**WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY**

**Reflections for St. Philip’s Episcopal Church in Richmond, Virginia**

# Sunday, January 9, 2022: Epiphany, Year C

# Via Conference Call

**The Collect**

**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.**

**New Testament:** **Acts 8:14-17**

**14Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. 15The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit 16(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). 17Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.**

**Gospel:** **Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

**15As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 16John 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. 17His 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.”**

**21Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 22and 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.”**

**Ideas for discussing the application of this lesson to our daily lives:**

1. **In the Epistle, v. 17 – 19 (especially v. 18), what is your interpretation of this passage? What does it mean to be “called?” How do you know that Jesus has called you? What has been your response?**
2. **In the Gospel, what is your knowledge of the life of Jesus prior to his appearance at age 12? Is there scripture that gives us any description of Jesus prior to age 12? If not, why is Jesus’s childhood not presented in scripture?**
3. **In the Gospel, v. 48 – 49, what explanation do you give for the behavior of Jesus toward his worried family? Would you have taken a similar action?**

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**Start: 9:30am: End 10:30am**