

The Liturgy of the Word
The First Sunday after the Epiphany
The Baptism of Christ
January 10, 2021
Grace Episcopal Church

Prelude

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity

Celebrant Arise, shine, for your light has come:

People And the glory of the Lord has been revealed.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

Song of Praise

A Song of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 36:24-28

I will take you from among all nations; *
and gather you from all lands to bring you home.

I will sprinkle clean water upon you; *
and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.

A new heart I will give you *
and a new spirit put within you.

I will take the stone heart from your chest *
and give you a heart of flesh.

I will help you walk in my laws *
and cherish my commandments and do them.

You shall be my people, *
and I will be your God.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant 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.**

The First Lesson

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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.

The Second Lesson

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

When Jesus went to Jordan's stream

Hymnal 139

The Gospel

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."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Rev. April Berends

Baptismal Covenant

BCP 304

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?
People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**
Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Anthem

Heavenly Light

Kopylow

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor To God who is revealed in the gracious mystery of Jesus Christ our Lord, let us offer our prayers for the church in the world, saying, God of grace, make your glory known.

Give to your Church the will to live out the promise of our baptism, that the light of Christ, shining through us, may bring hope to the world. We pray for Justin, our Archbishop; Michael our Presiding Bishop, Brian, our Bishop, April, our priest, for David, our Curate, and for all bishops, priests and deacons, and all members of the Church throughout the world. O God of grace,

People **Make your glory known.**

Intercessor We pray for the leaders of the nations, and for all the peoples of the earth. As we pattern our common life, guide us by the brightness of your holy wisdom. O God of grace,

People **Make your glory known.**

Intercessor We pray for the war-torn areas of our world, and for all who live and serve in places of conflict, including in our own land. Deliver us from conspiracy, oppression, violence and prejudice, and give to your people the blessing of peace. O God of grace,

People **Make your glory known.**

Intercessor Draw near to all who are afflicted in body, mind or spirit. Refresh those who are weary, bring healing to those who hurt, comfort those who mourn and give hope to those who are neglected. Give us compassion to listen to our neighbors in need.

We pray especially for: Reba, Niysah, Garvin, Nancy, Daniel, David, Terrie, Alex, Wanda, Emma, Steve, Jim, Judy, Bethann, Julie, Dwight, Angela, James and Barbara, Trevor, Ted, Deb, Michael, Tom, Jeanette, Jane, Bo and Mary Minor, Helen, Nancy, Charlotte, Tyler, Jeff, Rebecca, J.R., Peggy, William, Timothy, Donald, Robert, Cooper, Sally, Charles, Jonathan, Steven, John, Libby, Elaine, Jean, Barbara, Elizabeth, Mary Ruth, and Ann;

We pray for Wil, Jake, Kevin, Tripp, Mike, Alexander, Russel, Logan, Jim, Sean, Evan, and all of our Armed Forces, here and abroad;

We pray for Bren who is deployed as a nurse in the pandemic.

We pray for Ali and Angela who are with child.

We pray for all whose homes are in peril or uprooted because of climate change, for all displaced because of hurricanes, fires or other disasters.

We pray for all who remain on the front lines of this pandemic: for health care providers, those who grow and process food, staff grocery stores, provide transit, transport supplies, care for the young and the aged and those who are sick. We pray for all suffering from illness, those who have died, and all who grieve as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. O God of grace,

People **Make your glory known.**

Intercessor We commend to your mercy those who are dying and those who have died, especially Garvin Colburn, mother of Rosy Milburn, and Matilda Dunn, Grace’s former assistant priest, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in the full revelation of your eternal glory. O God of grace,

People **Make your glory known.**

Presider Holy God, creator of light and herald of goodness, at the waters of his baptism you proclaimed Jesus your beloved Son. With the baptized of every time and generation, may we say yes to your call to repentance and be led to the life of abundance we experience in your kinship and your love. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Blessing

Postlude

Worship Leaders

Officiants The Rev. April Berends, The Rev. David Burman
Preacher The Rev. April Berends
Lectors Allison Davis, Bill Pickering
Intercessors Richard Hyatt and Phaen Stone
Organist Patrick Rice
Director of Music David Long
Singers Steven Hinkle, David Long, Megan Long,
 Elisabeth Schrock, Janelle Wagoner, Trevor Wagoner
Video Richard Lanham, Janelle Wagoner

Announcements

Join Us for Online Worship at 9am & 10:45am Sundays

During this time of Social Distancing, we will continue to stream videos for Morning Prayer worship on our [Facebook](#) page and [website](#) at 9am and again at 10:45am. Bulletins for each week’s service will be sent along with the Grace Notes weekend issue, and will be posted on the website alongside the video for the service. If you miss the 9am or 10:45am video streams, you can always go back and watch later.

In-person Worship on January 10th at 3:30pm

Weather permitting, Grace will hold outdoor, in-person on January 10th, at **3:30pm**. We will meet on the yard just behind the pavilion and the community gardens. In an effort to protect the health of our neighbors,

participants must sign up in advance, and we will be limiting the attendance for this service to 30 households. You will receive an email confirming successful registration, and if the service is over capacity at the time you sign up, you will receive priority for next week's service.

Each household unit is asked to keep 12-15 feet distance from your closest neighbor on the lawn. **Please wear a mask, and bring your own lawn chair or blanket.** If you are unable to bring your own chair, please email David Burman at dburman@saygrace.net, and we will arrange to have one available for you.

Sign up by emailing Dabney Carden at dcarden@saygrace.net.

Clergy Outdoor Office Hours

The Rev. April Berends will be in the courtyard on Tuesday, January 12th from 11pm-1pm. The Rev. David Burman will be in the courtyard from 2pm-4pm on Thursday, January 14th. As always, if you would like to meet for prayer or conversation outside of office hours, our priests would be happy to see you. Contact April (aberends@saygrace.net) or David (dburman@saygrace.net) to set up an appointment.

Morning Prayer and Compline

All are invited to escape from the madness and rest your mind and soul via Morning Prayer on weekdays and Saturday at 9:00 a.m., and services of Compline at 8:00 p.m. each evening. We all need reminders of essential realities that transcend the medical and political context in which we find ourselves.

Here are the links for Daily Morning Prayer and Compline:

[Weekday Morning Prayer](#)

[Weekday Compline](#)

Community Care in Anxious Times

Grace check-in team leaders are continuing to contact parishioners via phone, text and/ or email. Please take a moment to pick up or write back to let them know if you're okay and/or if you need help, pastorally or physically. The leaders of these groups will be in close communication with our priests and our network of volunteers. If you are a new member of Grace and we do not have your information in the directory, please fill out the New Member form [here](#) and let us know if you would like to be added to a check-in group. If you have an urgent pastoral need, please call the parish office at (423)243-3250 and leave a message on the **main line**. We will be checking these messages regularly even if we aren't in the office.