

Baptism of Jesus in the Season after the Epiphany

January 8, 2023 St. John's, Powell

### Welcome

We are so happy you are with us. Please add your voice and heart to the prayers. Help others find a place near you and greet the person next to you as we prepare to worship together. Please stand and sit as you are comfortable.

# The Day

Today we celebrate the **Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan**. In the waters of baptism, we are lovingly adopted by God into God's family, which we call the Church, and given God's own life to share, and we are reminded that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ. Holy Baptism, which can be performed through pouring of water or immersion in it, marks a formal entrance to the congregation and wider Church.

At St. John's we all minister with authority that is granted at our Baptism. No other rite, including ordination, is more significant in determining our course of service, leadership, and identity.

#### The Season

"Epiphany" comes from a Greek word meaning "showing forth, appearance, manifestation, revelation." On **January 6th** we recognize the Manifestation, (or revelation) of Christ to the Gentiles when the three kings arrived with gifts for the newborn Jesus.

The Feast of the Epiphany is followed by the "Sundays after the Epiphany." Its symbols are stars, light and gifts. The length of this season of Epiphany varies from four to nine Sundays, depending on the date of Easter. This year, the season lasts through January and to February 19.

### **Service Texts**

Words of this service are adapted from

Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, Kentucky.

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#### Music

"Alleluia," Argentine Folk Melody; adapted by Tom Walker.

"Santo," "Acclamation," and "Amen," Argentine Folk Melody; adapted by Marty Haugen, 2001, GIA Publication, Inc.

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### **Ministers**

Altar Guild Megan Nickles Sound Robert Rumbolz

Greeter Jim Morales

Worship Leader Charlotte Patrick

Musicians Tom Walker

Kathy Walker

Reader Steve Nickles
Preacher Rob Koelling
Intercessor Mary Dillivan
Presider Susan McEvoy

Communion Server Jen Litterer-Trevino

Communion Server Oscar Trevino

Communion Bread Jen Litterer-Trevino

Following the service today, please join us downstairs for fellowship and refreshments. Today's hosts are Jen and Oscar Trevino.

## **Prayer Concerns**

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Church of the Province of Myanmar

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Standing Committee and Commission on Ministry

Nickles & Woods Families; Tim & Jim; Wayne & Wendy; Richard & Jennifer; Tim & Lynnae; Robin & Mark; Margie & Josey, John Grover & Family; Bobbi & Bentley; Mike & Michelle,

Bob & Charlotte; Ann & Martha; Hunter & Charlotte; Rob K., Carra,

Bobby B., Larry, Alex, Irene, Nancy, Alan,

Katy, Marlynn, Sue, Kahli, Ron, and Marge

Justin, Ryan, Jacob, Patrick, and Chip who are serving in the military.

Josephine who resides at Canyon Creek Care Center and Don Smith who resides at American House Assisted Living, Orange City, FL.

### **Prelude**

"Water, River, Spirit, Grace," Trish Bruxvoort Colligan.

#### Welcome

# Hymn



Text: Michael Saward, b.1932, © 1982, Jubilate Hymns, Ltd. (Administered by Hope Publishing Co.) Tune: BUNESSAN, 5 5 8 D; Gaelic melody; acc. by Marty Hangen, b.1950

### **Acclamation**

In the beginning, at creation, the Spirit hovered over the waters of the deep.

In the waters of the flood, God cleansed the earth and humankind.

God caused the waters to part so that Israel could cross from slavery to liberation.

God formed Jesus in the waters of Mary's womb.

Jesus taught us how to live

by washing his disciples' feet in water.

Drinking water from a well, Jesus met a Samaritan woman, the first person to recognize that he was the Christ.

Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus, the Christ.

God meant for Jesus to be the firstborn in a large family. Praise be!

# Prayer of the Day

Let us pray that we may be faithful to our baptism.

Silence is kept.

Holy God,

when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan the heavens opened, the Spirit descended, and your voice affirmed your love in Jesus for the healing of the human race and all creation. By water and word, you lovingly invite us

into this same life-giving mission.

May your Spirit,

moving like a stream of water flowing from its source, work in us this day to realize your vision of a world made new in Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### **Alleluia**

The cantor sings through once, then we sing all together twice.





# **Scripture**

Still-speaking God, as these words from Scripture are read, may it be to us as if the heavens are opening, and we see your Spirit descending on us like a dove, revealing your love for us as your daughters and sons.

#### Amen.

A reading from Matthew.

After the reading

The Word of God, the light of life.

Thanks be to God.

#### Sermon

# **Prayers**

Glorious God, as Jesus prayed at his baptism, your mothering Spirit brooded over him, providing sustenance and strength. Brood over us today as we offer our prayers for the church and world, saying Mothering Spirit, stir us with your power.

The intercessor continues, closing with the following

O God, you have made us, formed us, and called us by name, and you have redeemed us in Christ.

Receive our prayers this day, for your life-giving Spirit is powerful to save.

Amen.

# Lord's Prayer

As our Savior taught us, we now pray.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Peace**

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

We may greet each other in the name of God.

### **Announcements**

## Offertory

As people who have passed through the waters of baptism, let us make our grateful offering to God our Redeemer.

### Music

"The River Of Jordan," H. Houser.

# **Great Thanksgiving**

God is with you.

And also with you.

Let us open our hearts.

We open them up to our God.

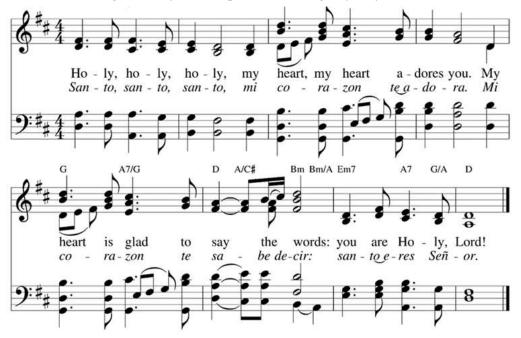
Let us give thanks to the God of Light.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Praise to you, O God, for the gift of water, for creating this blue orb and giving it to us as a home, for saving us from the flood and blessing us with a new start, for leading us through the sea from slavery to freedom. Thank you for baptizing Jesus in the waters of the Jordan, that we might be baptized with him, and for welcoming us to the river of the water of life, when we will be raised to new life.

And we praise you,

joining our voices with all life on earth and the company of heaven, who forever sing their hymns to proclaim the glory of your name.



On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,

Take, eat; this is my body given for you. Whenever you do this, do it in remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup, saying,

This cup is the new covenant, sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do it in remembrance of me.

Blessing God, who sent down your Holy Spirit like a dove upon your Beloved, send your Spirit among us now to sanctify us by your grace.

By the power of that same Spirit, make these gifts of bread and wine be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

This is the mystery of faith:



Father of glory, you have opened your heaven and come among us. Be close to those who ache for your liberating power in the midst of travails and to those who seek your open heaven.

Bless all who long to be called beloved,

and any who are searching for the love that only you can bring.

By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful,

renewing us with your life-giving waters

until all stand in your presence, and sing your name, and are enfolded in your embrace.



# **Breaking the Bread**

We break the bread of life, and that life is heaven come near. God's gifts for God's people.

In these gifts, heaven has come near.

#### The Communion

Please come to the table, whether you are single, married or divorced, drinking, using or sober, abled, disabled, or ill, gay, straight, or discovering, wealthy, getting by or in debt. Christ meets us all.

We approach the altar beginning with those sitting in the last rows; they shall be first. Approach the rail from the left aisle and take a cup; used cups go on the tray on the right. You may receive only bread or only wine. Our Eucharistic bread is handmade and robust. If you prefer a wafer, please tell your server.

Receiving the bread and wine is a central act of worship in the Episcopal Church.

### Music

"Down To The River To Pray," Sheldon Lee Curry.

"Take Me to the Water," African American Spiritual.

# **Prayer of Thanks**

We stand.

Let us pray.

In gratitude, O God,

we have come to your table,

into your presence, into your house.

For all that you have done for us,

the water, the wine, the bread, the song,

for bringing us into the light of Jesus Christ,

we offer our thanks and praise.

We long to live as children of light,

doing what is pleasing to you through Jesus Christ,

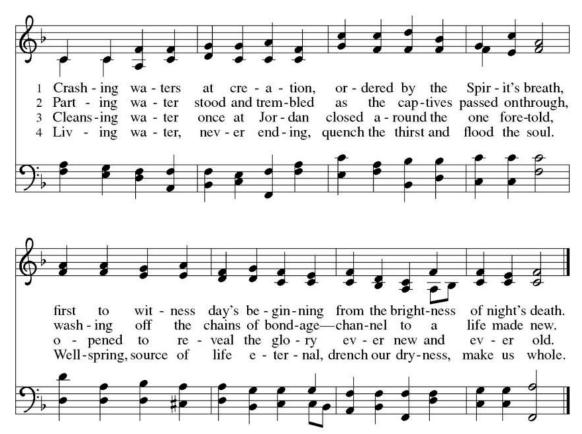
who awakens those who sleep,

and raises those who are dead to new life.

In his name we pray.

Amen.

### Music



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993 Music: STUTTGART, attr. Christian F. Witt, 1660–1716; adapt. Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

# **Sending**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who stood with sinners on the riverbank, uphold us. **Amen.** 

May the love of God, who calls us beloved children, bless us. **Amen.** 

May the power of the Holy Spirit, who descended upon Jesus as a dove, give us peace. **Amen.** 

Go forth in the joy of life, to live as children of promise.

We go in the name of Jesus. Alleluia!

**Postlude** "Oh Happy Day," The Five Blind Boys Of Alabama.