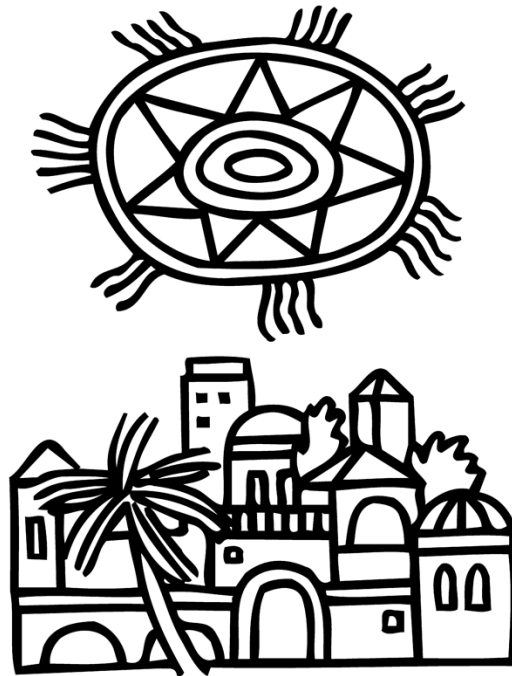


The First Sunday after the Epiphany
Rite II
The Liturgy of the Word



St. Alban's Episcopal Church

333 South Drexel Avenue

Bexley, OH 43209

Fr. J. Devin Rodgers, Presiding and Preaching

January 9, 2022

Our Vision for

*St. Alban's is to be a spiritual home to share God's grace through
worship, service, faith, and love. We welcome all and strive to
promote justice, peace, and love in our communities by following Jesus.
Come! Worship, Learn, Care, Connect with us!*

The Word of God

WE GATHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST...

WELCOME AND DIGITAL WORSHIP INSTRUCTIONS

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Presider says

People Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **(+)**¹
 And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Presider may say

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.*

GLORIA

*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.*

¹ At this symbol it is appropriate to make the sign of the cross.

*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.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Presider 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.*

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES AND PRAY...

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 43:1-7*

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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 Hear what the spirit is saying to the church.

People *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM: *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 for evermore.
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

A Reading from the book of Acts.

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Reader Hear what the spirit is saying to the church.

People *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord 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.*

THE SERMON

Fr. J. Devin Rodgers

SERMON SHARING

Following the sermon a longer period of silence is kept for reflection.

Presider: The Word is Very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart. –
Deuteronomy 30:14

We complete the sermon together. If something you have heard this morning brings to mind a personal experience we invite you to raise your digital hand to share. Listen to one another and listen to the silence. God speaks to us in both.

The Preacher offers additional instructions and assistance through sermon sharing. Please keep reflections geared towards something you or your own community have experienced. We will hear from 2-3 individuals during this sermon sharing time.

THE NICENE CREED

*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:²
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.*

² At the following words it is appropriate to bow as a sign of reverence.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE³

Deacon Let us pray to God, who is made manifest in Jesus Christ.

Intercessor As the prophet Isaiah rang out, “Arise, shine; for your light has come”; empower your Church, O God, to ring out the Good News of the Light of your son Jesus, which pierces even the deepest darkness. We pray especially for our congregation, the Diocese of Southern Ohio. We pray for our bishop, our clergy and our lay leaders. We pray for *She Has A Name*, our Caring & Sharing partner in ministry this month.

Silence is kept after each petition for the congregation to name their own prayers silently or aloud.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

As a star rose high into the nighttime sky to draw the nations to the Christ-child; send your blessing, O God, on this nation, and every nation, and draw the whole world to your peace and truth. Today we pray for the families in Philadelphia who lost their loved ones and homes in a recent tragic fire, for those suffering as a result of natural disasters especially in Kentucky and other states hit by tornados in December, for communities in Colorado who are suffering as a result of fires that destroyed their homes, for the people of Afghanistan and Madagascar, for victims of gun violence, COVID 19 , and its variants, for their care givers and for all medical providers. We pray also for all those serving in the military especially Greg, Abbey, Sean and Tyler, and for those serving in places of danger especially Steven, Anne, Sam, Ben, and Maria.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

³The Prayers of the People are written by Rev. Rick Morley, rector of St. Marks Basking Ridge NJ, and adapted with permission for use in worship

As John the Baptist guided throngs of people to the edge of the wilderness and baptized Jesus in the River Jordan, we pray that you would guide our country and our leaders to the ways of justice and righteousness.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Like the Magi who traveled from afar to bring gifts and celebrate the Savior's birth; we pray for this community, and for the many blessings you have given us including healing received by Oleta, Janet and many others and for those blessings we now name.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

As Jesus climbed the mountaintop, and proclaimed blessings on the people of the world; we pray for the sick and the distressed, the poor and the lame. We especially pray for Yvonne, Kate, Mary, P. Alexander, Mark, Janine, Linda, Louis, Robin, Michelle, Molly, Brent, Scott, Larry, Maria, Sarah, Gary, Edward and Mary, Gretchen, Emily, Mort, Pete and Linda, Mary and Mike, Nancy Maturo, Nancy and Perry, Ben Dysart,

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

As Jesus called his disciples to leave their nets and boats, and follow him; we pray for those we love and who have answered your call to follow Jesus to your Heavenly Kingdom. Today we remember the life and witness of Jim Crane and all who have died in the hope of the resurrection. Give them your peace.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Presider: Lord Jesus, Light of the World, hear our prayers, and make us reflections of your Light, that the places of darkness in our world would be pierced by your Light, and that all nations would be drawn to you and be overwhelmed with joy. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon says

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8, 9*

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence for examination and reflection is kept

*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 Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on us, (+) forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

Presider: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People: *And also with you*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baptism Commemorations

THE OFFERTORY

Presider: Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.



You may use the camera on your smart phone to access the online giving platform.

Or you may use this link:

[Donations to St Alban's](#)

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The Book of Common Prayer reminds us that if one is unable to actually consume the consecrated bread and wine due to extreme sickness or disability, the desire is enough for God to grant all the benefits of communion (BCP, p. 457). When being present at a celebration of the Eucharist is absolutely impossible, this act of prayer and meditation can provide the means by which you can associate yourself with the Eucharistic Action and open yourself to God's grace and blessing.

Presider: IN UNION, BLESSED JESUS, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, we long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

And particularly for the blessings given us. (the people pray in thanksgiving for their blessings silently or aloud) We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since we cannot at this time receive communion, we pray you to come into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our hearts, our souls, and our minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we are welcomed to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. *Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*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*

Presider and People: *Come Lord Jesus and dwell in my heart in the fullness of your strength; be my wisdom and guide me in right pathways; conform my life and actions to the image of your holiness; and, in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.*

WE ARE SENT OUT INTO THE WORLD.

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the magi, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit (+) be with you now and remain with you always. *Amen.*

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Servers in Worship Today

Presider

The Rev. J. Devin Rodgers

Deacon

The Rev. Craig Foster