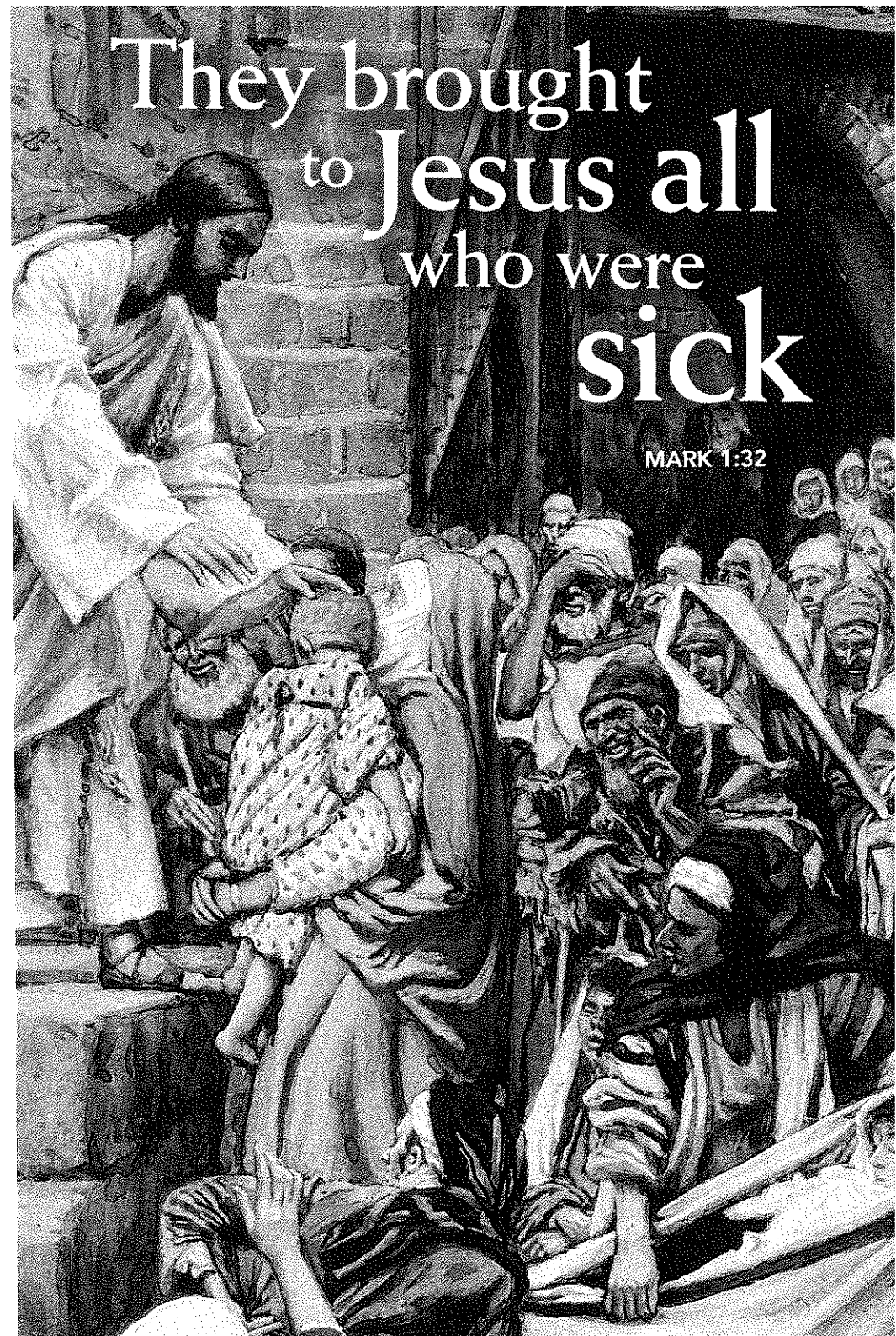


Sharing the Work

In Galilee, Jesus begins his ministry, proclaiming the good news of God and healing the sick. His listeners are astounded by his power and by the authority with which he teaches, cures, and casts out demons. Word spreads, and soon his disciples tell him excitedly, “Everyone is searching for you.” Everyone wants to be convinced of the coming kingdom of God and to be relieved of suffering.

Yet, interestingly, Jesus doesn’t stay put until all these Galileans can witness his presence directly. He tells Simon, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” Jesus doesn’t belong to one place or to one people only. Nor does he finish all that needs doing in any one community. Instead, he equips his followers to carry on his ministry and to complete what has been left undone. They are to be his extra hands, extra mouths, and additional compassionate hearts. He restores people to physical and mental health so they can again be productive. When Simon’s mother-in-law rises from her sickbed, she doesn’t get to luxuriate in her newly-regained health. She stands up and uses her skills to serve the disciples.

Similarly, while the people in Capernaum bring to him “all who were sick or possessed with demons,” we are told that Jesus only cures “many,” and casts out “many demons.” Why not all? He intends for his disciples to work by his side. He wants them to get their hands dirty, to heal where they can and to comfort where they cannot. Jesus never intends to be just a spectacle. He offers his miracles as an invitation, revealing his power to empower us. We must be healers and teachers too. We also must seek out what needs fixing in our communities and put our hands to it.



"God's love with feet on / Caminando con el amor de Dios."

St. John's Episcopal Church

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany ~ February 5, 2012

8:00 am ~ Holy Eucharist 9:05 am ~ Coffee and Christian Education

10:00 am ~ Sung Holy Eucharist 11:15 am ~ Coffee, Conversation

Liturgy Booklet

Hymn #371: *Thou, whose almighty word*

Greeting and Penitential Rite

Liturgy Booklet p. 2

Hymn #S236: *Benedictus es, domine* (10 am)

Liturgy Booklet p. 4

Collect (Prayer of the Day)

(Readings Insert)

First Reading, **Psalm** (*sung*), and Second Reading

The Gospel **Acclamation:**

Liturgy Booklet p. 6

The Holy Gospel

(Readings Insert)

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Liturgy Booklet p. 7 or (LOC pg. 145)

Prayers of the People

Liturgy Booklet p. 8 or (LOC pg. 203)

The Exchange of Peace (Announcements)

Offertory *The Offering is collected before the Hymn at the Offertory.*

Hymn #493: *O for a thousand tongues to sing*

Great Thanksgiving Prayer (B) *Liturgy Booklet p. 10 or (LOC pg. 163)*

Sanctus (10 am): Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full,..full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

...at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer, the people respond: **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Liturgy Booklet p. 14

The Breaking of the Bread and **Fraction Anthems:**

Healing prayer is offered in the Baptistry during Communion.

Hymn #508: *Breathe on me breath of God* (choir)

Going Forth Prayer (*stand*)

Liturgy Booklet p. 16 or (LOC pg. 161)

Hymn #598: *Lord Christ, when first thou*

Dismissal

Response: **Thanks be to God!**

Praying as a gathered community.

In the early church, during the liturgy, the first Christians stood when praying, with the hands extended and the palms up, in the ancient *orans* position. Even though some people only associate this posture with the priest, there are more and more people who are now embracing the ancient way of praying. Kneeling for prayer is primarily a private or penitential way of praying.

In the rubrics of the prayer book, in the restored liturgical rites, standing is the preferred posture for corporate prayer. This is because, when we stand with our heads up and our hands extended, we are in a different relationship to each other. We become the Body of Christ in solidarity with each other, reconciled to each other through the grace and mercy of God. We are called to be aware of each other and to see each other in corporate worship.

The liturgy of the Holy Eucharist is always corporate prayer, not private prayer, even though there may be moments of private devotion during the liturgy, such as during the silence following the sermon, or immediately following the reception of communion. When we gather to celebrate the Holy Eucharist, we are the Body of Christ, gathered to praise God together, to confess our corporate sin together, to intercede to God together, to thank God together, to receive the Sacrament of Christ together and to become the Sacrament of Christ for the world together.

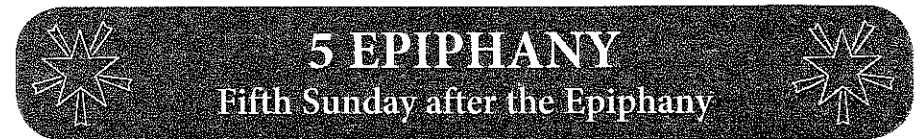
GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

WHEN JESUS and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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RCL

COLLECT

February 5, 2012

Traditional

SET US FREE, O God, from the bondage of our sins and give us, we beseech thee, the liberty of that abundant life which thou hast manifested to us in thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Contemporary

SET US FREE, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

HAVE YOU not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Refrain

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving.

Psalm 147:1-12, 21c *from BCP*

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| 1 Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our <u>God</u> ! *how pleasant it is to honor him with <u>praise</u> ! | 5 Great is our LORD and mighty in <u>power</u> ; * there is no limit to his <u>wisdom</u> . |
| 2 The LORD rebuilds <u>Jerusalem</u> ; * he gathers the exiles of <u>Israel</u> . | 6 The LORD lifts up the <u>lowly</u> , * but casts the wicked to the <u>ground</u> . |
| 3 He heals the broken- <u>hearted</u> * and binds up their <u>wounds</u> . | 7 Sing to the LORD with <u>thanksgiving</u> ; * make music to our God upon the <u>harp</u> . |
| 4 He counts the number of the <u>stars</u> * and calls them all by their <u>names</u> . | 8 He covers the heavens with <u>clouds</u> * and prepares rain for the <u>earth</u> ; |

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|---|--|
| 9 He makes grass to grow upon the <u>mountains</u> * and green plants to serve <u>mankind</u> . | 11 He is not impressed by the might of a <u>horse</u> ; * he has no pleasure in the strength of a <u>man</u> ; |
| 10 He provides food for flocks and <u>herds</u> * and for the young ravens when they <u>cry</u> . | 12 But the LORD has pleasure in those who <u>fear</u> him, * in those who await his gracious favor.

Hallelujah! |

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

IF I PROCLAIM the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

"God's love with feet on / Caminando con el amor de Dios."

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany ~ February 5, 2012

Sunday 2/5	8 & 10 am 9:05 am 9:30 am 6 & 7:30 pm	5th Sunday after the Epiphany Holy Eucharist followed by Fellowship Christian Education Choir Rehearsal NA Meeting & Alanon Meeting
→	6:45 pm	Contemplative Prayer (Library)
Monday	9 am & 7:00 pm	Yoga Class & Alanon Meeting & NA Meeting
Tuesday	7 & 11 am 6:30 & 8 pm	BNI Meeting & Alanon Meeting AA Meeting & NA Meeting
Wednesday	9 am & Noon 10:30 am	Yoga Class & NA Meeting Dialectical Behavioral Therapy
→	Noon	Holy Eucharist
Thursday	7 & 8 pm 9:30 am	Men's Bible Study & Reunion Group Tai Chi Class
Friday	4:30 pm & 6:00 pm 11:30 am	Group Reunion & NA Meeting Friday Friendship Meal
Saturday	8 pm	NA Meeting
Sunday 2/12	Noon & 6:30 pm 6:45 pm	NA Meeting & AA Study Meeting 6th Sunday after the Epiphany Contemplative Prayer (Library)

Rector.....The Reverend Canon Meredith Hunt
Deacon.....The Reverend Deacon Floyd Kunce
Supply Organist.....Lucy Zimmerman

8 a.m. Acolyte.....Jane Boyden (L2)
Lector 1.....Lorry West
Prayers.....Doug Fry
Ushers.....Bill and Connie Martindale
Breakfast Host.....

10 a.m.
Sub-Deacon/L2/MC/Chalice.....Pam Cronkhite (L2)
Thurifer.....Rob Kinsey
Crucifer.....Nancy Nusbaum
Server 1.....Steve Wilson
Server 2.....Doug Cronkhite
Lector 1.....Connie Griffith
Prayers.....Steve Wilson
Usher.....Joe Parker
Breakfast Hosts.....Rod and Emily Baker
Nursery.....Liz Kinsey and Emma Cook

Altar Guild (January 29 - February 25)
Mary Sutter, Bobi Melchi, Judy Burnham, Joanne Roe,
Rose Rudinski, Diane Warnement

St. John's Episcopal Church
110 S. Clay Street, Sturgis, MI 49091
(269) 651-5811 <http://www.stjohnssturgis.org>

~ Announcements ~

TODAY, LOOSE OFFERING - Rector's Discretionary Fund (required by Canon).

TODAY, CHOIR REHEARSAL at 9:30—Rehearse the Communion Hymn.

COMTEMPLATIVE PRAYER in the Library at 6:45 pm.

Learn contemplative prayer by experiencing various approaches to meditation/contemplation.

NOTE: WEDESDAY HOLY EUCHARIST. Please join us.

The **MILLENNIUM PROJECT** is coming along. Check it out at anytime.

Next **MOVIE NIGHT** on **Friday February 17, at 7 pm** in the Great Hall. The film is "What I Want My Words To Do To You." Connie Griffith will lead the discussion.

VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED to coordinate **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER** on Feb 21 (6 pm). Contact the Rector or the Office.

The **FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP MEAL** can use cakes and helping hands.

FEEL CALLED? Lectors, Servers, Ushers, Nursery Helpers, Altar Guild, and Breakfast Hosts are needed. If interested, please pray about it and contact the office.

The **HOPE FREE STORE** in Centreville is always in need of clothes.

Contact: Wendell Moyer at 467-1800.

STOP BY THE CHURCH during the week to pray or find some quiet in the church or meet some of the folks doing ministry. This is a busy place.

CONGRATULATIONS to Pam and Doug Cronkhite on the birth of their new grandson, **Sullivan Gray Crossman**, on January 30, 7 lbs. 5 oz. and to new Great Grandparents, Rod and Emily Baker.

Please Pray for the Following Persons during the Week.

- The Most Rev Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, Rt Rev Katharine Jefferts-Schori, Presiding Bishop, Rt Rev Wendell Gibbs, Diocese of Michigan, Rt Rev Todd Ousley, Diocese of Eastern Michigan, Bishop John David Schleicher, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) North/West Lower Michigan Synod, and Rt Rev Julio Cesar Holguin, Episcopal Diocese of Dominican Republic.
- Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Most Revd Frederick Hiltz, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada.
- Diocese: Church of the Holy Spirit, Belmont; Emmanuel Church, Petoskey.
- Sturgis: House Church of Sturgis.
- President Barack Obama, Governor Rick Snyder, Mayor of Sturgis Ken Malone.
- Persons in need: *Pat, Cameron, David, Nancy, Kathryn, David John, Judy, Audra, Dan, Jim B., Douglas, Tim, Blanca, Marta, Celia, Joaquina, Cassie, Father Bill Fleener, Halcyon, Jim C., Robert D., Josh, Bob, Elizabeth, Tom, Mother Beth, Pastor Methius, and Father David Pike.*
- Birthdays: *Connie Martindale.*
- Anniversaries: *Bob and Phyllis Palmer.*
- Flowers at the Altar, given by: *Mr. and Mrs. Michael Speicher in loving memory of our fathers, Robert Speicher and Clare Blanchard.*
- Eucharistic Visitors: Pam & Doug Cronkhite to Billie Reeg, John Griffith to Bob & Phyllis Palmer, Steve Wilson to Marjorie Mitchell.