



Becoming a beloved community of God where all belong.
Last Sunday after the Epiphany **March 2, 2025**

JAZZ MASS – ALLELUIA!!

Prelude: *His Eye Is On The Sparrow* | Charles H. Gabriel, Arr. Mark Hayes
Higher Ground | Charles H. Gabriel, Arr. Mark Hayes

Opening Song: *Sweet, Sweet Spirit* | handout

Scripture Song: *We've Come This by Faith* | handout

Offertory Anthem: *Walkin' to Jordan* | Words and Music by Jay Althouse

Walkin', walkin', walkin' to Jordan, etc.
Gonna find my way back home, Lord, gonna find my way back home.

Prayin', prayin' to Jesus, etc.
Prayin' that he'll lead me home, yes, prayin' that he'll lead me home.

When I cross over Jordan and take my seat on the other side,
Gonna cast my crown at Jesus' feet. Lord, that river is wide.
Walkin' to Jordan, etc.

Communion Song: *Lead Me, Guide Me* | handout

Concluding Song: *Soon and Very Soon* | handout

Postlude Song: *This Little Light of Mine* | handout

The Hebrew Scripture – Exodus 34:29-35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

The Psalm – 99 – prayed responsively by whole verse

- 1 The LORD is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.
- 2 The LORD is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.
- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
- 8 O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

The Second Reading – 2nd Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

The Gospel – Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" --not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Thanks – We give special thanks to Lynn Fleming, Bass, Keith Butler, Drums, St. Nicholas' Choir and Carolyn Deibel, Music Director, for today's wonderful music and worship service. We are truly blessed by your talents and dedication.

Laredo Grill to Support El Hogar – Join us tomorrow evening, February 3rd at 6:00 PM for dinner at Laredo Grill, 347 Muddy Branch Road. Write "St. Nicholas" on the restaurant receipt and a portion (10%) of your purchase will be donated back to St. Nick's for our Educational Partnership at El Hogar.

Ash Wednesday, March 5th – The Imposition of Ashes will be available at St. Nick's from 6:00 AM to 8:00 AM - **Ashes Drive By** (stay in your car in the parking lot) and from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM - **Ashes to Go** (come into the building).

Please plan to attend the **Community Ash Wednesday service on March 5 at 7:30 PM** at Our Lady of Visitation Church located at 14139 Seneca Road.

Stepping Stones Shelter – St. Nicholas is currently signing up people who are interested in preparing and making meals for the residents of Stepping Stones Shelter in Rockville! Initially, our hope is to commit to a weekday in April 2025. We will need dinners for 6 families, about 27 people in total (8 adults and 19 kids). Most of the kids are aged 14 and older. Food will be dropped off at St. Nicholas between 3:30 pm and 4:30 pm and volunteers will deliver the meals to Stepping Stones Shelter between 5:30 pm and 6:00 pm. Depending on St. Nicholas' interest, we hope to continue contributing meals to the families living at Stepping Stones Shelter throughout the year. Please let Deacon Dawn know if you would like to sign up at deacon@saintnicks.com.

Lenten Poem by Ann Weems

Lent is a time to take time to let the power
of our faith story take hold of us,
a time to let the events get up
and walk around in us,
a time to intensify our living unto Christ,
a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts,
a time to place our feet in the streets of
Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and
listen to his Word,
a time to touch his robe
and feel the healing surge through us,
a time to ponder and a time to wonder....
Lent is a time to allow
a fresh new taste of God!
Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think,
for thoughts come unbidden.
Perhaps we're afraid to face our future
knowing our past.
Give us courage, O God,
to hear your Word
and to read our living into it.
Give us the trust to know we're forgiven
and give us the faith
to take up our lives and walk.

Alleluia!

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Saint Nicholas Episcopal Church,
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Text STNICKS to 73256 Visit <https://saintnicks.com/give>

Please take this Insert home. Return the Service Leaflet to the Welcome Table.