

Prelude: Prelude on We Shall Overcome

African-American Spiritual, Adolphus Hailstork

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn #756 (Green WLP Hymnal) “Lead me, guide me, along the way”

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever!**

Celebrant Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: 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.

Glory to God #899 (Green WLP Hymnal) The refrain:

**Glory, Glory, hallelujah, Lord we praise your Holy name,
Glory, Glory, hallelujah, Lord we praise your Holy name.**

Celebrant God is with you

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray together the collect of the day:

**God of the hungry, make us hunger and thirst for the right,
till our thirst for justice has been satisfied and hunger has gone from the earth.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(NZPB)

First Reading: Exodus 3:7-12ee

The Lord said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms (Lamentations 3:22-26): Hymn #755 (Green WLP Hymnal) “The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases”

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia:

Cantor, then All

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: John 1:29-42

John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.”

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, Lord Christ!**

Sermon or Reflection Time

The Rev. Lise Hildebrandt

Anthem: Bright Canaan

Traditional, arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

Offertory Hymn “Blessed Martin, Pastor, Prophet” (from Lift Every Voice and Sing)

1. Ho - ly God, you raise up proph-ets; Praise and hon - or do we sing,
 2. Mo - ral con-science of his na - tion, Re - con - cil - ing black and white,
 3. Teach - er of Christ - like non - vio - lence To the out - cast, poor and meek;
 4. Preach - er of Christ's love for neigh - bor, He won No - bel's prize for peace;

1. For your faith - ful, hum - ble ser - vant, Doc - tor Mar - tin Luth - er King.
 2. Dreamed he of a just so - cie - ty, we must car - ry on his fight.
 3. Great - er weap - on 'gainst op - pres - sion Is to turn the o - ther cheek.
 4. Peo - ples, beat your swords to plough - shares, Wars 'twixt na - tions all shall cease.

Refrain

Bless - ed Mar - tin, pas - tor, proph - et, you the moun - tain - top did see;

Bless - ed Mar - tin, ho - ly mar - tyr: Pray that we may - all be free.

5. Champion of oppressed humanity
Suff'ring throughout all the world;
He offered pride and dignity
Let Christ's banner be unfurled!

Refrain

Words: Harold T. Lewis (b. 1947). Music: *Martin's Song* by Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Songs of Praise*.

6. So, when felled by sniper's bullet,
Under heavens overcast,
He could cry, "Thank God Almighty,
I am free, I'm free at last!"

Refrain

Communion Hymn #764 (Green WLP Hymnal) "Taste and see"

Final Hymn #550 (Blue 1982 Hymnal): "Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult"

Postlude: Toccata on "Great Day"

Adolphus Hailstork; African-American spiritual

Saint John's Church NEWS AND NOTES: Jan 15, 2023

Zoom Coffee Hour, aka "Reliable Joy" Sunday at 12:30 pm. Meeting ID: 873 3272 1412 Passcode: 01930 Dial by location: 1 646 558 8656

Expanded Visioning Team Meeting Saturday, January 21 at 9-11:30 am. The VT and additional people will be pondering the "What if" focus on centering younger people, esp from the LGBTQ community and next steps around community relationships.

Rockport MLK Jr. March and Interfaith Service, TOMORROW 10:00 at the Unitarian Universalist Society, 4 Cleaves Street, featuring Rhythm Plus Soul. Sign-making at 9:30.

Ben Needs Some Furniture: Ben will move into his apartment soon (we hope this coming week) and has asked for help with the following items: A wooden table and 2-4 chairs, a full-size sofa, a glider rocker with ottoman and a floor lamp. Please let Marge or Pastor Lise know if you can locate any of these items.

Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 29th. After worship and a very brief break, we will start the meeting in the church sanctuary (approximately 10:45). Zoom option available. Please get those annual reports in!

Honor Retiring Bishop Gayle Harris: The Diocese of Massachusetts is establishing the Bishop Gayle E. Harris Fund for Leadership Development for Women of Color to honor Bishop Gayle's 20 years of service as Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese. To donate, go to www.diomass.org/give-now or mail to the GEH Leadership Fund, The Episcopal Diocese of MA, 138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111.

Lent Hymns Selection, February 5th after worship. Anyone is welcome to participate!

Name badges: Please **put on your name badge** during the service and coffee hour and **RETURN it** to the box before you leave. If you need a name badge, please write your name legibly on the note pad nearby.

Ways to Give to St. John's: Did you know, that in addition to giving to St. John's through cash or check in worship, you can set up a recurring contribution through PayPal or a bank card, or give through the St. John's website? Go to <https://www.stjohnsgloucester.org/giving> for these options or reach out to Elizabeth for help elizabeth@stjohnsgloucester.org. You can also give by using this QR Code to access PayPal or pay by credit card.



Sunday after the Epiphany—January 15, 2023

Participating in the Liturgy	<i>The People of God gathered in St. John's Church</i>
Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Lise Hildebrandt, Interim Priest
Lector	Doug Parsons
LEM	Carolyn Stewart
Acolyte	Bill Melvin
Ushers	Ian Bedford
Musicians	The Congregation, the Choir, Joe Stoddard, Director
Altar Guild	Karen Kasper and Melanie Murray-Brown
Flower Guild	Rosemary Sullivan

Please sign up for future dates including flower and lamp, Action Sandwiches and coffee hour. Sign ups are on the kiosk in the parish hall.

St. John's Intercession List: Jaelyn Militelo (deceased), Marsha White, Rick Kopka, Stamatoula Balaskas (deceased) and family, Claire Stahler, Jennifer Morris, Carole Secrest, Tyler March, Chris Klosterman, Sereda Feener, Alex, Lynn Runnells, Alex Furth, Simeon Teitelbaum, Miriam Teitelbaum, Debra Ketchopulos, Rita Peritore, Jim and Mary Drogan, the Baxter Family, Len Berry, Ellen, Ginga Graves and Patrick DeMuller, Wayne Martin, Hope and Lily Newhouse, Jackson, Bo Goldman, Nate Mook, Cecily Merrill, Ernie Runnells, Jack Ketchopulos, Jacqueline Vannah, DeeDee Bedford, Michael Rocha, Liana and Joe Webb, Becki Pedersen, Anne Sullivan, Linda, Malcolm Henderson, Emelia Currier, Danny, Patricia Anders, Connor Macauley, Margie Sonthemier, John Fleming.

Contact prayer list manager: Joan Gorga 978-283-5926 or jmgorga@yahoo.com



St. John's Episcopal Church

stjohnsgloucester.org

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Alan McIntosh Gates, Bishop of Mass. & Gayle E. Harris, Bishop Suffragen

The Rev. Lise Hildebrandt, Interim Priest
Marge Bishop, Church Assistant
Elizabeth de Veer, Parish Administrator
Joseph Stoddard, Music Director

Wardens: Karen Kasper and Ellen Sibley
Clerk: Joan Gorga
Treasurer: Sue Lupo, Ass't. Treasurer: Geoff Pope
VESTRY: 2023: Katharine Newhouse, Jane Ward
2024: Doug Parsons, Janet Knott, Melanie Murray-Brown
2025: Steve Jencks, Dori Mottola