

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH – WALPOLE, NH

Sunday, February 2, 2025, 10 am – The Presentation of Our Lord

HOLY COMMUNION

PRELUDE

Larghetto from Concerto in D-major by A. Vivaldi

Vladimir Odinekikh

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE WORD OF GOD

ENTRANCE HYMN

Christ, whose glory fills the skies

Hymnal 7 v 1-3

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pan - ied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!

Sun of Right-eous - ness, a - rise! Tri-umph o'er the shades of night:
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer - cy's beams I see,
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

All stand as they are able

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: You come to your people and set them free.

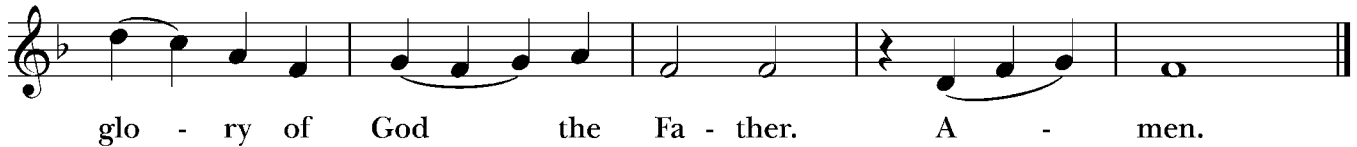
COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

GLORIA

Hymnal S280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

People may be seated while Lector reads.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 24:7-10

Lector and people read responsively by whole verse.

7 Lift up your heads, O gates;
lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.

8 **"Who is this King of glory?" ***
"The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle."

9 Lift up your heads, O gates;
lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.

10 **"Who is he, this King of glory?" ***
"The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory."

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 2:14-18

People may remain seated while LEM reads.

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

From all that dwell below the skies

Hymnal 380

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let
 2 E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord, and
 *3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise! Let the Re - deem - er's
 truth e - ter - nal is thy word: thy praise shall sound from
 him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye

Name be sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue!
 shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
 heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

People stand to hear the gospel.

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Fred Chisolm

THE CREED

After a time of reflection, all stand as they are able

**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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The LEM and people pray responsively. People remain standing if able.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially St. Mark's Fellowship Center in Groveton, for our siblings in common mission in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Bless those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week: Patti Sparks (2/2) and Fred Ernst (2/8).

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially Missy Wilkins, Erik Lindberg, Mary Lou Huffling, Mary Warzecha, Matt Pinson, Jessie McKenzie, Bob Lindberg, Brianna Miller, Rebecca Cooper, Avery, Doug Barnes, John Tuttle, Mary Lou Montgomery, and Peggy Pschirrer, give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant continues

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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

All stand. People may greet one another from their seats.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

The congregation may be seated as the Offering is received.



1 Come, ris - en Lord, and deign to be our guest;
 2 We meet, as in that up - per room they met;
 3 One bo - dy we, one Bo - dy who par - take,
 4 One with each o - ther, Lord, for one in thee,

nay, let us be thy guests; the feast is thine;
 thou at the ta - ble, bless - ing, yet dost stand:
 one Church u - ni - ted in com - mun - ion blest;
 who art one Sa - vior and one liv - ing Head;

thy - self at thine own board make man - i - fest
 "This is my Bo - dy"; so thou giv - est yet:
 one Name we bear, one Bread of life we break,
 then o - pen thou our eyes, that we may see;

in thine own Sac - ra - ment of Bread and Wine.
 faith still re - ceives the cup as from thy hand.
 with all thy saints on earth and saints at rest.
 be known to us in break - ing of the Bread.

DOXOLOGY*All stand.*

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in 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:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal S-130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

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

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. If you wish a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.
Gluten free wafers are available; let the priest know at the altar that you'd like one.*

COMMUNION

Let us break bread together

Hymn 325

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____

let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____

Refrain

when I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me. 1 2

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;

let us praise God together on our knees;

Refrain

when I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

People stand as they are able

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

EPIPHANY BLESSING

May God the Father,
 who led the wise men by the shining of a star
 to find the Christ, the Light from light,
 lead you in your pilgrimage to find the Lord. **Amen.**

May God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness,
 give us a place with the saints in light
 in the kingdom of his beloved Son. **Amen.**

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
 shine in your hearts and fill our lives
 with his joy and peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Love divine, all loves excelling

Hymnal 657 v1-3

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Please be seated and wait to begin greeting one another until after the postlude.

POSTLUDE

Allelujah by Mozart

Vladimir Odinokikh

WORKING TOGETHER AT ST. JOHN'S

	<i>This Sunday</i>	<i>Next Sunday</i>
<i>Celebrant:</i>	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm
<i>Rector:</i>	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm
<i>Deacon</i>	The Rev. Deacon Bill Clark	The Rev. Deacon Bill Clark
<i>Organist:</i>	Vladimir Odinokikh	Vladimir Odinokikh
<i>Acolyte:</i>	Conor O'Donnell	Conor O'Donnell
<i>LEM</i>	Lisa Cuoco	Sarah Downing
<i>Lector(s)</i>	Adrian Basora	Jane Loomis
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Patti Sparks	Andrew Wilking
<i>Flowers</i>	Dot Herr & Linda O'Donnell	Lisa Cuoco
<i>Ushers</i>	Josh Beer & Chuck Loomis	Joe Cuoco & Bill Tyson
<i>Counters</i>	Patti Sparks & Alison Brule	Marilyn Wilking & Chas Street
<i>Hospitality</i>	Kathie Clark	Chuck & Jane Loomis

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

2025 Outreach Planning Carry-In

Our Outreach Chair, Al Sparks, invites the Outreach Committee and anyone interested in helping our neighbors anywhere in the world to come to the Carry-in, brainstorming and organizational meeting at 5:30 on Saturday, February 8th at St. John's. Al says he is bringing smoked ribs. Please bring something to share to complete the meal. Al also says, "Be there or be square."

Working Together

Alison Brule, our new Volunteer Coordinator, has the Working Together 2025 forms at the back of the church and at Coffee Hour. Please be sure to pick one up, complete it, and get it back to Alison as soon as possible. Thanks.

River Valley Seniors at Home – Calendars

The River Valley Seniors at Home calendars will now be available to anyone. They are updated twice each month and cover events on both sides of the River. If you would like to receive the calendars, please complete the form on the back table in the church.

Fall Mountain Food Shelf

During January we will focus on rice, pasta, and canned meats (tuna and chicken). These are frequently requested items. Betsy McGuire is our Fall Mountain Food Shelf Coordinator.

Our Priest in Charge: The Rev. Fred Chisolm can be reached at (802) 649-6495 (cell) or via email at rector@StJohnsWalpole.org.

St. John's Vestry 2025: Drew Street (Senior Warden), Chuck Loomis (Junior Warden), Sue Bauer (Treasurer), Linda O'Donnell (Clerk), Alison Brule, Joe Cuoco, and John Proctor. Both wardens may be reached at info@StJohnsWalpole.org.