



*The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord*

**THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

Sunday, 7 January 2024 • 8:00 & 10:30 AM with Holy Baptism

Pensacola, Florida • Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

The People's responses are in ***bold italics***.

Hymns are in the blue *Hymnal 1982*.

Service music (marked "S") is found at the front of the Hymnal.

Other page numbers refer to the red *Book of Common Prayer*.

**Worship Information**

*Welcome to Christ Church! We especially welcome our visitors and newcomers and ask that you fill out a visitor card so that we can thank you for coming.*

*For Children – Children are always welcome during service. There is a Kid's Korner at the entrance with books and activities.*

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**Opening Voluntary**

**Hymn in Procession**

**Hymn 381** — *Thy strong word did cleave the darkness*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

*The Celebrant then continues*

There is one Body and one Spirit;

*People* ***There is one hope in God's call to us;***

*Celebrant* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

*People* ***One God and Father of all.***

**Kyrie: Lord have mercy**

**8:00 - spoken**    **10:30 - Hymnal S 98**

Lord have mercy. ***Christ, have mercy.*** Lord, have mercy.

**The 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 people may be seated.*

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

**Psalm 29**

*(10:30 - sung by the choir)*

- 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. The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

*The People stand for the Sequence Hymn and the Gospel.*

**10:30 - Sequence Hymn**

**Hymn 121** — *Christ, when for us you were baptized*

**CHILDREN'S CHAPEL, 10:30 Service**  
*During the Hymn, children in grades Pre-K through 5th may follow the children's acolytes down the center aisle to Children's Chapel. They will return at the Peace.*

### **The Gospel — Mark 1:4-11**

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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."

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord. *People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **The Sermon**

*The Rev. Dr. Michael Hoffman*

*Silence may be kept.*

### **HOLY BAPTISM – BCP 301**

#### **Presentation and Examination of the Candidates**

*The Celebrant says*

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Parents and Godparents*

I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*The Celebrant asks the adult candidate*

*Celebrant* Do you desire to be baptized?

*Candidate* I do.

*The Celebrant asks the parents and godparents*

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and Godparents* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and Godparents* I will, with God's help.

*Question* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God? *Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God? *Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior? *Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Answer* I do.

*After the Presentation, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying (all stand)*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ? *People* **We will.**

#### **The Baptismal Covenant**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

*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* **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.**

#### **Prayers for the Candidates**

*The Celebrant then says to the congregation*

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth and those who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

*A Person appointed leads the following petitions*

*Leader* Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Send them into the world in witness to your love.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant says*

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### **Thanksgiving over the Water**

**BCP 306**

*The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant*

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water*

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Baptism**

*The candidate is presented to the Celebrant, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying*

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross, using Chrism, and saying*

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

*Then the priest presents the Baptismal candle, saying*

N., receive this candle as a reminder that you are now Christ's light in the world. **Amen.**

*Then the Priest prays over them, saying* Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

*Please stand.*

*Then the Celebrant says* Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*Celebrant and People* **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

### **The Peace**

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

*People* **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **Announcements**

### **The Offertory**

#### **10:30 – Offertory Anthem**

*“Arise, shine, for thy Light is come”*

*— Healey Willan (1880-1968)*

*Arise, shine, for the Light is come,  
and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. Alleluia.*

*Oh, praise the Lord, all ye nations,  
and laud Him, all ye people!*

*For His merciful kindness is great toward us,  
and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Alleluia!*

### **At the Presentation**

**Hymn 380:3**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise him all creatures here below,*

*Praise him above, ye heavenly host,*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

*At the presentation of the monetary gifts,*

*Celebrant* All things come of thee, O Lord.

*People* **And of thine own have we given thee.**

### **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **Eucharistic Prayer A – BCP 361**

*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 him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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

*Here a Proper Preface is said.*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Hymnal S 128**

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched

out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*  
**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

***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**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

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

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

**10:30 – Then is sung**

**Fraction Anthem: *Agnus Dei***

**Hymnal S 165**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*  
The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

#### **The Communion**

*Christians of all ages (regardless of where you were baptized) are welcome to receive Holy Communion. • Please come forward to the Altar Rail, being careful of the step just before the rail. • The rail fills from the center, and please don't hesitate to cross to the*

*other side if there is space. • Communion is available in two kinds. If you choose not to receive communion in one or both kinds, please cross both arms across your chest and the priest will offer a blessing. • If you choose to receive communion in one kind, know Christ is fully present and all benefits of the Eucharist are fully received. • If you receive the chalice, please assist the chalice bearer by guiding the base of the cup. Or you may choose to intinct in the chalice. • If you need a gluten-free wafer, please cross one arm across your chest. There is no separate chalice. • If you would like the clergy to bring communion to someone in the pew, please notify the ushers at the door.*

#### **10:30 – Communion Hymns**

**Hymn 116** — "I come," the great Redeemer cries

**Hymn 132** — When Christ's appearing was made known

#### **Post Communion Prayer**

**BCP 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.*

#### **Prayer for Mission**

**BCP 101**

Lord Jesus Christ, *you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you: for the honor of your name. Amen.*

#### **The Blessing**

#### **Hymn in Procession**

**Hymn 448** — *O love, how deep, how broad, how high*

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

#### **Closing Voluntary**

*In dulci Jubilo, BWV 729 – J. S. Bach*

*The flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God  
and in loving memory of Sandra Guilbert Early.*

