
St. Paul's Episcopal Church



The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ
January 9, 2022

EPIPHANY

Epiphany (“manifestation” or “revelation”) is the third season of the church year and lasts until Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Epiphany marks the manifestation of Jesus to the Gentiles (represented by the magi) and reminds us that while Jesus was a Jew and spoke largely to Jewish crowds during his life on Earth, he came to bring peace and restoration to all people. If Christmas is about the birth of Jesus, then Epiphany is about the spread of the good news to the wider world. During this season we focus our lives on a world transformed by God’s incarnational presence in Jesus. The liturgical color is green, representing the green things of God's earth and referring to growth of the spirit of God within us in response to His coming at Christmas.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

+*Please stand*

PRELUDE

O Savior, Precious Savior

Willan

+OPENING HYMN

Baptized in Water



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing the
tomb with Christ our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Officiant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR PURITY

Officiant Let us pray.

All 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.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit, keep your children, born of water and the Spirit, faithful to their calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

YOUNG DISCIPLES' MOMENT

THE OLD TESTAMENT*Isaiah 43:1-7*

In the second half of the book of Isaiah, the prophet proclaims a message of consolation and encouragement.

But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM *Psalms 29*

Psalms 29 is a hymn to Yahweh as the God of storm. It may have been written as an objection to the pagan assertion of Baal as the thunder-god. Yahweh is the source of strength and blessing for the people.

- 1 Ascribe to GOD, you heavenly beings, *
ascribe to GOD glory and strength.
- 2 **Ascribe due honor to GOD's holy Name; ***
worship the MOST HIGH in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of GOD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
GOD is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 **The voice of GOD is a powerful voice; ***
the voice of GOD is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of GOD breaks the cedar trees; *
GOD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 **GOD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

7 The voice of GOD splits the flames of fire; the voice of GOD shakes the wilderness; *
GOD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

8 **The voice of GOD makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.**

9 And in the temple of the HOLY ONE,
all are crying, "Glory!"

10 **GOD sits enthroned above the flood;
enthroned as Sovereign for evermore.**

11 GOD shall give strength to us; *
GOD shall give us the blessing of peace.

+THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

As Jesus was (in Luke often a prelude to major events) the Holy Spirit descends. With the title formerly applied to the nation, to the king, and later to the Messiah, Jesus is now openly called the Son of God, dramatizing and confirming what was implicit in his conception (1:35). Thus, Jesus is anointed for his mission.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Deacon Steve Seely

WE RESPOND TO GOD

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

The Nicene Creed, the Church's central statement of faith, emerged out of the first four councils of the Church in the 4th century in response to controversies about Jesus' divinity. The Latin root of the phrase "we believe" (credo) means to "give one's heart." The creed is our way of affirming to the foundation to which we orient our hearts and lives. The term "apostolic" refers to the historic succession of the apostles (original leaders of the early church) through our bishops. The term "catholic" refers to the universal church throughout the world.

Officiant Let us affirm our faith in the One, holy, and living God:

All **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Officiant

The Lord shall give us the blessings of strength and peace. Beloved of God, let us pray, “Walk with us through the waters, O God; walk with us through the fire.”

Intercessor

Deliver your Church, O God, from fear. Strengthen those you have redeemed by your presence. Give us all the courage to keep our baptismal promises. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Christ Church, Washington Parish; Christ Church Parish, Kensington; and, Christ Church, Georgetown.

Walk with us through the waters, O God; walk with us through the fire.

O God, you have blessed us to be members of your household. Strengthen the unity of the Church—those serving you in the east, west, north, and south.

Walk with us through the waters, O God; walk with us through the fire.

Your power, O God, is evident in the mysteries of our universe. By water and your Holy Spirit you have made us a new people. We give you thanks and praise.

Walk with us through the waters, O God; walk with us through the fire.

Break down the walls of division in our city and our nation. Bring us together as one human family, formed and made by your great hands.

Walk with us through the waters, O God; walk with us through the fire.

Heal and comfort your beloved children, O God. Be with the needy in their trials. May they know that they are precious in your site. We pray for those on our prayer list: **Gene, Joe, Tony, Pete, Donna, Emily, Deanna, Colleen, Sally, Donna, Diane, Harold, Jim, Jack, Joyce, Barbara, Ed, Rodgers, Margaret, Tom, Irene, Sarah, Barbara, Tim, Allen, Pat, Stan, Greg, Grace, and the families impacted by the recent tornadoes.**

Walk with us through the waters, O God; walk with us through the fire.

Heavenly Love, you have accepted us as your children. You have made us heirs with Christ. In your great mercy, receive us, and all who have died, including Michael Pilato, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and Donna Conlon, into glory everlasting.

Walk with us through the waters, O God; walk with us through the fire.

Please add your intercessions, silently or aloud.

The Officiant will add a concluding prayer.

CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

Deacon The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Savior Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Therefore, let us confess our sins unto our merciful God.

Please allow a moment a silence for reflection.

All 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.

Officiant 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

Officiant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

THE OFFERTORY

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

Willan

WE ARE STRENGTHENED FOR THE JOURNEY

HOLY THANKSGIVING

Officiant Though we are in different places, God's presence is with us making us One. Let us pray in gratitude and trust for the Spirit flowing through this gathering:

People God of Love, we thank you for bringing us together in this place, on this day to honor and to celebrate you and your People, the living, loving Body of Christ. Jesus told his disciples, "Whenever two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Bless this gathering as a sacramental rite, a visible sign of your love for us, and our love for one another. Even in the absence of the bread and the wine, may we find strength and grace for the journey with your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & MILESTONE BLESSINGS

PRAYER FOR A BIRTHDAY

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants *she/he/they* begin another year. Grant that *she/he/they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his/her/their* trust in your goodness all the days of *his/her/their* life(ves); through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR AN ANNIVERSARY

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

WE GO IN THE STRENGTH OF GOD

THE BLESSING

THE CLOSING HYMN

On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

vv.1,4

1. On Jor - dan's stor - my banks I stand, and cast a
 2. O'er all those wide ex - ten - ded plains shines one e -
 3. No chil - ling winds or poi - sonous breath can reach that
 4. When I shall reach that hap - py place, I'll be for -

wish - ful eye to Ca - naan's fair and hap - py land, where
 ter - nal day; there God the Son for - e - ver reigns, and
 health - ful shore; sick - ness and sor - row, pain and death, are
 e - ver blest, for I shall see my Fa - ther's face, and

Refrain

my pos - ses - sions lie.
 scat - ters night a - way. I am bound for the pro - mised land,
 felt and feared no more.
 in his bo - som rest.

I am bound for the pro - mised land; oh, who will come and
 go with me? I am bound for the pro - mised land.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the light of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Come Thou Almighty King

Willan

THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

Parishioners, Family, and Friends: Gene Fornadley, Joe Guy, Tony Hackley, Richard Moore, Pete Shanklin, Sally Barley, Donna Boswell, Diane Coon, Harold Edwards, Jim Fenton, Jack & Joyce Ferguson, Barbara Huiras, Ed Jaffe, Rodgers Johnson, Margaret Leman, Tom May, Rosemary V., Sarah, Barbara T., Tim B., Allen W., Pat R., Stan B., and all of the families impacted by the tornadoes.

Armed Forces: Cameron Chase, Zach Kettner, Malachi Lakey, Megan Laurine, Casey Mills, Nate Ochsner, Garrett Roberson, Jr., Connor Runser

First Responders: Matt Backman, Liz Caswell, Chris Cox, Jimmy Cox, James Laurine, Kenny Levy, Jason Lyon, Pat Lyon, Alvaro Paz Hicho, Luke Smith

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Church of the Epiphany, DC; Welcome Table and Street Church, Church of the Epiphany, DC; and, Epiphany Church, Forestville

Dearly Departed: Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Jerry Worsham, parishioner

Community and World: For our country, especially the healthcare professionals, the unemployed, grocery store and transportation employees, firefighters, EMTs, police, teachers, and those suffering from the Covid-19 virus, and the people of Afghanistan and Haiti.

In order to keep the list current and to facilitate the intentionality with which we pray, names remain on the prayer list for one month (but can be renewed at any time). To submit a prayer request: email Joyce Scofield: rjscofield@comcast.net or Mother Maria: mkane@stpaulswaldorf.org

THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

Parishioners, Family, and Friends: Gene Fornadley, Joe Guy, Tony Hackley, Pete Shanklin, Donna Maki, for heavy burdened nurses: Emily Dorosz, Deanna Gerhart, Colleen Meadows; Sally Barley, Donna Boswell, Diane Coon, Harold Edwards, Jim Fenton, Jack & Joyce Ferguson, Barbara Huiras, Ed Jaffe, Rodgers Johnson, Margaret Leman, Tom May, Irene Savoy, Sarah, Barbara T., Tim B., Allen W., Pat R., Stan B., Greg G., Grace H. The families impacted by the recent tornadoes.

Armed Forces: Cameron Chase, Zach Kettner, Malachi Lakey, Megan Laurine, Casey Mills, Nate Ochsner, Garrett Roberson, Jr., Connor Runser

First Responders: Matt Backman, Liz Caswell, Chris Cox, Jimmy Cox, James Laurine, Kenny Levy, Jason Lyon, Pat Lyon, Alvaro Paz Hicho, Luke Smith

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Christ Church, Washington Parish; Christ Church Parish, Kensington; and, Christ Church, Georgetown

Dearly Departed: Michael Pilato, uncle of Frank Pilato; Archbishop Desmond Tutu; Donna Conlon, wife of a friend of G.O. Lyon

Community and World: For our country, especially the healthcare professionals, the unemployed, grocery store and transportation employees, firefighters, EMTs, police, teachers, and those suffering from the Covid-19 virus, and the people of Afghanistan and Haiti.

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THIS WEEK

Questions for Reflection

How may I live in the power of the Holy Spirit this day? What in my life is like chaff that the Holy Spirit burns away in order for me to live as a free and faithful child of God?

Household Prayer: Morning

Loving God, we begin this new day in the sure knowledge that you have claimed us as your children. In all that we do, keep us mindful of actions that are pleasing in your sight. In all that we say, make us attentive to the witness we give to your love. Let our lives be an example to all whom we encounter, living as daughters and sons of God who follow in the path of Jesus, our Lord and our brother. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

As evening comes and we end the labors of this day, we thank you, Lord Jesus, that you have been our companion. If we have disregarded your fellowship, forgive us. Where we have strayed from your path, correct us. Let us rest this evening as children of God, sheltered in the love of those who belong to your holy family of grace. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVING ENVELOPES

For those that requested giving envelopes, they will be available for pick up next Sunday on the bench in the Welcome Center.

FEAST OF ST. PAUL – NEXT SUNDAY

The Feast of St. Paul will take place next Sunday, January 16, 2022.

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The Rt. Rev. Mariann E. Budde, *Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Washington*

The Rev. Dr. Maria A. Kane, Rector
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PERMISSIONS

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