



## **Epiphany 4**

St. Augustine's Church  
January 31, 2021

- 1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could  
destroy, be there at our waking, and give  
us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord,  
at the break of the day.
  
- 2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and  
the lathe, be there at our labors, and give us, we  
pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the  
noon of the day.
  
- 3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to  
embrace, be there at our homing, and give  
us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord,  
at the eve of the day.
  
- 4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
whose voice is contentment, whose  
presence is balm, be there at our sleeping,  
and give us, we pray, your peace in our  
hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

*Celebrant:* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
*People:* **Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* May God be with you.  
*People:* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant:* Let us pray together.

## **The Collect of the Day**

Tender and precious God, from ancient times the promise of your salvation has sustained your people. With Mary and Joseph, teach us to treasure in our hearts the birth of Jesus, and with shepherds and angels, lead us to praise his holy name. **Amen.**

## **First Lesson Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” Then the Lord replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.  
*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 111

- 1 Alleluia! I will give thanks to you, O God, with my whole heart, \*  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
- 2 Great are your deeds, O God; \*  
they are studied by all who delight in them.
- 3 Your work is full of majesty and splendor, \*  
and your righteousness endures for ever.
- 4 You make your marvelous works to be remembered; \*  
you are gracious and full of compassion.
- 5 You give food to those who fear you; \*  
you are ever mindful of your covenant.
- 6 You have shown your people the power of your works \*  
in giving them the lands of the nations.
- 7 The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; \*  
all your commandments are sure.
- 8 They stand fast for ever and ever, \*  
because they are done in truth and equity.
- 9 You sent redemption to your people;  
you commanded your covenant for ever; \*  
holy and awesome is your Name.
- 10 The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom; \*  
those who act accordingly have a good  
understanding; God's praise endures for ever.

### Second Lesson 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

*Reader*            Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

*People:*            **Thanks be to God.**

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
Mark

*People*    **Glory to you O Christ.**

**The Holy 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.

*After the gospel has been read:*

*Clergy* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**The Sermon**

**The Vicar**

*A period of silence is kept.*

**The Prayers of the People**

*We invite you to add your intercessions either silently or aloud after each bidding.*

*Reader:* Let us pray that the Morning Star will shine for the church, the world, and all those in need. That the church may be radiant with the Gospel and draw all people to the boundless riches of your love. We pray for the Church, the Body of Christ, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop and Nicholas, our Bishop; for the people of God, gathered from every nation under heaven; may we proclaim in every language, the dawning of a new age. In the **Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for the Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil. In the **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for seminaries and schools for deacons.

*Reader:* For this we pray

*People:* **Holy Spirit guide our prayer.**

*Reader:* That nations will be led by your wisdom, and leaders serve with justice and righteousness to scatter the clouds of hatred and oppression.

*Reader:* For this we pray

*People:* **Holy Spirit guide our prayer.**

*Reader:* That those who are depressed, lonely, or sick may be nursed by your healing power and rest in the arms of your comfort.

*Reader:* For this we pray

*People:* **Holy Spirit guide our prayer.**

*Reader:* That we would share our abundance of wealth and grace with those who live in poverty of riches and spirit.

*Reader:* For this we pray

*People:* **Holy Spirit guide our prayer.**

*Reader:* That those whose lives and cultures differ from our own may find welcome among us.

*Reader:* For this we pray

*People:* **Holy Spirit guide our prayer.**

*Reader:* That those who are filled with doubt and struggle to believe may be led by the Holy Spirit to acclaim your love incarnate in Jesus Christ.

*Reader:* For this we pray

*People:* **Holy Spirit guide our prayer**

*Reader:* That those who have died and now behold your great epiphany may surround us until we come to the brightness of your dawning.

*Reader:* For this we pray

*People:* **Holy Spirit guide our prayer.**

*Reader:* In commemoration of their birthdays, we give thanks for the gift of their lives and for their presence among us: Elizabeth Sullivan, Caleb Brown, Samantha Hughes, Michaela Jacobs and the anniversary of Doug & Jessica Wilson.

*Reader:* For this we pray

*People:* **Holy Spirit guide our prayer**

*Together* God of grace and glory you call us with your voice of flame to be your people, faithful and courageous. As your beloved son embraced his mission in the waters of baptism, inspire us with the fire of your Spirit to join in his transforming work. We ask this in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Collects

## The Vicar

*Celebrant* **Summing all of our prayers, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us, saying:**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

1. In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north,  
but one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.

2. Join hands, companions in the faith,  
whate'er your race may be!  
Who loves and serves the one in him,  
throughout the whole wide earth.

3. In Christ now meet both east and west;  
in him meet south and north,  
all Christly souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.

### **Blessing**

### **Dismissal**

*Dismissal response: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia*

### **Announcement**

**Special envelopes/offerings for maintenance & repairs are very welcome in January.**

**Please join us, on Zoom, for the Annual Meeting immediately following this service.**



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The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely, Bishop  
The Diocese of Rhode Island

### **Bishop's Committee**

Jane Bates, Carolyn Davis, Vicki Escalera,  
Dwight Giles, Roy Heaton, Annie Kammerer,  
Annette LaRosa, Margaret Rostrup, Richard Youngken

### **Staff**

The Rev. Beth Sherman, Vicar and Chaplain  
The Rev. Rob Izzi, Deacon  
Mr. Rod Luther, Director of Music  
Ms. Cheryl Petrosinelli, Parish Administrator  
The Rev. Susan Stiles, Priest Associate  
The Rev. L. Gail Wheelock, Deacon