

St. Paul's Cathedral Burlington, Vermont

The First Sunday after Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord ✕ January 10, 2021

☞ During this service the People respond using words printed in bold face.

☞ In this extraordinary time of pandemic, it is important to remember that scattered though we may be, we are one in our prayer.

☞ Before the service, the Presider may make announcements, after which stillness is kept.

☞ Participating virtually, the choir sings a motet:

As the deer longs for the water-brooks, so longs my soul for you, O God.

Sung in Latin

Words Sicut cervus desiderat, Psalm 42:1-3 • Music G. P. da Palestrina (1525-1594)

Opening Rite

We sing hymn 121 from the Hymnal 1982 on the next page: Please sing boldly at home.

1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spi - rit on you came,
 2 God called you his be - lov - ed Son, called you his ser - vant true,
 3 Straight - way and steadfast un - til death you then o - obeyed his call
 4 Bap - tize us with your Spi - rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,

as peace - ful as a dove and yet as ur - gent as a flame.
 sent you his king - dom to pro - claim, his ho - ly will to do.
 free - ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.
 that, like - wise in God's ser - vice we may per - fect free-dom find.

Words F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. • Music CAITHNESS, from *The Psalms of David in Prose and Meeter*, 1635; har. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

The Presider says,

Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.
 And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.

We join in singing the ancient hymn Gloria in excelsis:

1. Glo - ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

2. Lord God, hea-ven - ly King, al-might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you,

we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,

on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

4. you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us;

5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re - ceive our prayer.

6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Setting David J. Hurd (b. 1950), from *New Plainsong*

The Presider says the Collect of the Day, first saying,

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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 Word of God

We hear a reading from the Hebrew Bible:

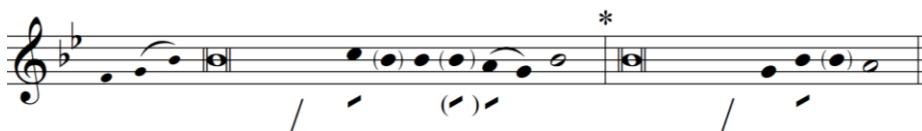
A reading from Genesis.

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.

Genesis 1:1-5

Here ends the reading.

We sing Psalm 29. The Cantor sings the first half of each verse, and the congregation responds, alternating high and low voices as indicated. Please join in at home.



Cantor

Ascribe — / tó the LÓRD, you gods, *

Low voices

ascribe to the LÓRD/ glóry and strength.

Cantor

Ascribe to the LÓRD the / glóry due hís Name; *

High voices

worship the LÓRD in the beauty / of hóliness.

Cantor

The voice of the LÓRD is upon the waters; the God of / glóry thünders; *

Low

the LÓRD is upon the might/y wáters.

Cantor

The voice of the LÓRD is a / pówerfúl voice; *

High

the voice of the LÓRD is a voice / of spléndor.

Cantor

The voice of the LÓRD/ bréaks the cédar trees; *

Low

the LÓRD breaks the cedars / of Lébanon;

Cantor

He makes Lebanon / skip like á calf, *

High

and Mount Hermon like / a yóung wild ox.

Cantor

The voice of the LÓRD splits the flames of fire; the voice of the LÓRD/ shákes the wílderness; *

Low

the LÓRD shakes the wilderness / of Kádesh.

Cantor

The voice of the LÓRD/ mákes the oak tréés writhe *

High

and strips / the fórests bare.

Cantor

And in the / témples of thé LÓRD *

Low

all are cry/ing, "Glóry!"

Cantor

The LÓRD sits en/thróned above thé flood; *

High

the LÓRD sits enthroned as King / for évermore.

Cantor

The LÓRD shall give / stréngth to his péople; *

Low

the LÓRD shall give his people the bless/ing óf peace.

Setting Plainsong tone 3.4

We hear a reading from the Gospels.

A reading from Mark.

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."

Mark 1:4-11

Here ends the reading.

Sermon

The Preacher breaks the bread of God's word.

After a brief time of stillness, we affirm our faith. Please join in at home.

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

The Prayers

In the time of stillness after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, silently, aloud, or using Zoom's chat feature.

The Presidersays,

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Shannon;
for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Stillness

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.

Stillness

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Stillness

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Stillness

I ask your prayers for the departed [especially _____],
Pray for those who have died.

Stillness

I ask your thanksgivings for friends and family, [especially _____]
Pray in gratitude for all of God's blessings.

Stillness

I ask your prayers for _____ *The Deacon gives voice to petitions from the Zoom chat box*
Pray for the needs and hopes of this community.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Stillness

The Presider adds a concluding Collect

The Presider says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Stillness is kept.*

Minister and People

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 Presider says,

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.

We join in saying the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as 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 kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
 now and for ever. Amen.

We join in singing hymn 139 in The Hymnal 1982. Please sing boldly at home.

1 When Je - sus went to Jor - dan's stream his Fa - ther's will o - bey - ing,
2 The Ho - ly Spi - rit then was shown, a dove on him de - scend - ing,
3 He came by wa - ter and by blood to heal our lost con - di - tion;

and was bap - tized by John, there came a voice from hea - ven say - ing,
the Tri - une God is thus made known in Christ as love un - end - ing.
he cleans - es, rec - on - ciles to God, and gives the Great Com - mis - sion.

"This is my dear be - lov - ed Son up - on whom rests my fa - vor.
He taught, he healed, he raised the dead, yet, in his great en - deav - or
Then let us not heed world - ly lies, nor rest up - on our mer - it,

And till God's will is ful - ly done he will not bend or wa - ver,
to save us, his own blood was shed; but death could hold him nev - er.
but trust in Christ who will bap - tize with wa - ter and the Spi - rit

for he is Christ the Sa - - vior.
He rose, and lives for ev - - er.
that we may life in - her - - it.

Words Martin Luther (1483-1546), tr. F. Bland Tucker, rev.

Music CHRIST UNSER HERR ZUM JORDAN KAM, melody from *Geistliche Gesangk Buchleyn*, 1524

The Presider blesses the People:

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world;
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you,
and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Presider dismisses us, saying

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

A short voluntary is played. Coffee hour follows immediately.

+ + +

Presider Greta Getlein Cantor & Organist Mark Howe Reader Rebecca Flewelling

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