



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
1676 SOUTH BELCHER ROAD  
CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33764-6517  
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The First Sunday After The Epiphany:  
The Baptism of Our Lord  
January 9, 2022

## THE ENTRANCE RITE

## Prelude: "Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam" Lucas Osiander

## Announcements

**Processional Hymn: 76 “On Jordan’s bank, the baptist’s cry”  
Winchester New**

## THE WORD OF GOD

**Celebrant:**      **Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit**  
**People:**        **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.**  
                          **Amen.**

## The Collect

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 S280

Robert Powell

### Collect of the Day

*Celebrant: The Lord be with you.*

*People: And also with you.*

**Celebrant:** Let us pray. (*Silence.*)

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.**

## Collect for the Election of a Bishop

Gracious God, as we walk by faith the shared journey of choosing a bishop for the Diocese of Southwest Florida, nurture within us discerning hearts and minds hopeful for possibilities yet to be revealed. Send to us a caring leader, we pray, who will uniquely delight in the abundant gifts of our diocese, and the beauty of this land, which so richly reflect your unity in diversity. Equip our human eyes and ears with divine recognition for the chief pastor of our diocese whom you have chosen to lead us in the ever-unfolding mission of your Church, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## THE LESSONS

### The First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

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."

The Word of the Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 29

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, \*  
    aspire 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 8:14-17**

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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn: 121 "Christ, when for us you were baptized"**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (3:15-17,21-22)

**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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Response: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Renewal of Baptismal Vows (Stand)

*Celebrant:* Dear People of God, through our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we have been reborn into new life in Him. I call upon you, therefore, as we celebrate His baptism, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his Holy Catholic Church.

*Celebrant:* Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

**People:** I do.

*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 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:	<b>I will, with God's help.</b>
Celebrant:	Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People:	<b>I will, with God's help.</b>
Celebrant:	Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People:	<b>I will, with God's help.</b>

*The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Celebrant: As we celebrate the baptism of Christ, let us offer prayers to Jesus, the Beloved Son, in whose name we have been baptized, saying: By your holy baptism, Hear us, we pray.

Lector: For the Church, especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Dabney, our bishop, that our lives may be empowered by the Spirit to follow where God leads us. **By your holy baptism, hear us, we pray.**

For this Parish Family, that we who are baptized may open our hearts to God's presence in surprising places. **By your holy baptism, hear us, we pray.**

For a new dawning of peace and reconciliation, that those who strive for peace may not tire, and that God will open new opportunities for opponents to recognize the good in one another. **By your holy baptism, hear us, we pray.**

For an end to the worldwide pandemic, that God will free us from this dangerous virus, strengthen those who labor for our health, and give us grace to strive for the common good. **By your holy baptism, hear us we pray.**

For those in need of our prayers, remembering especially, especially Nancy Bailey, Sue Bartlett, Gerry Boone, Barbara Bowdoin, Bill Buchanan, Roscoe Cobb, Jaclyn Corbett, Lois Doe, Mary Every, Jane Farrell, Peg Gerns, Kristi Goyne, Leah Johnson, Marilyn Jones, Bette Knutson, Dale Kruse, Nan Lanham, Thelma Lipp, Margarita Lopez, Joan Lutz, The Rev. Glad McCurtain, Carol North, The Rev. George

Razee, Lea Rummler, Gabe Runza, Gary Shamley, Simon Taylor, The Rev. Kathleen Walter, Leona Weber, Mhairi Williams, Bob Wittenberg, Nathan Wyatt, Sheree Wyatt, and Bonnie Zwigaitis ... (pause) ... , that God will strengthen and sustain them with a shepherd's care. **By your holy baptism, hear us we pray.**

For those who have died, that having been reborn in baptism, they may rejoice in the radiance of God's glory. **By your holy baptism, hear us we pray.**

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary, the God-bearer, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves, and one another, to the living God through Christ. **To you, O Lord our God.**

**Celebrant:** Gracious and loving God, you have anointed your people with the waters of Baptism and made us your beloved children. Hear our prayers and fill us with your Spirit that we may share the work of your Son, bringing blessing and light to all in the world, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

BCP Pg. 360

**Celebrant:** Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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 for give us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

**Celebrant:** 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.**

**The Peace**

**Celebrant:** The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** And also with you.

*(The people may greet one another with a wave, a nod or a namaste)*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**Offertory**

**Offertory Hymn: 448 "O love, how deep, how broad, how wide"**  
Deus tuorum militum

**The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B (Stand) BCP Pg. 367**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.  
**People:** And also with you.  
**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.  
**People:** We lift them to the Lord.  
**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Celebrant:** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**S124 - Holy, Holy, Holy**

**Franz Schubert**

**Celebrant:** We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,*  
*Celebrant and People: 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 Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.*

*People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

**Fraction Anthem : S164- Lamb of God**

**Franz Schubert**

**Prayer of Spiritual Communion (said by the Priest and those at home):**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You have already come, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. **Amen.**

**The Communion**

**Communion Hymn: 120 “The sinless one to Jordan came”**

**Solemnis haec festivitas**

*Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.*

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion.*

Sending of Lay Eucharistic Visitors (as needed)

Following the communion of the people, the Lay Eucharistic Ministers come forward and are commended for this ministry with the following words:

**Celebrant:** In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

**Celebrant:** We who are many are one body,

**People:** Because we all share one bread, one cup.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP Pg. 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Closing Hymn: 295 “Sing praise to our Creator”**

Christus, der ist mein Leben

The Dismissal: **Response:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Postlude: “Es flog ein Kleins Waldvogelein” Henry Walford Davies**

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### Welcome Visitors!

Please sign the guest book at the welcoming stand where information is available.

Visit our Website: <https://stjohnsclearwater.org/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/St.JohnsClearwater/>

**Join us for coffee and fellowship on the patio immediately following the service.**

### Announcements

**St. John’s ECW:** Meets on January 23, 2022 after the 9:00 am service.

**St. John's annual Meeting: January 30, 2022 will be held in the church** following the Sunday service. There will be time for fellowship on the patio before the meeting begins.

**Music Ministry:** To learn more on how you can participate, please speak to Jim May, Music Director.

**Thrift Shop Volunteers Needed!** The Thrift Shop is looking for volunteers to work the front desk. There are two shifts - Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm or 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Please contact Caroline Barnett if you are interested. (727) 459-3650. **Thrift Shop donations** can be dropped off at the Thrift Shop Donation shed at the back of the church property anytime.

**Episcopal Migration Ministries:** As The Episcopal Migration Ministries continue to welcome and resettle Afghans to the U.S. through our affiliate network and engagement programs, the greatest need continues to be assistance with housing. Those who want to financially support these efforts can make a donation online at <https://episcopalmigrationministries.org/donate-afghan-allies/> or donate by mail and send checks to: DFMS-Protestant Episcopal Church US, P.O. Box 958983, St. Louis, MO 63195-8983. (Include Episcopal Migration Ministries and Afghan SIV's in the memo line.)

**Prayer Chapel:** The Chapel is open for anyone wishing individual prayer. Everyone is welcome to go to the Chapel after communion to receive prayer with a member of The Daughters of the King. Prayer requests are held in strict confidence. Please feel welcome to come to the chapel to pray.

**Children's Sunday School** is occurring on Zoom. Contact Miss Mary to be included (Manders200@gmail.com).

### Weekly Schedule

**Thrift Shop Hours**

Tuesday 9:30 – 3:30

Thursday 9:30 – 3:30

Saturday 9:30 - 3:30

**Retirees – Parish Hall**

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month,

10:00 am

**Hand Bell Choir - Church**

**Sanctuary**

Tuesday 6:00 pm

**Voice Choir - Choir Room - 2nd**

**Floor Adm. Bldg.**

Tuesday 7:00 pm

**Wednesday Morning Bible**

**Study - Parish Hall**

Wednesday 10:00 am

**Fiber Art – Parish Hall**

Thursdays 10:00 am



**Diocese of Southwest Florida**  
**The Rt. Rev. Dabney Smith, Bishop**

**St. John's Mission Statement:**  
*To love, to serve, to grow in Christ*

**Church Staff**

Priest In Charge	The Rev. Andrew T. Gerns
Priest Associate	The Rev. James Beaton
Office Administrator	Jan Davis
Music Director	Jim May
Sexton	Bob Cates
Children's Ministry	Mary Anders

**Vestry**

Marti Moore, Sr. Warden	Christian Formation & Worship
Jackie Smith, Jr. Warden	Pastoral Care & Outreach
Annette Wyatt	Treasurer
Pam Carlbo	Communications
Bob Courdway	Membership
Jessi Griffin	
Carol Jefford	

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## The First Sunday After The Epiphany – The Baptism of Our Lord

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### Isaiah 43:1-7

Judah has complained that God has deserted them, his people, in the destruction of Jerusalem and in their exile. God asks, through the prophet, “Who among you ... will attend and listen for the time to come?”

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### Acts 8:14-17

Philip, one of the seven chosen to ensure the welfare of widows, has proclaimed the good news in Samaria. Many have listened to what he has to say; some have been healed. Many have been baptised.

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### Luke 3:15-17,21-22

People flock to John the Baptist, responding to his urging to start new, ethical lives – as a way of preparing for Jesus. John has condemned those who seek his baptism with no intention of reforming their ways. Failure to respond to his call to repentance can lead to condemnation at the end of time.

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### ‘Agnus Day’ by Pastor Jim Wetzstein

#### When Sunday intrudes on Monday...

I GUESS I'M SURPRISED  
THAT JOHN ADDRESSES  
STUFF AT THEIR WORK.  
YOU'D THINK HE'D COME  
UP WITH SOMETHING  
MORE SPIRITUAL.



ARE YOU SAYING THAT  
REFLECTING ON YOUR WORK  
DAY DOESN'T INSTILL IN YOU  
A NEED FOR REPENTANCE?



NOT THAT  
SPIRITUAL!

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### Stewardship Snippet

**The Baptism of the Lord • Luke 3:15-17, 21-22:** At his baptism, Jesus feels affirmed in the choices he has made to live as God's faithful child. How often do we think about the covenant made at our own baptism to live as God's faithful ones?