



Mary of Magdala ECC

January 11, 2026

Celebrating Together Wherever We Are:

**The Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist
Mother Alice Bradley (Church of the Beloved), Presider**

Welcome and Announcements

Lector Lynne Barnes

Social Justice Reflection Video

Opening Song

Healing Waters (R; V1, R; V2, R)

Greeting and Welcome: *Mother Alice*

Good afternoon! Welcome everyone at home and here to today's celebration of the Word and Eucharist on the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. I'm Mother Alice Bradley from Church of the Beloved in Northglenn, Colorado, and I'm glad to be here with you again to celebrate together.

Today we stand at the waters of beginnings.

Before Jesus teaches, heals, or challenges unjust powers,

he steps into the river to be baptized by John. In these waters, Jesus does not become God's beloved—he *hears* what has been true since the beginning of time.

Today we remember our own baptism -- not as a moment locked in the past, but as a living call --

to justice, compassion, courage,

and deep solidarity with the world God loves.

And thus we begin, + "In the name of God Our Source, Jesus, Our Way and Sophia, Our Holy Wisdom. **All: Amen**

Penitential Rite

With humility and faith let us pray:



All: We turn back to you, O Christ, knowing you await us with your open arms each moment. Bless us with an *experience* of you and your acceptance beyond understanding, so that we may be free to forgive ourselves and others, all in your Love.

Mthr Alice: Christ, you forgive us as we seek you. With you, there are no hierarchical distinctions, no racial differences, no gender disparities, no political parties. Help us to accept forgiveness. Restore us to wholeness as we seek always closer union with You, with others and with our own selves.

All: Christ, help us to seek and accept forgiveness.

Let us raise our voices and praise our God.

Glory To God (Mass of Renewal)

Opening prayer *extend hands* God, the blessed Holy Trinity, is with you.

All: And also with you.

Loving God,
You meet us not in spectacle,
but in ordinary waters and trembling voices.
As your Spirit descended upon Jesus,
descend upon us again—
that we may hear ourselves named beloved,
and be sent into the world
to heal, to restore, and to set free
all who are bound by fear or injustice.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,
who waded into our lives
and remains with us forever. **All: Amen.**

(Let us be seated as we listen to the Message of God speaking to us.)



Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Isaiah 42:1-7

Lector Lynne Barnes

A reading from the prophet, Isaiah

Here is My servant, whom I uphold, My chosen one in whom I delight.

This is the one on whom I have poured my Spirit, the one who will bring justice to all nations. You will not shout or cry out, or raise your voice in the streets.

A bruised reed you will not break, and a smoldering wick you will not snuff out.

With integrity, you will bring forth justice. You will not falter or be discouraged until all is well on Earth, until peace comes.

Your teachings will bring hope even across seas, even to far off islands.

This is what God, whose name is Holy, says— the One who created the cosmos, stretched out the skies, laid out Earth and planted all that springs from it, the One who gives breath to its people,
and life to those who walk on it:

“I am God. I have called you to wholeness. I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you. I have set You among my people to bind them to me.

I have made you as a lighthouse to all nations, to open eyes that are blind, to free prisoners to release dungeon-dwellers,
to empty despair of its captives.”



The Word of a post exilic prophet called Second Isaiah.

All: Thanks be to God.

Response: Come to the River (R; V1, R; V2, R; V3)

Second Reading **Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38, 44-48**

Lector Pedro Engel : A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

While in the house of Cornelius,

friends and family that had gathered there—a Gentile, Peter addressed them:

“I now truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who is humble before God and does what is right is acceptable to God. You already know the word God sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus the Christ—who is Servant-Leader of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after Jesus was baptized with the baptism of John. You know how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. You know how Jesus went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed, for God was with him.”

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit filled all who



heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and glorifying God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So, Peter called for them to be baptized in the name of Jesus the Christ. Then, they invited him to stay for several days.

Listen to the Spirit speaking to God’s people. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia (MOR)

Our God is with you. **All: And also with you.**

A reading from the Gospel attributed to Matthew

All: Glory to You, O God.

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan river, to be baptized by him. John tried to dissuade Jesus with the words, “It is I who need baptism from you, and yet you come to me?” Jesus replied, “Allow this. This way, we do the right thing, fulfilling all righteousness.”



John allowed it. No sooner had Jesus been baptized and emerged from the water than the skies opened and the Spirit of God was seen, descending like a dove, coming upon Jesus.

A voice came from the heavens,

“This is my Beloved, my Own, in whom I delight.”

The Good News of Jesus our Christ.

All: Praise to you, Jesus our Christ.

Homily: Mother Alice

Renewal of Baptismal Promises (Adapted)

Mother Alice

Let us remember the waters that named us beloved
and the call that still flows through our lives.

Do you commit yourselves
to resist injustice and violence in all its forms,
to protect the dignity of every human being,
and to walk in the way of compassion? **All: We do.**

Do you commit yourselves
to listen for the Spirit’s movement—
especially in the voices of the marginalized,
the wounded, and the forgotten? **All: We do.**

Do you commit yourselves
to live as people of hope,



trusting that God is still at work

in you and through you? **All: We do.**

Mother Alice

**May the Spirit who hovered over the waters at creation,
and descended upon Jesus in the Jordan renew us now in courage, tenderness,
and truth. All: Amen. (*sprinkling with water*)**

Prayers of the People

Lector Pedro Engel:

Mother Alice: Trusting in the God who calls all people beloved, we bring our prayers before the Holy One.

Our response to our prayers is, “Beloved God, hear our prayer.”

All: Beloved God, hear our prayer.

For the Church, that it may stand not above the world, but within it—listening, repenting, and healing, we pray,

All: Beloved God, hear our prayer.

For all who struggle under systems of injustice, especially those denied dignity because of race, gender, ability, immigration status, or poverty, that justice may roll down like living water, we pray,

All: Beloved God, hear our prayer.

For those who feel unseen or unworthy, that they may hear God’s voice speaking love over their lives, we pray:

All: Beloved God, hear our prayer.



For those who are sick, grieving, or weary, we pray,

All: Beloved God, hear our prayer.

For ourselves, that we may live our baptism boldly, loving without fear and serving without condition, we pray:

All: Beloved God, hear our prayer.

For prayers from our members in the Sanctuary, we pray:

All: Beloved God, hear our prayer.

For prayers from those on Zoom...we pray

All: Beloved God, hear our prayer.

Mother Alice: God of living waters, receive these prayers, spoken and unspoken, and shape us into a people who reflect your mercy in the world. **All: Amen.**

The Sign of Peace

Jesus our Christ, you said to your followers: "I leave you my peace, my peace I give you." The Peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you Please turn toward the camera to offer a sign of Christ's Peace and then toward each other here as we celebrate Divine Love as Peace.



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

As we prepare our table with food and drink at home and here, we are reminded that our offerings of time, talent, and treasure sustain the mission of God's church.

Please continue to give as you are called and able. Please be seated as we sing together:

Offertory Song Rain Down (R; V1, R; V3, R)

Procession with Gifts After the table is set. Preparation of the gifts
(said silently during Offertory Song)

Blessed are You, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Bread of Life. All: Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

All: Blessed be God forever.

By the mystery of this water and wine +, may we share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

All: Blessed be God forever.

Creator God, we ask you to receive us and to be pleased with the sacrifice we offer you with humble and contrite hearts.



Mother Alice washing hands O God, wash away my iniquity and ambivalence.

Cleanse me from my sin.

With arms raised

Pray, my beloved siblings, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God.

All: May God accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good and the good of all creation.

Hands extended

Prayer over the Gifts

Mother Alice: ... **All: Amen**

Eucharistic Prayer

P: Christ is with you. **All: And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts. **All: We lift them up to God.**

P. Let us give thanks to God. **All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and just,

always and everywhere to give you thanks,

our Source, our Joy and our Salvation,

For in the waters of the Jordan



you revealed with signs and wonders a new Baptism,
so that through the voice that came down from heaven
we might come to believe in your Word dwelling among us,
and by the Spirit's descending in the likeness of a dove
we might know that Christ your Servant
has been anointed with the oil of gladness
and sent to bring the good news to the poor.

And so, with the Powers of heaven,
we worship you constantly on earth,
and before your majesty
without end we acclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy (MOR)

Extend arms

Flowing from the Love visible to and invisible in all creation, send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless them + and make them holy that they may become the living sign of Christ's enduring Love. Here too our gratitude rises, for the promise of the Holy Spirit who attracts us to you and fills us with your teachings. Together, we, the



Body of Christ, gathered in all locations,
remember what Jesus did at table and in life.

Who, on the night before he was betrayed,
and among friends gathered round a table,
He took bread and gave you thanks.

He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

**All: Take this all of you, and eat it:
This is my Body which will be given up for you.**

Mother Alice When supper was ended, he took the cup,
again he gave you thanks and, handing the cup to his disciples, said:

All: Take this, all of you, and drink from it:

**This is the cup of my Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It
will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in
memory of me.**

Mother Alice Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Memorial Acclamation Save Us, Savior of the World (MOR)

Mother Alice: Extend arms Loving Divinity, Compassionate Mystery, we
celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus our Christ, and all that Christ



continues to do. Together with all your servants, people of every faith, may we become what you long for us to be: your anointed ones, co-healers of our world .

Remember, O Loving God, all those who have died.

May we praise you in unison with them, giving glory to God.

Setting our wisdom, our own wills, our words aside, emptying our hearts and bringing nothing in our hands, we yearn to be one in the Love Christ offers us, and to do the work Christ asks of us.

Continue to guide us as one Body of Christ, serving our creation and proclaiming your Word through our actions. May your Holy Spirit rest in us, converting us from the pattern of this passing world and conforming us to the pattern of Christ whose divinity we share.

Mother Alice: Together now we say,

All: Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all blessings and thanksgiving are yours, O

Loving God, forever and ever.

The Great Amen (MOR)



Prayer of Jesus

Mother Alice Please turn to the camera so that we can join together together, in praying the words Jesus our Christ gave us:

All: Abba/Amma, God in heaven, holy is your name. Your kin-dom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is 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 kin-dom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen

Breaking of the Bread

Lamb of God (MOR)

Raise bread and wine This is the living God, the Body and Blood of Christ. This is the one who transforms us and our world. Happy are we who are called to this supper.

All: Jesus, I am ready to receive you, and by your invitation I am here.

Jesus our Christ, with faith in your love and compassion, we are nourished by your sacred Body and Blood. May it bring us health in mind and body.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION **Mother Alice:** As we share in this nourishment set before us, let us proclaim together:



All: In this we are a Eucharistic people, the body of Christ incarnate, the blood of Christ poured out for the life of the world.

This food of and from God is here for all of us, without exception.

You belong at this Feast of Life because you are of God.

Come, everyone, share this banquet event of life!

Communion Song I Will Choose Christ (R; V1, R; V2, R; V3)

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray: God of flowing grace,

You have nourished us at this table and named us beloved once more.

Send us now into the world— to live our baptism with courage,

to love without reservation, and to become streams of justice and mercy wherever your people thirst. **All: Amen.**

Concluding Rite and Dismissal Blessings

Mother Alice: Let us open our hearts to God's blessing:

Christ is with you. **All: And also with you.**



May the God who calls you beloved

speak that truth over you again and again. **All: Amen**

May the Spirit rest upon you,

stirring courage where there is fear

and hope where there is despair. **All: Amen**

May you go forth,

living your baptism boldly,

for the healing of the world. **All: Amen**

May our loving God bless us all

in the name of Amma/Abba God,

Jesus our Christ, and the Holy Spirit, Sophia. **All: Amen**

DISMISSAL **Mother Alice:** Go in PEACE, living your baptismal call.

All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song: Send Your Glory Down (V1, R; V2, R)