

Zoom Best Practices

To make the service run more smoothly and to cut down on distortion and dissonance caused by the response of multiple voices, please leave your computer mic or phone on mute at all times with the exception of the Peace, the Intercessions, and the Lord's Prayer. We will assign and / or ask for volunteers to represent the congregation as one voice for the remainder of the responsorial portions of the service. However, while muted, please do say the words that are written for your response. Even in the muted state, this remains an interactive service.

Order of Service
First Sunday after the Epiphany
 The Baptism of our Lord
 Year B
 January 10th, 2020

Prelude

Lost in the Stars

Kurt Weill and Maxwell Anderson

Hymn 76

Ver. 1,3,5

On Jordan's Bank

Winchester New

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
 3 For thou art our sal va - tion, Lord, our
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

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

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect

God of the tearing heaven, whose holiness is unveiled by one who is submerged in all the pain and sin of the earth: give us faith to follow him who goes to the heart of darkness bearing only the Spirit of gentle, insistent peace; through Jesus Christ, the promised one. **Amen.**

First Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the 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. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God 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.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Acts 19:1-7

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

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Third Reading

Mark 1:4-11

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

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

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Affirmation of Faith

**I believe in Almighty God,
who guided the people in exile and in exodus,
the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,
the God of foreigners and immigrants.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean,
who was born away from his people and his home, who fled his country with his parents
when his life was in danger.**

**When he returned to his own country he suffered under the oppression of Pontius Pilate,
the servant of a foreign power. Jesus was persecuted, beaten, tortured, and unjustly
condemned to death.**

**But on the third day Jesus rose from the dead,
not as a scorned foreigner but to offer us citizenship in God's kingdom.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us, who speaks all languages, lives in all
countries,
and reunites all races.**

**I believe that the Church is the secure home
for foreigners and for all believers.**

**I believe that the communion of saints begins
when we embrace all God's people in all their diversity.**

**I believe in forgiveness, which makes us all equal before God,
and in reconciliation, which heals our brokenness.**

**I believe that in the Resurrection
God will unite us as one people
in which all are distinct and all are alike at the same time.
I believe in life eternal, in which no one will be foreigner
but all will be citizens of the kingdom
where God reigns forever and ever. Amen.**

The Rev. Jose Luis Casal

The Prayers of the People

Officiant:

Through Christ we are anointed with the Holy Spirit in baptism. May the same Spirit inspire us as we offer our prayers, responding, “Hear us, God of Glory.”

Intercessor:

For an overflowing gift of generosity, that we may reflect God’s abundant care for all of creation, lifting others out of systemic poverty, increasing the mission work of our churches, and reaping the joy of a philanthropic life; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

For the courage to walk through the tranquil and turbulent waters of life, knowing that in our baptism we died with Christ in darkness and joined him in the risen light; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

For Donald, our President, and for Joseph, our President-Elect, and all who exercise authority in the nations of the world, that they will faithfully establish justice on earth, and carry the torch of freedom and peace into all their deliberations; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

For the Church, that it may bear witness to Jesus’ forgiveness and love, offering to those outside its walls the light that illuminates all darkness and releases humanity from the grip of sin; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

That we may know our identity through the voice of God, who claims us as his beloved sons and daughters, and invites us to share in his earthly mission; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

For those who are sick, and all who minister to them.

Silence

Please add the names of those for whom you wish prayers, either silently or aloud.

Let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all who are dying may depart this life in peace, trusting in Christ’s promise of eternal life.

Silence

At this time please add the names of those you wish remembered this day.

Let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant:

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession

Officiant:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A brief moment of silence 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.

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.**

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.

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Welcome; Birthdays and Anniversaries

Anthem *Best and Brightest* *Southern Harmony*, arr. by Shawn Kirchner

1 Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;
star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

2 Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining;
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
angels adore him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.

3 Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
odours of Edom, and offerings divine,
gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,
myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

4 Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
vainly with gifts would his favour secure:
richer by far is the heart's adoration,
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

5 Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;
star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

A Prayer For The Time In Which We Are Living

Gracious and merciful God: We are weary. We are overtaken by COVID fatigue. We miss the visits of our family members who do not live with us, the ability to share a meal together, the ability to give one another hugs. In the interest of safety, this virus has caused us to be physically isolated from our neighbors and our friends. Our young children do not understand why this new way of living continues, and our older children bristle against the limitations placed on them. Our teachers, doctors, nurses, and essential workers are overworked and placed in difficult situations with little relief. We as a people are challenged by the lack of a uniform policy that calls us all to observe safety protocols, so we continue to live with so much unknown and uncertain that only heightens our anxiety. Sometimes, loving God, it is so hard for us not to be fearful. Fill our hearts and minds with you so we may do what is required to meet each day with strength and wisdom. Keep us grounded in your peace. Help us to be your hands and heart in all situations, at all times. Surround those who fear with your calming presence. Embrace those who are ill with your healing power. Envelop those who are dying in your loving arms and lead them to eternal life. For you are our guide and our grounding, this day and always. **Amen.**

Blessing

May God give you grace never to sell yourself short, grace to risk something big for something good, and grace to remember that the world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love. **Amen.**

William Sloane Coffin

Hymn 339

Deck Thyself my soul with gladness

Schmücke dich

The musical score consists of four staves of music in common time and G major. The top staff is for the soprano voice, the second for the alto, the third for the tenor, and the bottom for the bass. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some sustained notes and rests. The lyrics are integrated into the musical lines, with each line of text corresponding to a specific staff and measure. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Deck thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness, leave the
2 Sun, who all my life dost bright - en; Light, who
3 Je - sus, Bread of Life, I pray thee, let me

gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's
dost my soul en - light - en; Joy, the best that an - y
glad - ly here o - bey thee; nev - er to my hurt in -

splen - dor, there with joy thy prais - es ren - der
know - eth; Fount, whence all my be - ing flow - eth:
vit - ed, be thy love with love re - quit - ed;

un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed hath this
at thy feet I cry, my Ma - ker, let me
from this ban - quet let me mea - sure, Lord, how

won-drous ban - quet found - ed- high o'er all the heavens he
 be a fit par - ta - ker of this bless - ed food from
 vast and deep its trea - sure; through the gifts thou here dost

reign - eth, yet to dwell with thee he deign - eth.
 hea - ven, for our good, thy glo - ry, giv - en.
 give me, as thy guest in heaven re - ceive me.

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Bright morning stars

The Wailin Jennys