

**The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany +
 Septuagesima + January 28, 2023
 8:15 am & 10:30 am**

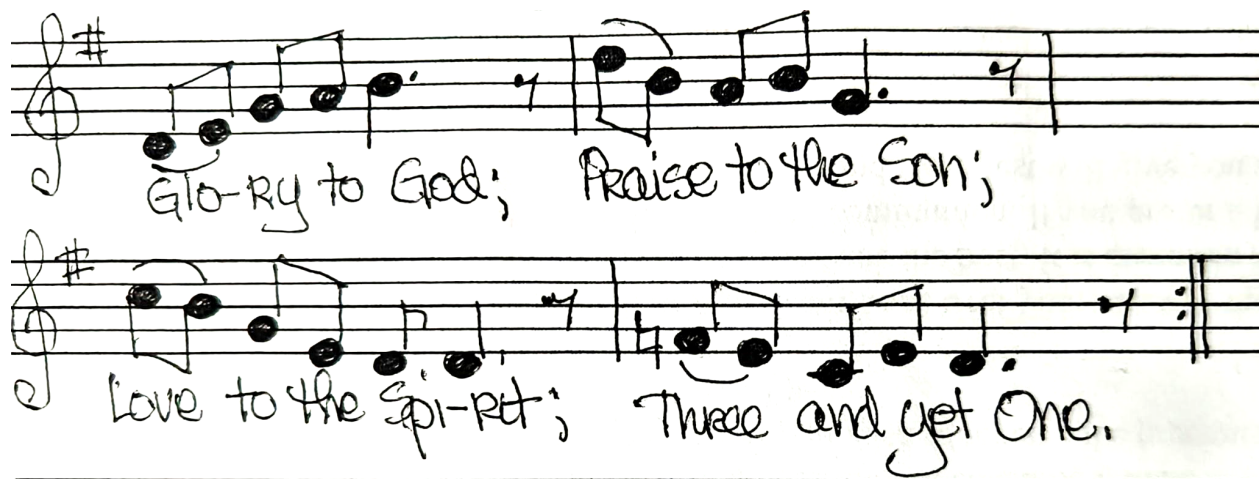
**St. Martin's Episcopal Church
 Bridgewater, NJ**

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

And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Gloria

K. Shanklin



The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

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.

A Reading from Deuteronomy *(Please be seated)*

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. The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 111 *Antiphon: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the deeds of the Lord! They are studied by all who delight in them. **Antiphon.**

The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; all his commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity. **Antiphon.**

He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever;
holy and awesome is his Name. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
Those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever **Antiphon.**

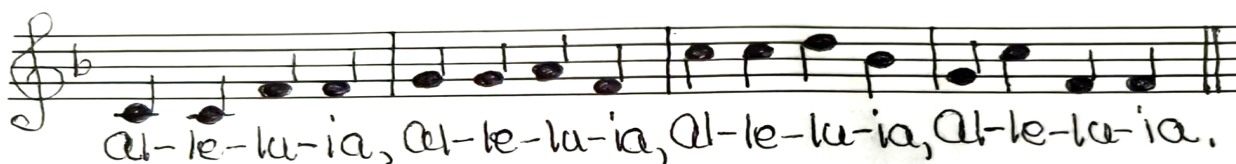
A Reading from Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians

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 Word of the Lord/ Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Kathy Shanklin



V: *The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light;
on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death, light has arisen*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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. The Gospel of the Lord.

The Homily

The Nicene Creed (Please stand)

BCP, 358

The Prayers of the People

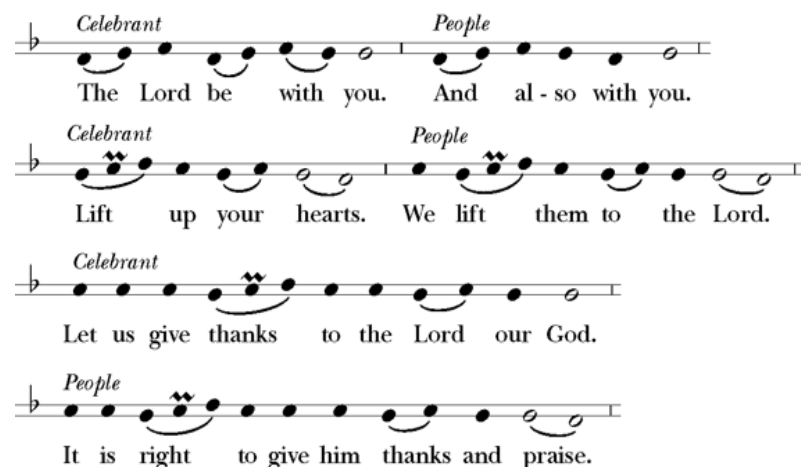
BCP, 385

Confession and Absolution

BCP 360

The Peace and Announcements

Offertory Hymn *O Love, How Deep, How Wide, How Broad* *Hymnal 1982, 448*



It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of pow-er and might, Heav-en and earth are

full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues in the *Book of Common Prayer*, page 368
The Lord's Prayer **BCP, 364**
The Fraction and Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the

world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: grant us peace.

**Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are they who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.**

*The people may silently pray: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only
say the word, and my soul shall be healed.*

**The Holy Communion
Communion Hymns**

1 God, cre - a - tor, source of heal - ing here we
 2 Je - sus, known to friend and seek - er ex - er -
 3 Ho - ly Spi - rit, bring us whole-ness, come with
 4 Tri - ni - ty of awe and won - der yours the

pray for whole-ness and health. Guide our work, our
 cis - ing heal - er's art, may the strong sup -
 your trans - form - ing love; give us free - dom,
 glo - ry, yours the praise. Strike our bind - ing

thoughts, and feel - ing, guide the shar - ing of our wealth.
 port the weak-er show - ing love with head and heart;
 hope and bold-ness, raise our eyes to see from a - bove;
 chains a - sun - der, lib - er - ate our cramp - ing ways.

Give dis - cern - ment in our de - ci - sions give com -
 give fresh en - er - gy and pur - pose when un -
 shape our sys - tems, in - sti - tu - tions, clar - i -
 May our lives re - flect your splend-our, in a -

pas - sion in our care; rec - on - cile our
 rea - son - ing blocks your grace, spare us harm, in
 fy our blind - ed sight, as we seek God -
 bun - dance Lord we ask. God, our guide and

strife and di - vi - sions as we search for means to share.
 dan - ger a - lert us, show the ra - diance of your face.
 giv - en so - lu - tions, help us greet the just and right.
 our be - friend - er, give new mean - ing to our task.

Deck Thyself, My Soul with Gladness

Hymnal 1982, 339

Post Communion Prayer *(Please kneel or stand)*

BCP, 365

A Prayer for Peace

Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Prince of Peace.

Free our world from conflict. Bring unity to troubled nations. Dispel all darkness and evil from this world and replace hatred with Your love. Give wisdom to world leaders. Free them from selfish ambition. Eliminate all violence and war. Protect the innocent and the weak, defend the poor, and empower us to respect the human dignity of all people. We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.

Blessing and Dismissal

Closing Hymn: *O For A Thousand Tongues vv 1,2,6*

Hymnal 1982, 493

SERVING TODAY

Thurifer: Fausto Beleno Crucifer: Andrew Slye

Reader: Marilyn O'Regan Eucharistic Minister: Larry Ottenstroer

Choir: Beth Hixenbaugh, Alison Jandak, Jane Maloney, Rob Vernon

Organist: Kathy Shanklin Celebrant: Father Rob Laws

Today is Septuagesima Sunday. What Does That Mean?

Septuagesima is the name of the Third Sunday before Lent, and the beginning of Shrovetide- the short period of preparation for Lent that concludes on Shrove Tuesday. Septuagesima means 70 (as in the 70th day before Easter); but this is a symbolic name. There are in fact less than 70 days from this Sunday until Easter.

Originally this Sunday provided a gradual shift to a more penitential tone at worship. The Gloria and Alleluia were removed on this Sunday, and people began making a pre-Ash Wednesday Confession, with many confessions being made on Shrove Tuesday.

Vatican II suppressed this Pre-Lenten season, and the Anglican Churches soon followed. Today it is more of a sign that Lent is near. It is a reminder that we should begin a more intentional examination of our conscience as we discern how to benefit from the Lenten Fast. This is a good time to think about what you will fast for Lent, how you will use the Lenten disciplines to grow in love, and to determine whether or not you would like to make an appointment with the priest to make a sacramental confession in order to receive the grace of absolution.

If you need spiritual direction in your discernment and preparation, Father Rob is always available to make an appointment with you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mass: Wednesday, 6 pm in the Lady Chapel

Ash Wednesday Mass, February 14, 5 PM (Low Mass with Hymns, no incense)

**Lenten Bible Study: Interpreting the Holy Scriptures with the Lens of Love
Mondays in Lent, beginning February 19 at Juanita Hawkins Home.**

We will gather at 6:30pm to pray St. Anthony's Rosary for healing.

The study will begin at 7:00 pm.

The first reading will be the story of Noah and the Flood.

Please read Genesis 6 and Genesis 7 in advance of the class.

Confirmation Classes to Begin during Lent

Youth and adults who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, or adults who were Confirmed in another church with apostolic succession and would like to be received into the Episcopal Church by the bishop, should register to attend these classes. Registration forms and more information may be found in the narthex and on the parish website.

Please check the weekly email newsletter for more information about upcoming activities and events. If you are not receiving the newsletter, please send an email to the parish office and they will help you sign up.

Prayer Intentions for this Mass

Elaina, Adam, Brent, Anna Rose, Ryan and his family, Celeste, Joe, Paige, Maureen, Bozeno, Helios, Sonia, Bob, Julia, Anna, Nicole, Dusty, Nory, Anthony, Jeff, Debbie, Ian, Pat, Dillon, Mary and Evelyn.