

Liturgy of the Word
Saturday, January 9, 2021
First Sunday after the Epiphany
The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ
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Opening Acclamation (BCP p. 355)

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Let us Pray:

Jesus said,"

"The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel:

The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all you soul. with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." Mark 12:29-31.

Confession of Sin (BCP p. 351)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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.

Gloria S-280

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Collect of the Day (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.*

The Lessons

First Reading:

A Reading from the book of Genesis (1:1-5)

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the 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. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light

was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29

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

Second Reading:

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (19:1-7)

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He 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.” ³Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴Paul 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.” ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (1:4-11).

(Glory to you, Lord Christ).

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And 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. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He 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. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon (BCP p. 358)

The Rev. Arthur L. Jones, III

Celebrant:

Dear People of God: through our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we have been reborn into new life in him. I call upon you, therefore, as we celebrate his Baptism, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Renewal of Baptismal VOWS (BCP p. 358)

Celebrant

Do you believe in God the Father?

People

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant

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.

Celebrant

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.

Celebrant

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

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

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.

Celebrant

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

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

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

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

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 Prayers of the People

As we celebrate the baptism of Christ, let us offer prayers to Jesus the Beloved Son, in whose name we have been baptized, saying: *By your holy baptism, Hear us, we pray.*

For the Church, especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Kevin, our bishop, that our lives may be empowered by the Spirit to follow where God leads us. By your holy baptism, *hear us, we pray.*

For this Parish Family, that we who are baptized may open our hearts to God's presence in surprising places. By your holy baptism, *hear us, we pray.*

For a new dawning of peace and reconciliation in places of conflict, that the Prince of Peace will fill the hearts of decision-makers with wisdom and self-control, and banish the shadow of enmity. By your holy baptism, *hear us, we pray.*

For an end to the worldwide pandemic, that God will free us from this dangerous virus, strengthen those who labor for our health, and give us grace to strive for the common good. By your holy baptism, *hear us we pray.*

For those in our parish community who have been commended to our prayers, especially *Norma Stevens, Emily Cole Skjöld, Vickie Stewart, Sid Ranck, Jessica Morrow, Kristina Felt, Gary Zello, Teresa, Megan, Jennifer Taylor, Jeanne Darby, Jane Eldridge, Paul Polzella, Janet Maier, Margaret Cole, Becky Fiorello, Ruth Barber and all of the staff at the Robert Packer Hospital.*

By your holy baptism, *hear us we pray.*

For those who have died, remembering that they may receive the fulfillment of that blessed hope bestowed in baptism. By your holy baptism, *hear us we pray.*

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary, the God-bearer, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves, and one another, to the living God, through Christ. ***To you, O Lord our God.***

Celebrant Gracious and loving God, you have anointed your people with the waters of Baptism and made us your beloved children. Hear our prayers and fill us with your Spirit that we may share the work of your Son, bringing blessing and light to all in the world, through Jesus Christ our Savior. ***Amen.***

Confession of Sin (BCP p. 359)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

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 Lord's Prayer (BCP p. 363)

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now 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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing (BCP p. 366)

May Almighty God, who led the Wise men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. *Amen.*

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. *Amen.*

May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Dismissal (BCP p. 366)

Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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