

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Holy Eucharist

January 28, 2024

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church Wilmette, Illinois

WELCOME TO ST. AUGUSTINE'S

Welcome

We are a church that welcomes everybody as we strive to: invite people into our midst, connect with God and with each other, equip ourselves as disciples, and ask God to send us out to share Christ's mission of peace, justice, and service in the world. We're glad you have joined us today. If this is your first time worshiping with St. Augustine's, we hope you will return. Our 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning worship service is held in person, on Zoom and live streamed to YouTube. We also invite you to join us for worship at 8:00 a.m. on Friday mornings in the Chapel. If you'd like to know more about the parish, please contact our rector, the Rev. Nadia Stefko: nadia.stefko@staschurch.org.

Open Communion

We invite everyone who seeks God to receive the consecrated bread and wine at Communion. These are gifts that God gives to us, and we share them with joy.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located through the pulpit-side door, at the far end of the hallway past Puhlman Hall on either side of the drinking fountain.

Stay Connected with St. Augustine's

You can find us on the web at <u>staschurch.org</u>. You can also follow us on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/staugustines60091/</u> and on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/StAugustinesEpiscopalChurch</u>. Please sign up for our weekly e-news, the Parish Life Connections, by emailing <u>augustine@staschurch.org</u>.

Cover image

The Parable of the Mustard Seed by Kelly Latimore. Used with permission.

The Word of God

Prelude Chromatic Toccata on 'Liebster Jesu' (Toccata antico - Cantilena - Toccata moderno)

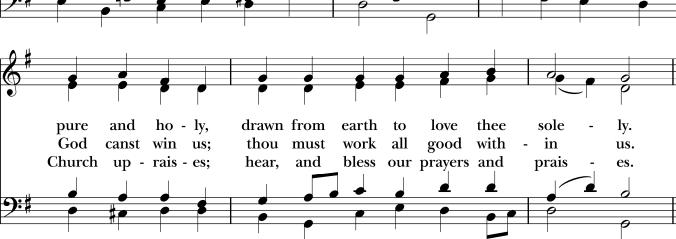
J. William Greene

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Welcome and Announcements

Please stand at the sound of the chimes.

Opening Hymn Blessed Jesus, at thy word 1 Bless - ed Je gath - ered word we all to sus, at thy All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark-ness Light, from God pro-Gra - cious Lord, thy im - part! Light of self thee; souls stirred hear let our hearts and be night shroud ed, till thy Spi rit breaks our thou heart, ceed ing, o pen our ears and and thee; thy teach now seek love and fear by ings to a - lone with the beams of truth un cloud ed; thou to



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Hear the

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Words: Tobias Clausnitzer (1619-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878); alt. Music: *Liebster Jesu*, melody Johann Rudolph Ahle (1625-1673); alt. *Das grosse Cantional: oder Kirchen-Gesangbuch*, 1687; harm. George Herbert Palmer (1846-1926).

Permission through Rite Song: a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.

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Greeting

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

God of liberation, who comes not to destroy but to set us free, bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated. Children ages 3 through 6^{th} grade are invited forward at this time. Church School leaders will accompany them to Sunday School. They will rejoin the congregation during the Prayers of the People.

The First Lesson

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 111

Antiphon (Choir sings first, then Congregation repeats)



The fear of God is the be - gin - ning of wis - dom.

From A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition © 2007 by Carl P. Daw, Jr. and Kevin R. Hackett. Church Publishing Incorporated.

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(Choir sings verses, Congregation repeats the antiphon as indicated)

Alleluia! I will give thanks to you, O God, with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation. Great are your deeds, O God; they are studied by all who de-light in them. Your work is full of majesty and splendor, and your righteousness endures for ever. You make your marvelous works to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion. (Antiphon)

You give food to those who fear you; you are ever mindful of your covenant. You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations. The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all your commandments are sure. They stand fast for ever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity. (Antiphon)

You sent redemption to your people; you commanded your covenant for ever; holy and awesome is your Name. The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom; those who act accordingly have a good understanding; God's praise endures for ever. (Antiphon)

Text © Order of St. Helena.

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.



Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b.1945, © 1986, Oxford University Press Tune: EBENEZER, 8 7 8 7 D; Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944

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The Gospel Mark 1:21-28

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Gospeller The Good News. The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

"Silence! Frenzied, unclean spirit" (see music on preceding page) stanza 3

Sermon Nadia Stefko

After the sermon, you're invited into a brief period of silence.

Affirmation of Faith Please stand as you are able.

Deacon Let us pray together.

All We believe in God above us,

maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, water and earth, of humankind in all diversity.

We believe in God beside us,

Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree.

A man of compassion, he died forsaken. He descended into the earth to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb. He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present, and his kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and eternal life. Amen.

Adapted from Iona Abbey worship book.

The Prayers of the People

Leader God of light and life, we lift our prayers to you this day in hope and faith. We pray for your church, for our diocese, bishops, priests, deacons, and lay people in their ministries.

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Flame of abundant love, be our Joy in proclaiming your Good News to the world. We pray for all who are coming to faith, all who wonder about faith, and all who are struggling with faith.

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Light of all creation, guide us to lead, teach, and nurture your disciples. We pray for those in need of food, shelter, clothing, and of God's healing touch. We pray for those on our Parish Prayer List, for those we hold in our hearts [pause], and for those known to you alone.

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Comforter of the suffering, warm and strengthen our hands for love and service. We pray for the world, especially those places far and near, where there is trouble and suffering.

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Ember of steadfast care, fuel our passion to challenge injustice and violence and to pursue peace and reconciliation.

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Star blaze of glory, lead us to care for this fragile earth, our island home: the peoples, plant life, and waters around us, and to heal the circle of creation.

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Creator of life, we pray for the land on which we stand, for those who have dwelled on it through the generations, and for loved ones who are no longer with us. We pray for those who have died, including those killed by gun violence in Chicago last week: China Mitchell, Pedro Che Choc, and Lorenzo Lavalle.

People Hear our prayer.

Leader

Source of love, we give thanks for the blessings of life; for kindness given and received, and for times of celebration and hope. We ask your blessing this day on those who celebrate birthdays this week, including Kristie, Kelsey, Carrie, Whitney, Doug, Tynan, Steve, Bryan, Christopher, and Demetri; and for those who mark anniversaries this week.

People Hear our prayer.

The Presider prays a concluding collect:

God of radiant light, your love illumines our hopes before we know them, and our needs before we ask. Kindle your flame within us, that in our prayers and service, we may know your transforming presence at work in the world around us. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The People may remain standing or may kneel.

Prayer of Confession and Absolution

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Deacon and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Presider says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you!

People And also with you.

For those in person, we invite you to share a sign of peace with others as you are comfortable. For those on Zoom, we invite you to pass the peace with a message through the chat window.

Offertory

The offering is collected for the ministry and mission of St. Augustine's. We invite you to offer your gifts of time, talent, and treasure, as you are able. If you prefer to give electronically, a "Donate" link for Paypal can be found on the footer of our website: www.staschurch.org.

For those on Zoom, there are three ways to give financially to St. Augustine's:

- 1. You may contribute electronically via Realm. Simply sign in and click Giving, then +Give, and select 2024 Pledge Giving from the Fund drop down menu list. The best way to give is through bank account transfer.
- 2. You may contribute electronically via PayPal (see above).
- 3. You may write a check and send it to the church (1140 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091).

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem Covenant of Thy Steadfast Love

Robert J. Powell

O Lord God of Israel, there is no God like thee in heaven or on earth; who keeps his covenant, and showeth mercy to his servants who walk before him with all their hearts. May thine eyes be opened on this house day and night, upon the place where thou hast put thy name; to hearken to the prayer which thy servant prayeth in this place.

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Please stand as you are able and remain standing for the Great Thanksgiving.

Presentation Hymn Christ, be our light!



Long-ing for shel-ter, man-y are home-less. Long-ing for warmth, man-y are cold.



Make us your build-ing, shel-ter-ing oth-ers, walls made of liv-ing stone.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts, Shine through the dark - ness.



Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

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The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe,

you are worthy of glory and praise.

People Glory to you for ever and ever.

Presider At your command all things came to be:

shining light and enfolding dark;

the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns,

and this fragile earth, our island home.

People By your will they were created and have their being.

Presider From the primal elements you brought forth the human race,

and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us

the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed

your trust; and we turned against one another.

People Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Presider Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets

and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the

fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.

People By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

Presider And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly

chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



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The Presider continues:

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Presider Remembering now his work of redemption,

and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection,

as we await the day of his coming.

Presider Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ,

and made a new people by water and the Spirit,

now bring before you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood

of Jesus Christ our Savior. Sanctify us also, and let the grace

of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ,

that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Presider God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel;

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us.

Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table

for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God,

through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you

and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship,

from generation to generation.

People AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

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

All 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.

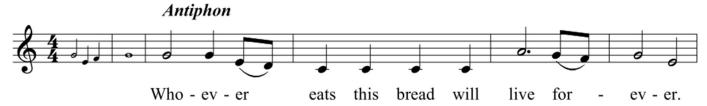
And lead us not into temptation,

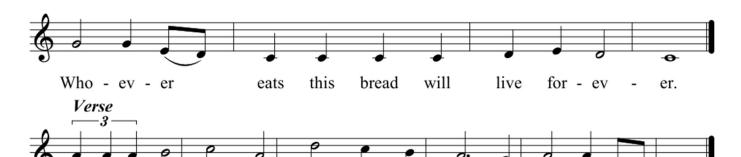
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread





This is the true bread which comes down from heav'n and gives life to the world.

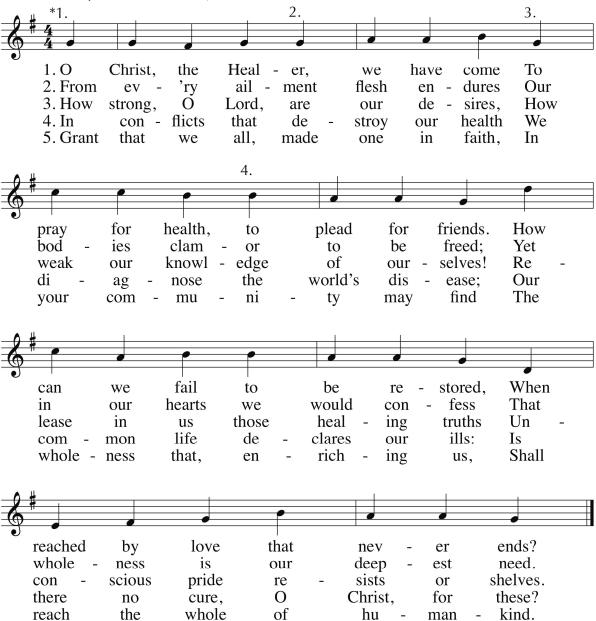
(Repeat Antiphon)

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The Presider invites the Congregation to Communion: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We offer God's gracious gift of Holy Communion to anyone who wishes to receive it. If you prefer to receive a blessing, come forward and cross your arms over your chest. If you would prefer a gluten-free wafer, or unfermented grape juice, please come to the communion station closest to the pulpit to receive. For the gluten-free, let the clergy know of your preference; for the grape juice, proceed to the chalice bearer holding the pottery chalice. A full communion may be made with the bread alone.

Communion Hymn O Christ, the Healer



^{*}May be sung in canon.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000, © 1969, Hope Publishing Company Tune: TALLIS' CANON, LM; Thomas Tallis, c.1505–1585

Please stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

Presider Let us pray:

All pray together:

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.

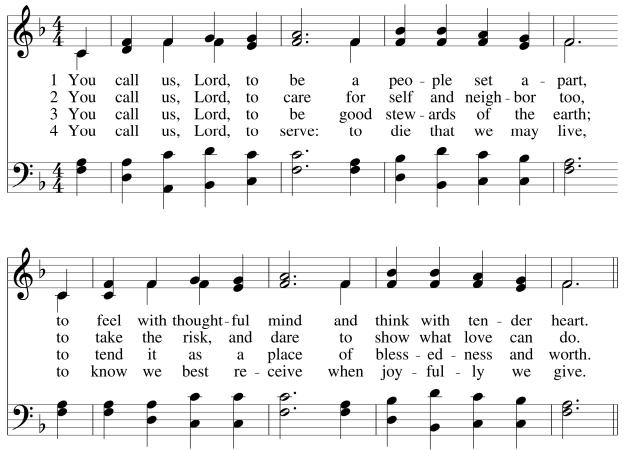
And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn You call us, Lord





Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God!

Postlude Quintal Toccata

J. William Greene

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Thank you for worshipping together today!

After the service, please come to Puhlman Hall for a Soup Luncheon and our Annual Meeting.

Prayers for the Week of January 28, 2024

Our Parish Prayer List

Bryan Caspersen, Brian Wallach, Colleen Danner, Emmett, Edythe Strater, Fred Sammel, Mary Ann Stefko, Terry McCracken, Mindy, Ella, Deby Riddle, Sharon Steptoe, Don Wurth, Toni Sehlmeyer and family, Brenda, Betty Jenkins, John Kennedy, Mary Ellen Herget, Mary, David Trumble, Jean Bishop, Martha Martinez, Lindsay and Paul Thomas, Peter Kramer, Jerry Todd, the Kestler family, Susan Turner, Evelynn Goddard, the Severson family, Nancy Olson, Elizabeth Morris Downie, Esther (Teté) Guridi, Peter Fuller, Gwendolyn Boyce, the family of Judith Montgomery, the family of Bob Gillen, the family of Don Smith, Susan Eby, Mary-Kay Jones, Margaret Gowin, Jim Shedivy, Katie Adams, Frank Senn.

All those affected by the ongoing violence in Ukraine and Israel/Palestine.

All those serving in our armed forces, including Anna Graettinger.

All those experiencing natural disasters and the effects of climate change.

We pray for the departed, including those shot and killed in Chicago last week: China Mitchell, Pedro Che Choc, and Lorenzo Lavalle.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

We give thanks for the lives of those who celebrate their birthdays this week: (1/28) Kristie Webber, (1/29) Kelsey Caspersen, (1/30) Carrie Bach, Whitney Jacobsen, Doug Wolfe, (1/31) Tynan Benson, Steve Carlson, Bryan Caspersen, Christopher Janetzko, and (2/3) Demetri Moschandreas.

We give thanks for those celebrating their anniversaries this week.

From the Nominating Committee

In raising up new leadership for the church, the Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of candidates for affirmation by vote at the annual meeting: Co-Warden (2-year term) - Juli Bergerud; Vestry - (3-year term) Carrie Bach, Tom Hamilton, Devon Law; and (2-year term) Sara Menna; Diocesan Convention Delegates - (3-year term) Debbie Buesing; and (alternate delegate) Tom Denman. Candidate bios are in the Annual Report, available at our annual meeting this morning or on our website. Many thanks to all of these candidates for their willingness to serve, and to our outgoing vestry members and delegates who have paved the way!

Cross-Quarter Celebration of Candlemas! Today, 4:00-5:00 p.m. at St. Luke's

The next multi-church Cross Quarter celebration will be held at St. Luke's in Evanston (939 Hinman Ave; in the Parlor, off the courtyard). All are invited to celebrate the midpoint between Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox. We will gather together for rolling beeswax candles of many beautiful colors (no heat involved) and also making elegant ephemeral nature art with tree "cookies," seeds, beans, rocks, pinecones and other natural materials on black felt. We'll have a brief liturgy to bless our church's candles for the year, led by the new Rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Rev. Greg Millikin. This is an intergenerational event. Questions? Please contact Becky Wright (becky.wright@staschurch.org). Join us!

CD Release Concert at St. A's: Saturday, February 3, 3:00 p.m.

This Saturday, February 3, at 3:00 p.m., St. A's regular Steve Thorngate will play a concert at St. A's. Steve writes liturgical songs (see the link in St. A's e-news for more information), and this performance will be in celebration of his new album, Life and Death and Life: Songs for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. He'll be backed by a sometimes group called The So Many Siblings Band. The concert is free, and children are welcome. Email Steve (sthorngate@gmail.com) with any questions.

There's a lot happening at St. A's! Please see our e-news for information on:

- January Collection for New Trier Township Food Pantry
- St. A's Book Group: This Thursday, Feb. 1, 7:15 p.m. How High We Go in the Dark by Sequoia Nagamatsu Contact: Sue Nebel (s-hnebel@comcast.net)
- Prayer Shawl Guild: This Saturday, February 3, 1:00-3:00 p.m., in St. A's Parish Lounge Host: Carolyn Eby (c_eby@sbcglobal.net)
- *Brew for Good* at Sketchbook Brewery in Skokie to Support Family Promise: Saturday, February 10, 7:30 10:00 p.m.
- Support Newly Arrived Migrants to Chicago: staschurch.org/migrant-support
- St. Augustine's 2024 Outreach Grant Application: staschurch.org/community-outreach; "Apply for an Outreach Grant" button
- Sign Up to Host St. A's Coffee Hour: staschurch.org/fellowship
- This Sunday's Music Notes: staschurch.org/choir-music; scroll to bottom of page If you do not receive our *Parish Life Connections* e-news, sent each Thursday, email augustine@staschurch.org or visit our website: www.staschurch.org/newsletter.

Serving Today

PresiderThe Rev. Nadia StefkoPreacherThe Rev. Nadia StefkoDeaconThe Rev. Sue NebelAssisting MinisterSteve Thorngate

Acolytes Oliver Menna, Anna Thorngate
Lectors Mary Senn, Stephan Lacor

Leader of the Prayers Mark Farrell

Chalice Bearers Debbie Buesing, Terry Haight, Janice Hurley

Ushers Bruce Caris, Tom Hamilton

Hybrid Worship Tech Team Dana Law, Paul Luna

Altar Guild Robin Bourne-Caris, Tina Haight Good Samaritan Jan. 29-Feb. 11: Kathleen Todd

kmarytodd@comcast.net; (847) 475-1597

Staff

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop of Chicago
The Rev. Nadia Stefko, Rector
The Rev. Sue Nebel, Deacon
The Rev. Andrea Mysen, Priest Associate
Mr. Martin Kehe, Associate for Music
Ms. Becky Wright, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries
Ms. Theresa Kimball, Parish Administrator
Ms. Sabrina Nizzi, Coordinator of Digital Communications & Building Operations
Ms. Athina Sato, Bookkeeper
Mr. Pisa Sybounheuang, Sexton

Vestry and Officers

Carolyn Eby and Dave Carley, Co-Wardens Karl Anderson, Juli Bergerud, Jim Bonamici, Greg Burns, Nancy Darian, Cecelia Mitchell Daspit, Janice Hurley, Stephan Lacor, Brenda Schumaker Gray Curchin and Mark Farrell, Treasurers

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1140 Wilmette Avenue | Wilmette, Illinois 60091

T: 847-251-6922 | W: staschurch.org | E: augustine@staschurch.org