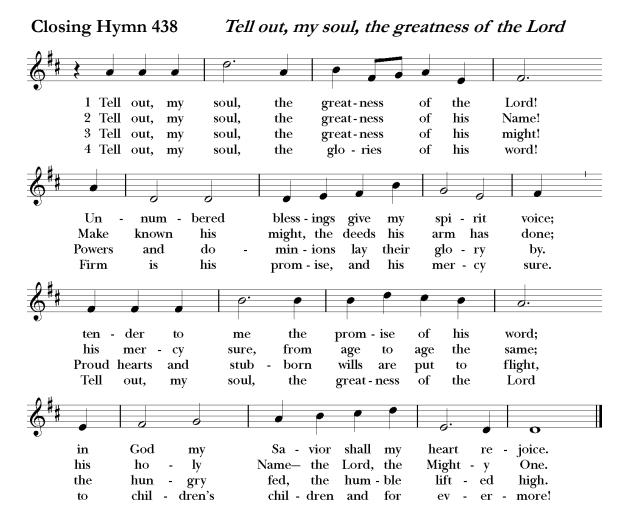


"For the man who is kindly, modest, merciful, and just will not keep his good works to himself but will see to itself that these admirable fountains send out their streams for the good of others. Again, the man who is clean of heart, a peace maker, and ardent for truth will order his life so as to contribute to the common good."

#### Saint John Chrysostom

Important Early Church Father and archbishop of Constantinople. He was famous for his preaching and public speaking, his denunciation of abuse of authority by both ecclesiastical and political leaders, his Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom. The name Chrysostom means "golden tongue".

### The Blessing



#### The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

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## The Liturgy of the Word

## First Reading

Micah 6:1-8

A Reading from the Book of the prophet Micah.

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth;

for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery;

and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him,

and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 15

#### Domine, quis habitabit?

- 1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \* who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \* who speaks the truth from his heart.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; \* he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \* but he honors those who fear the Lord.
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong \* and does not take back his word.
- 6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \* nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
- 7 Whoever does these things \* shall never be overthrown.

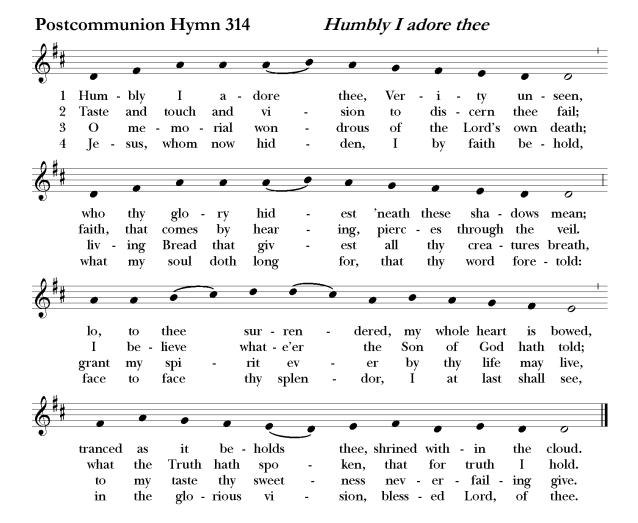
### Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."



## The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

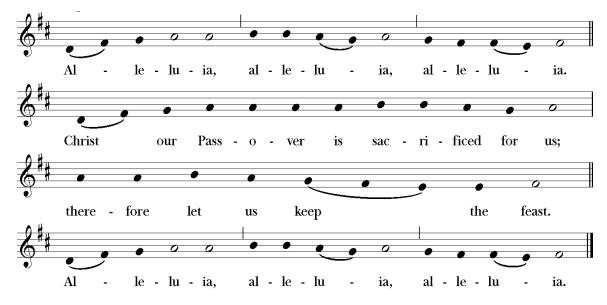
#### Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

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 and People



## The Invitation to Communion (BCP 364)

The Priest invites the people to Communion Priest

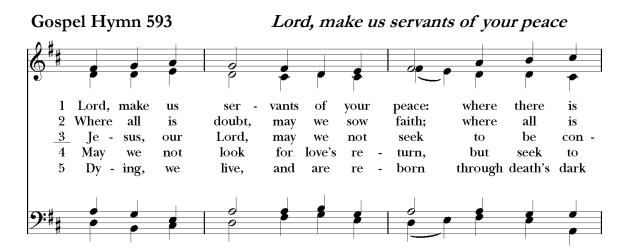
The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

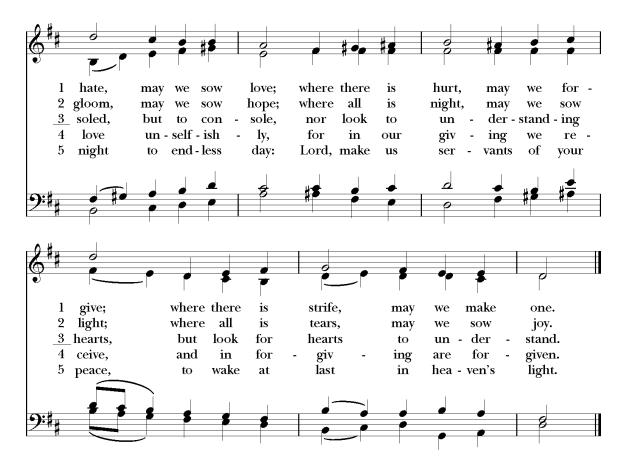
Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God



14



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

## The Gospel

## *Matthew 5:1-12*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

- "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

#### The Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

#### The Celebrant continues

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**.

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

#### People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

### The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A

The Lord be with you. Officiant People And also with you. Lift up your hearts. Officiant

People We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Officiant People It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

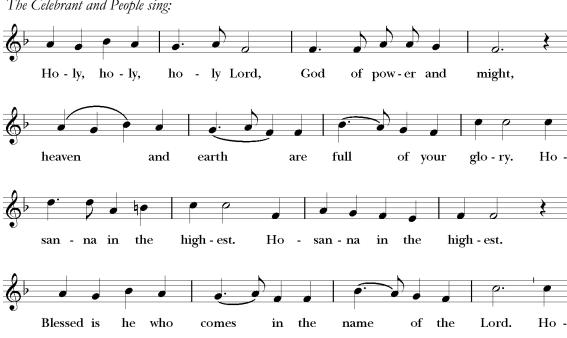
#### Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where 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:

#### The Celebrant and People sing:

san - na in the

high-est.



Ho - san-na in the

high-est.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord. People Praise to you, O Christ.

#### The Sermon

#### The Rev'd W. Patrick Edwards

#### 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 VI)

Leader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

Leader For all people in their daily life and work;

People For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Leader For this community, the nation, and the world; we pray for those who

govern and hold authority in this and every land, especially Joseph, our

President, Kathy, our Governor, and Jesse, our Mayor;

People For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader For the just and proper use of your creation;

People For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Leader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Leader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Leader For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael the Presiding Bishop,

and Lawrence our Bishop and for all bishops and other ministers;

People For all who serve God in his Church.

Leader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Leader Hear us, Lord;

People For your mercy is great.

Leader We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

Leader We will exalt you, O God our King;

People And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Leader We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal

kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Leader Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People Who put their trust in you.

Leader We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins, devoutly kneeling.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

in your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things done and left undone;

and so uphold us by your Spirit

that we may live and serve you in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### The Absolution

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

Officiant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

## The Liturgy of the Table

#### Offertory

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.