



## Ark of the Covenant

**WELCOME TO  
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
2415 Silas Creek Parkway  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
336-725-1651  
[www.stjohnswn.com](http://www.stjohnswn.com)

**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**February 9, 2020 – 10:45 a.m.**  
*Worship with Holy Communion*

***St. John's Mission: To help one more person get to Heaven  
by pointing them to Jesus Christ.***

## **Welcome**

We are delighted to have you with us as we celebrate God's love for us in Jesus! If you have any questions or needs please feel free to ask an usher, Pastor Tom, or anyone here at St. John's.

## **As We Worship**

**Prepare** for worship in stillness and prayer.

**Enjoy** worship by lifting your voice and heart to God.

**Close** worship by enjoying the fellowship of one another.

**After** worship, the service begins! Go out and serve the Lord in all areas of life!

*"I urge you, in view of God's mercy to you, present yourselves as living sacrifices to God, this is your spiritual act of worship." — Romans 12:1*

*Please silence all devices. If at any point you need to or prefer to sit, please feel free to do so.*

**Prelude: "Adagio"**

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

## **Pre-Service Word: Psalm 84:10-12**

<sup>10</sup> For a day in Your courts *is* better than a thousand. I would rather [\[a\]](#)be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

<sup>11</sup> For the Lord God *is* a sun and shield; The Lord will give grace and glory; No good *thing* will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.

<sup>12</sup> O Lord of hosts, Blessed *is* the man who trusts in You!

**Sharing of the Peace** We take a moment to greet one another, as brothers and sisters in Christ (often with the words "God's peace be with you"). We enjoy this part of our worship; however, you are free to participate, or not, in any manner with which you are comfortable. *(Please Remain Standing)*

*(Please Stand)*

## **Processional Hymn: #738 "Lord of All Hopefulness"**

## **Invocation, Confession, and Absolution**

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C: who made heaven and earth.**

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying:

**C: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### **First Lesson: 1 Samuel 5:1-9**

Then the Philistines took the ark of God and brought it from Ebenezer to Ashdod. <sup>2</sup>When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the house of Dagon<sup>[a]</sup> and set it by Dagon. <sup>3</sup>And when the people of Ashdod arose early in the morning, there was Dagon, fallen on its face to the earth before the ark of the Lord. So they took Dagon and set it in its place again. <sup>4</sup>And when they arose early the next morning, there was Dagon, fallen on its face to the ground before the ark of the Lord. The head of Dagon and both the palms of its hands *were* broken off on the threshold; only <sup>[b]</sup>Dagon's *torso* was left of it. <sup>5</sup>Therefore neither the priests of Dagon nor any who come into Dagon's house tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this day.

<sup>6</sup>But the hand of the Lord was heavy on the people of Ashdod, and He ravaged them and struck them with tumors,<sup>[c]</sup> *both* Ashdod and its territory. <sup>7</sup>And when the men of Ashdod saw how *it was*, they said, "The ark of the God of Israel must not remain with us, for His hand is harsh toward us and Dagon our god." <sup>8</sup>Therefore they sent and gathered to themselves all the lords of the Philistines, and said, "What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel?"

And they answered, "Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried away to Gath." So they carried the ark of the God of Israel away. <sup>9</sup>So it was, after they had carried it away, that the hand of the Lord was against the city with a very great destruction; and He struck the men of the city, both small and great, <sup>[d]</sup>and tumors broke out on them.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn of Praise: #740 "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"**

## Second Lesson: 1 Samuel 6:7-16

<sup>7</sup> Now therefore, make a new cart, take two milk cows which have never been yoked, and hitch the cows to the cart; and take their calves home, away from them. <sup>8</sup> Then take the ark of the Lord and set it on the cart; and put the articles of gold which you are returning to Him as a trespass offering in a chest by its side. Then send it away, and let it go. <sup>9</sup> And watch: if it goes up the road to its own territory, to Beth Shemesh, *then* He has done [\[a\]](#)us this great evil. But if not, then we shall know that *it is* not His hand *that* struck us—it happened to us by chance.”

<sup>10</sup> Then the men did so; they took two milk cows and hitched them to the cart, and shut up their calves at home. <sup>11</sup> And they set the ark of the Lord on the cart, and the chest with the gold rats and the images of their tumors. <sup>12</sup> Then the cows headed straight for the road to Beth Shemesh, *and* went along the highway, lowing as they went, and did not turn aside to the right hand or the left. And the lords of the Philistines went after them to the border of Beth Shemesh.

<sup>13</sup> Now *the people of* Beth Shemesh *were* reaping their wheat harvest in the valley; and they lifted their eyes and saw the ark, and rejoiced to see *it*. <sup>14</sup> Then the cart came into the field of Joshua of Beth Shemesh, and stood there; a large stone *was* there. So they split the wood of the cart and offered the cows as a burnt offering to the Lord. <sup>15</sup> The Levites took down the ark of the Lord and the chest that *was* with it, in which *were* the articles of gold, and put *them* on the large stone. Then the men of Beth Shemesh offered burnt offerings and made sacrifices the same day to the Lord. <sup>16</sup> So when the five lords of the Philistines had seen *it*, they returned to Ekron the same day.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please Stand)*

## Alleluia and Verse

Organ Introduction

Cantor only sings Alleluia first time through, then congregation:



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: Do not fear those who kill the body -  
They cannot kill the soul.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup> Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

<sup>27</sup> "Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. <sup>28</sup> And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in [a]hell. <sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a [b]copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. <sup>30</sup> But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup> "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. <sup>33</sup> But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Nicene Creed**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

*(Be seated)*

## **Children's Message**

**Hymn of the Day: #765 "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"**

**Sermon: "God or Chance?"**

**Offer Unto the Lord!** The Bible gives these guidelines on our financial giving:

- 1) *"First Fruits": i.e. Set aside a portion for God FIRST. He gets the best, not the leftovers.*
- 2) *"Portion/Percentage giving": Give to God a percentage of our gross income; the Old Testament "tithes" was 10%; certainly "this side" of the cross we should be just as motivated, or more so, than the Old Testament believers!*
- 3) *"God's Blessings": God promises if we are faithful in our giving, He will pour out blessing/abundance to us overflowing!*

## **Offering**

Please take this time to sign the Pew Pads in your row and pass them down. We thank God for our visitors and guests. Please share your e-mail with us so that you can receive a weekly note of activities/announcements. Thank you for worshiping with us!

**Offertory Anthem    “Sing a New Song”**  
Based on Psalm 149

Stan Pethel

**Offertory    #781    “We Give Thee But Thine Own”**  
We give Thee but Thine own,  
Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

**TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER.**  
St. Paul wrote, "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup". Ask yourself: Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe that Jesus died for my sins? Am I resolved, by the work of the Holy Spirit, to use the power of Christ which is offered in this Sacrament, to amend my sinful life? St. Paul also wrote, "He who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly". Do you believe that you receive the TRUE/REAL BODY AND BLOOD of Christ in, under and with the bread and wine for the full pardon of sins? (Please use pages 329-330 in the front of your hymn book to examine yourself.)  
Children are invited forward to receive a blessing.  
Please take a moment to sign the attendance pad in your pew.

**† Service of the Sacrament †**

**Preface**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

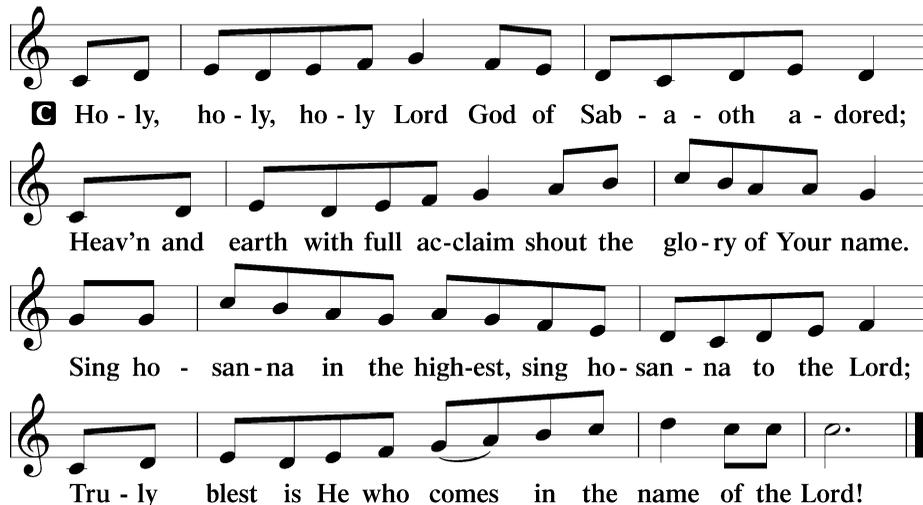
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



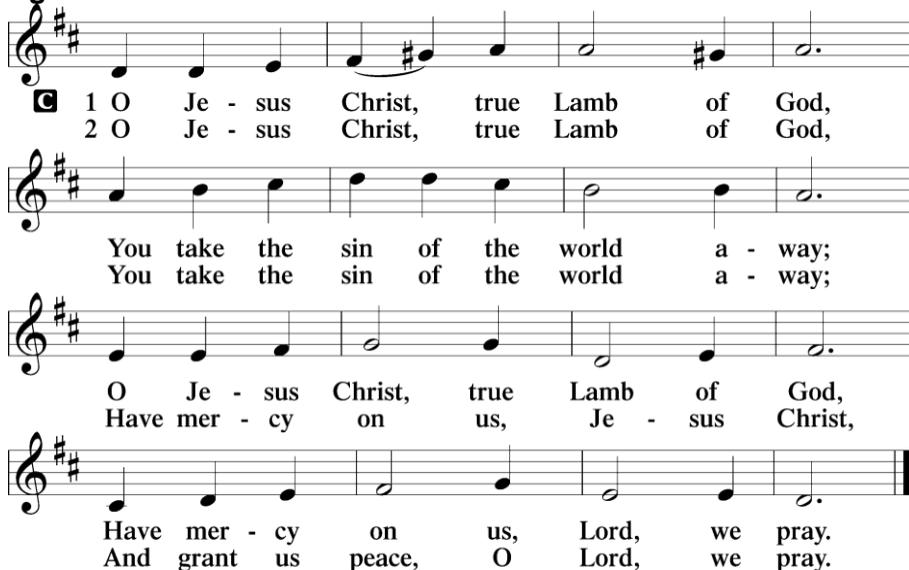
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Lord's Prayer

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 forever and ever. Amen.

## Words of Institution

### Agnus Dei



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

**Distribution Hymns:**   **#724** “If God Himself Be for Me”  
                                  **#719** “I Leave All Things to God’s Direction”  
                                  **#731** “O God, Forsake Me Not”

(Please Stand)

### Nunc Dimittis



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is



to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## **Benedicamus and Benediction**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

## **Recessional Hymn #809 “Great is Thy Faithfulness”**

**Postlude “Fanfare”**

Antonio Soler

**The Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God, by Steve Covington in memory of Reesa.

**Today’s Ushers:** Fred Neise, Holly Wilson, Stephanie Kiel, Bruce Sawicki

**Worship Assistant:** Early Service – Rich Essbach, Mark Edmiston; Late Service – Dale Mierisch, Nathan Kottlowski

**Lector:** Early Service – Claudia Essbach, Late Service – Nathan Kottlowski

**Altar Guild for February:** Sue & Ted Frake, Michaela Montgomery

**Lock-ups for February:** Don Henderson, Don Adamick

**Nursery is available** in Preschool Room 101 during the 10:45 Worship Service for children ages 3 and under.

**Crisis Control Item for February:** Instant Potatoes – thank you for your January donations of 81 lbs.!

**The Sermons** are available on-line at <http://stjohnsws.com/weekly-sermons-2/>

**St. John’s Prayer and Care Notes** are distributed each Saturday. If you would like to receive this document and be listed on the email distribution, please send a request to:

- Dale Mierisch at [wb9szl@triad.rr.com](mailto:wb9szl@triad.rr.com) and include “St John’s Prayer and Care Notes Subscription” in the subject line of your email.
- You may also send your prayer requests to Dale at this address.

(Restrooms: Exit the left-side door on the pulpit side. Go straight thru the Fellowship Hall and the two doors leading to our school building. Restrooms are on your right in the school lobby)





***Our Sunday Worship*** - Services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.  
*Sunday School and Adult Bible Class both begin at 9:30 a.m.*

**Pastor Thomas Clocker, 301-732-9203, revclocker@gmail.com**  
**Mark Edmiston, Principal**  
**Tom Baldwin, Director of Admissions and Community Relations**  
**Sonia Davidson, Director of Preschool**  
**Michael Zeoli, Director of Music for Contemporary Worship**  
**Frances Burmeister, Director of Music for Traditional Worship**

Church Office Hours Monday through Thursday,  
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.