

Christ Episcopal Church

CELTIC WORSHIP

February 17, 2019

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 5:00 P.M.

St. Patrick's Day
Bishop and Missionary of Ireland, 461

**Disciples making Disciples for Jesus Christ:
By Encountering God, Equipping God's People,
and Extending God's Kingdom**



WELCOME GUESTS!

Christ Episcopal Church is a Christ-centered, joy-filled community that is blessed by your presence. Be assured that no matter who you are or where you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome here.

Please observe a period of silence to center yourself before worship.

PRELUDE:

Two Celtic Folksongs

arr. Benjamin Britten

I. O Waly, Waly

II. The Salley Gardens

Marlene Whittemore, *Flutist*

CALL TO WORSHIP

begun by the ringing of the Tibetan Singing bowl, standing

Leader The sun rises daily because you, O Lord, command it:

All Its splendor will not last, created gods all perish.

Leader Christ the true Sun nothing can destroy:

All The Splendor of God, he shall reign for ever.

Leader Almighty Trinity, who in your providence chose your servant, Patrick, to be the apostle of the Irish, to boldly confront the kingdom of darkness, to baptize those who were lost and in error, and to bring them into the light and truth of your Word: give us his boldness, keep us in that light, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

(Celtic Worship Through the Year, pg. 167)

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1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us didst fast and pray,
 2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con - tend, and didst the vic - tory win,
 3 As thou didst hun - ger bear and thirst, so teach us, gra - cious Lord,
 4 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through thy Pas - sion - tide,
 5 A - bide with us, that so, this life of suf - fer - ing o - ver - past,

1 teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.
 2 O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to con - quer sin.
 3 to die to self, and chief - ly live by thy most ho - ly word.
 4 yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bide.
 5 an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Leader The Lord be with you.
 All And also with you.
 Leader Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

1 Thessalonians 2: 2b-12

We had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us. You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was toward you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

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

THE SECOND READING

Matthew 28: 16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SILENCE FOR TWO MINUTES

begun and ended by the ringing of the Tibetan Singing bowl

REFLECTION OF THE DAY

The Celebrant offers a short Reflection

SILENCE FOR TWO MINUTES

begun and ended by the ringing of the Tibetan Singing bowl

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

The Intercessor and People pray responsively

Leader We give you thanks, O Lord, that you are always present, in all things, each day and each night. We give you thanks for your gifts of creation, life and friendship. We give you thanks for the particular blessings of this day....

INTERCESSIONS

Leader Lord, give us grace to turn adversity into advance for you...
Lord, give us willingness to go anywhere for you...
Lord, give us winsomeness to woo a rising generation for you....
Lord, give us boldness to confront the seats of evil for you...
Lord, give us faithfulness, to surmount disappointments for you...
Lord, give us imagination to communicate the Truth for you...
Lord, give us holiness to conquer the corroding invasion of worldly charms.

We bring before you, Lord, the sighing of the prisoners, the sorrows of the bereaved, the needs of those who are hostile, the failing powers of the old.

The Eternal Father, the eternal Spirit, the eternal Word, shield you on every side, protect you from every evil, and bring you to the land of Promise.

All **Amen.**

Sung multiple times by all, standing.

While we sing, you are welcome to come forward and light a candle for a prayer intention.

1 Heal-ing riv - er of the Spi - rit, bathe the wounds that liv - ing brings.
 2 Well-spring of the heal-ing Spi - rit, stream that flows to bring re - lease,
 3 Liv - ing stream that heals the na - tions, make us chan - nels of your pow'r.

Plunge our pain, our sin, our sad-ness deep be - neath your sa - cred springs.
 as we gain our selves, our sens-es, may our lives re - flect your peace.
 All the world is torn by con-flict; wars are rag - ing at this hour.

Wea - ry from the rest - less search-ing that has lured us from your side,
 Grate-ful for the flood that heals us, may your church en - act your grace.
 Sav - ing Spi - rit, move a - mong us; guide our wind - ing hu - man course,

we dis-cov - er in your pres - ence peace that world can - not pro - vide.
 As we meet both friend and strang-er, may we see our Sav-ior's face.
 till we find our way to - geth - er, flow - ing home-ward to our source.

THE CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned. I will confess my sins to the Lord, I will not conceal my wrongdoings.

Silence.

Leader From all that is false and flirts with evil:

All **Good Lord, deliver us.** (pause)

Leader From the love of riches and from greed and envy:

All **Good Lord, deliver us.** (pause)

Leader From insensitive words and from discord and strife:

All **Good Lord, deliver us.** (pause)

Leader From manipulation and abuse of others:

All **Good Lord, deliver us.** (pause)

Silence.

Leader Through Christ, God has put away your sin: approach your God in peace.

(Celtic Worship Through the Year, p. 146)

THE PEACE

Leader The Peace of Christ be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC MEDITATION

“How can I keep from singing?”

Robert Lowry
arr. Alan Bullard

Marlene Whittemore, *Soprano*

*My life flows on in endless song;
Above earth's lamentation,
I hear the clear, tho' far-off hymn
That hails a new creation;
Thro' all the tumult and the strife
I hear the music ringing;
It finds an echo in my soul—
How can I keep from singing?
What tho' the tempest loudly roars
I know my Saviour liveth;*

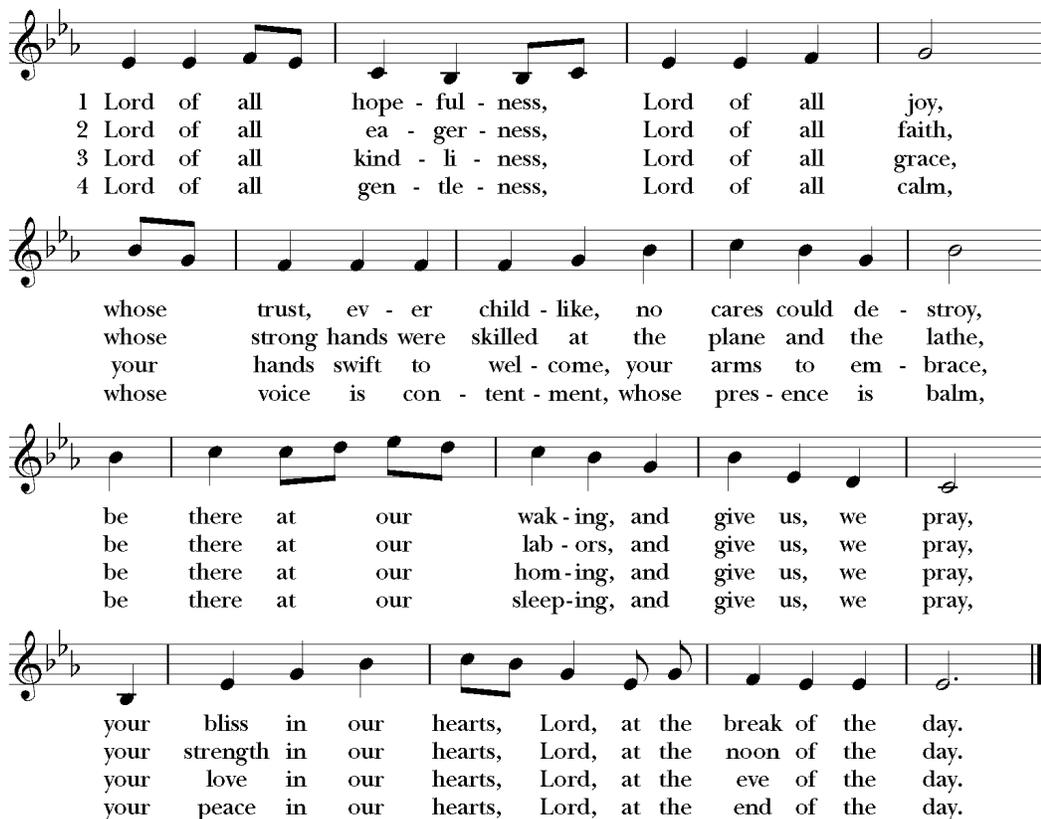
*Although the darkness binds me close,
Deep in the night sweet songs he giveth.
His inner peace makes fresh my heart,
A fountain ever springing;
Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?”*

Collection plates are not passed through the congregation at this service. For your offerings, collections plates are located at each entrance of the church. We appreciate your generosity in supporting the mission and ministries of Christ Episcopal Church. The parish is supported primarily by its parishioners and friends.

OFFERTORY HYMN 482:

“Lord of all hopefulness”

Slane



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our lab - ors, and give us, we pray,
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, *standing*

from All Saints' Church, Pasadena, CA

Celebrant God dwells in you.

People **And also in you.**

Celebrant Come to the table with thankful hearts.

People **We open our hearts to God and to one another.**

Celebrant Creative God, source of all life, you are the vibrant energy dancing at the center of the universe! Through us you move, and through us you are made known to the world. Co-creators with you, we are emboldened to move beyond ourselves, to find the courage to let go of old ways and welcome new life.

And so, in concert with those of every generation who have been touched by your redeeming love, we lift our praise to you:

THE SANCTUS, S-130 Franz Schubert

sung by all, standing

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

Turn page for the rest of the Sanctus

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.

Celebrant

Holy God, known and beyond all knowing, in your image you created us, giving the earth into our care. In our arrogance, we lost touch with the breath of God within us, with the divinity of the creation, growing blind to its beauty and deaf to its harmonies. But through Christ, born of Mary, your deep abiding love reclaimed us and realigned us with you.

On that evening in an upper room, with friends around him, Jesus blessed the bread, broke it, and shared it with all who gathered: This bread is my body, an offering of God's love for all. When you eat it, remember me. Taking the cup of wine, he blessed it and shared it with all who gathered: This wine is my blood, God's promise of new life for all. When you drink it, remember me.

God, in the memory of Jesus who healed people and washed his disciples' feet, who loved children and honored outcasts, who fed people and turned water into wine, who died and rose to new and unending life, we ask that you send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine, making them the Body and Blood of Christ.

All

Breathe through us, God, that our bodies, minds, souls, and spirits may be filled with your life-giving presence. Make us again a holy people, strongly bound to you, firmly rooted in the earth, with eyes to see all life as sacred. Empower us to spread the light of Christ in our wondrous and confusing world. AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant

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

All

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 for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Leader

We are one bread, one body.

All

We will love one another as Christ loves us.

Leader

The Gifts of God for you, the People of God.

AT COMMUNION

All who wish to receive Jesus in the sacrament of his Body and Blood are invited to do so.

Receive the Bread (wafer) in the palm of your outstretched hands.

(Gluten-free wafers are available; tell the Celebrant if you prefer that.)

Receive the Wine, which follows, either by drinking from the chalice as it is extended to you, or by touching the wafer lightly to the wine.

If you would prefer a blessing instead of communion, please come to the altar at the same time. You may indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over the chest. When you return to your seats, please take a few moments to reflect on the gifts you have received.

AT THE COMMUNION MEDITATION:

“I believe in God almighty”

Gaelic melody

Arr. Richard Proulx

Marlene Whittemore, Soprano

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

all standing

Leader Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE FOR LENT

Celebrant Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

ORGAN:

“Prelude on an old Folk Tune”

Mrs. H.H.A. Beach

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE ADVENT CELTIC WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, APRIL 14, AT 5 P.M. (3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH).

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Celebrant: The Reverend Thomas E. Mathews Jr.

Organ and Piano: William K. Trafka

Flute and Soprano: Marlene Whittemore