

First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of our Lord
January 10, 2021

Morning Prayer with Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Prelude: We Three Kings (John H. Hopkins, Jr. / Arr. Mark Hayes) Kimberly Haller, piano

The Welcome

Hymn 120, “The Sinless One to Jordan Came” (verses 1-3, 5) Kimberly Haller, organ

Opening Sentence

Officiant I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth. *Isaiah 49:6b*

Confession of Sin

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant 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 Officiant says

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

The Invitatory

Lord, open our lips
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

Officiant The Lord has shown forth his glory:
People **Come let us adore him.**

Jubilate *Psalm 100*

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.**

**Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

**For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Officiant The Lord has shown forth his glory:
People **Come let us adore him.**

Psalm 29

read by Rita Redfield

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; *
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD *
all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.

11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The First Lesson: Genesis 1:1-5

Read by Mark Middleton

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle J: A Song of Judith *Judith 16:13-16*

Read by Mark Middleton

I will sing a new song to my God, *
for you are great and glorious, wonderful in strength, invincible.
Let the whole creation serve you, *
for you spoke and all things came into being.
You sent your breath and it formed them, *
no one is able to resist your voice.
Mountains and seas are stirred to their depths, *
rocks melt like wax at your presence.
But to those who fear you, *
you continue to show mercy.
No sacrifice, however fragrant, can please you, *
but whoever fears the Lord shall stand in your sight for ever.

The Second Lesson: Acts 19:1-7

Read by Sally Merchant

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

Reader The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle G: A Song of Ezekiel *Ezekiel 36:24-28*

Read by Sally Merchant

I will take you from among all nations; *
and gather you from all lands to bring you home.
I will sprinkle clean water upon you; *
and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.
A new heart I will give you *
and a new spirit put within you.
I will take the stone heart from your chest *
and give you a heart of flesh.
I will help you walk in my laws *
and cherish my commandments and do them.
You shall be my people, *
and I will be your God.

The Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Stephen Muncie

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Officiant Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we renounce Satan and all evil works, and promise to serve God faithfully in the holy catholic Church.

Officiant Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and
renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

Officiant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Officiant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Officiant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Officiant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and
fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the
prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Officiant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever
you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Officiant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good
News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Officiant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving
your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Officiant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people,
and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

The Officiant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

The Prayers

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

Officiant and People: **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

**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.**

Suffrages (A)

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

A Collect for Social Service

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Hymn 135, “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

Kimberly Haller, organ

The Prayers of the People

Read by Scott Planting

My sisters and brothers.
our baptismal vows call us to compassion. And mercy
on behalf of those in need.
We offer our prayers for the church and the world,
responding, Hear our prayer.

For the Church: that we may bear witness to the depths of God’s love for all people; in your mercy... *Hear our prayer.*

For all who are preparing for baptism and for the newly baptized; that the Spirit of God will guide their growth in faith and holiness; in your mercy... *Hear our prayer.*

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Thomas, our bishop; and for all the baptized: that together we may be a community of faithful servants; in your mercy... *Hear our prayer.*

For an end to war and the threat of war; and for those we find it hardest to love: that God will turn our swords into ploughshares and lead us in paths of peace; in your mercy... *Hear our prayer.*

For our political leaders, for Donald, our President; for Joe, our President-elect, for Janet, our Governor, and for members of Congress: that they may govern with integrity and serve the common good; in your mercy... *Hear our prayer.*

For the poor, the hungry, the unemployed, the addicted, and the abused: that God will relieve their suffering and strengthen our care for them; in your mercy... **Hear our prayer.**

For victims of racial injustice and for the courage to confront our past as we work together to become God's beloved community; in your mercy... **Hear our prayer.**

For all doctors, nurses, and hospital workers who are caring for Covid patients, and for all those working to distribute vaccines to the most vulnerable among us; in your mercy.... **Hear our prayer.**

For the sick and the suffering; for the hospitalized and the homebound; and for those we have been asked to remember in our prayers.... I now invite you to offer your own prayers for those in any need or trouble..... (*silence*)....; in your mercy... **Hear our prayer.**

For all who have died; and for all who grieve and mourn; in your mercy... **Hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving for the faithful witness of the parishes of Mount Desert Island and for our many ministries; for Holly chosen Priest in Charge among us; and for our family members, friends, and neighbors; in your mercy... **Hear our prayer.**

Loving God,
You revealed your Son in the waters of the Jordan
And anointed him with the power of the Holy Spirit
to proclaim good news to all people.
Sanctify us by the same Spirit,
that we may proclaim the healing power of the gospel
by acts of love in your name. **Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Officiant

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord,

our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

2 Corinthians 13:14

The Blessing

The light of Christ is within you.
Shine as a light in the world.
As the seed grows secretly in the earth,
As the yeast rises in the dough,
May the power of God be at work in us.
Like a city on a hill,
Like a lamp in the darkness,
May we witness to the glory of the kingdom.
And the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

(from Alternate Services 2006, Scottish Episcopal Church)

Hymn 616, “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

Kimberly Haller, organ

Postlude: Il Viaggio dei Magi/Pastorale (P. Settimio Zimarino/Kate Cholditch Smith)

Kimberly Haller, organ

** The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979.*

Participants

Officiant: The Rev. Stephen Muncie
Organist/Pianist: Kimberly Haller
Readers: Rita Redfield
Mark Middleton
Sally Merchant
Prayers of the People: Scott Planting