Welcome to Christ Church - the Episcopal Church in Portola Valley
The Rev. Beth Phillips, Rector
Lauren Wittine, Director of Music

This service is a live interactive service on Zoom. Please change your screen name to your preferred name. You are welcome to worship with or without your own video on, but those who are reading are asked to turn their screen on during that portion. The service can also be found on our YouTube page.

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We will begin with a musical prelude in a few moments.

During this time of preparation, we invite you to share your prayers and petitions in the Zoom chat.
The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Welcome!

February 7, 2021

Prelude
Dialogue

Louis Nicolas Clérambault (1676-1749)
Lighting of Candle(s) After the prelude and before the opening hymn, an acolyte lights a candle in place of the candles we light each week on the altar and says:

Acolyte We light a candle to remind us of the light that came into this world with Jesus. It symbolizes the light of Christ.
Opening Hymn

While on mute, please join in singing:

1. The Church of Christ in ev'ry age Beset by change but Spirit led, Must claim and test its heritage And keep on rising from the dead.

2. Across the world, across the street, The victims of injustice cry For shelter and for bread to eat, And never live until they die.

3. Then let the servant Church arise, A caring Church that longs to be A partner in Christ’s sacrifice, And clothed in Christ’s humanity.

4. For he alone, whose blood was shed, Can cure the fever in our blood, And teach us how to share our bread And feed the starving multitude.

5. We have no mission but to serve In full of holding in our blood, And teach us how to be dience to our Lord: To care for all, with- out reserve, And spread his liberating Word.

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Opening Acclamation

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

People  And blessed be God’s 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.
The Gloria S 277

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

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

3. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

4. you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;

5. you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

6. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

7. 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

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Officiant Let us pray,

Officiant 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 Lesson – Isaiah 40:21-31

Reader  A reading from Isaiah.

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.

Reader     Here ends the reading.
Psalm 147:1-12, 21c

Hallelujah!
How good it is to sing praises to our God!
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem;
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

He counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
there is no limit to his wisdom.

The Lord lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;
make music to our God upon the harp.

He covers the heavens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth;

He makes grass to grow upon the mountains
and green plants to serve mankind.

He provides food for flocks and herds
and for the young ravens when they cry.

He is not impressed by the might of a horse;
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who await his gracious favor.

Hallelujah!
The Epistle – 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Reader  A reading from First Corinthians.

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Reader  Here ends the Epistle.
**Sequence Anthem**
O Savior of the World  
Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1592)

O Savior, Savior of the world, who by the Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us, Save us, and help us, we beseech thee, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

**The Gospel – Mark 1:29-39**

Celebrant  
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People  
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Celebrant  
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.

Celebrant  
The Gospel of the Lord.

People  
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Sermon The Reverend Beth Phillips**
A New Nicene Creed

*Although this will be read by one person, you are invited to say the creed aloud at home while on mute.*

We believe in God,  
the creator of all life and beauty,  
who blesses our journey.

We believe in Jesus Christ,  
who lived as a friend and savior  
to all he met as he traveled,  
and who ate and laughed,  
wept and celebrated  
with them in love.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who rides on the gentle breeze,  
who strengthens our bindings,  
and who offers hope eternal.

We believe in the church,  
which stands open to all travelers,  
and bears witness to the everlasting love of God.  
Amen.
You are invited to unmute yourself and join in the Prayers of the People. If the tech moderator mutes you, then it is because there is an echo or background noise that you may not be able to hear.

The Prayers of the People (from Intercessions for the Christian People)

Leader With all our hearts and minds let us offer to God our prayers, saying: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For leaders of nations, for those who serve us in government, for reconciliation among nations, races, creeds, and all that can divide us; for the gifts of unity, peace and grace, let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader For this parish, its clergy, staff, and people; that we might grow in faith and love, let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader For those celebrating birthdays this week: Dede Jamison, Robert Redfern-West, Mary McCann, Bill Lattin, and Joan Gray, that you may bless and guide them in the coming year. For those celebrating anniversaries, Hobart and JoAnne Birmingham that their love be a beacon of your love, let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader For the consolation and support of all who have suffered in the pandemic, for those who have lost jobs, for those stung by racism and those who are malignant with it, for all who need healing in mind, body or spirit, and especially for Gabrielle, Tim McAdam, Leigh Alexander Sawyer, Anna Sandell, Jean Bertelsen, Stephen Placido, and those we now name either silently or aloud (pause), let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader For the dead and the bereaved and those who minister to them, including, Megan Flynn, Michael Enright, Fern Brown Wilson, Debra Ferguson, Owen Taylor, Mary Peterson, Edward Polk Norton, Gunther Sorger, Charles Randall, Lorraine Fuller, Ester Judd and those we now name either silently or aloud (pause), let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
The celebrant will now offer up the prayers shared this morning in our Zoom chat, concluding with “let us pray to the Lord.”

**People**  Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**Celebrant**  Holy God, lover of the human family and helper of all in need, hear the prayers we offer in faith, and strengthen us in your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**People**  Amen.

**The Peace**

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

**People**  And also with you.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Officiant**  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.

**Blessing**

**Announcements** If you have any announcements regarding church matters, please select the “raise hand” icon under the participants tab at the bottom of your screen, and a host will unmute you.
Closing Hymn #567

Thine arm, O Lord

While on mute, please join in singing:

1 Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old was strong to heal and save; it triumphed o'er disease and death,
strength, and sight; and youth renewed and frenzy calmed life and death; restore and quicken, soothe and bless,

2 And lo! thy touch brought life and health, gave hearing,
o'er darkness and the grave. To thee they went, the owned thee, the Lord of light: and now, O Lord, be
with thine almighty breath: to hands that work and
blind, the deaf, the palsied, and the lame, the leper near to bless, almighty as of yore, in crowded eyes that see, give wisdom's heavenly lore, that whole and

3 Be thou our great deliverer still, thou Lord of set apart and shunned, the sick with fevered frame.
street, by restless couch, as by Gennesaret's shore.
sick, and weak and strong, may praise thee evermore.
Dismissal

Acolyte       Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People       Thanks be to God.

Please stay for coffee hour!