

# THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Sunday 10 January 2021 9:00 AM

Grace Episcopal Church, Hinsdale, IL



## GATHERING TOGETHER

### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

Prelude on the Introit for Epiphany Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

### HYMN

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

SALZBURG



1 Songs of thank-ful-ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise,  
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su-preme;  
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal-sied limbs and faint-ing soul;



man - i - fest-ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;  
and at Ca - na, wed - ding-guest, in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;



branch of roy-al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;  
man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill;



an-thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man-i - fest.  
an-thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man-i - fest.  
an-thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man-i - fest.

## THE ACCLAMATION

*Presider* Blessed be God: ✠ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Presider* 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.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* 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

### THE FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1-5

**I**n 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.**

## Response



The voice of the LORD is up - on the wa - ters.

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's 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. *Response*
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;  
6 the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the Lord bursts forth in lightning flashes.
- 8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 9 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.  
And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!" *Response*
- 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.
- 11 O Lord, give strength to your people;  
give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace. *Response*

## THE SECOND READING

Acts 19:1-7

**W**hile 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.**

## THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:4-11

*Preacher*      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."

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

## REFLECTION

C. Christian Pierce

*You are invited to view a reflection for children at 10:30 AM or thereafter, offered by Megan Mannor.*

## THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

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

*People*          **I do.**

*Presider*      Do you believe in God the Father?

*People*          **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

*Presider*      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.

*Presider* 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.**

*Presider* 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.**

*Presider* 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.**

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

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

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

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

*Presider* 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.**

*Presider* 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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Reader* On this Sunday of the Baptism of Our Lord, let us offer our prayers for all in need, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "Give us your blessings of peace."

*A brief silence.*

For the worldwide church; for those who minister in the church, especially the Rev. Canon Paula Clark, Bishop-elect of the Diocese of Chicago; for all who will be baptized this year; and for their godparents and sponsors: that the Holy Spirit will empower all the faithful for lives of service, let us pray. *A brief silence.* O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

For the waters of the earth; for the seas, the lakes, the rivers; for the wells that provide drinking water; and for the water that is piped into our homes: that God provide clean and nourishing water for all living things, let us pray. *A brief silence.* O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

For the nations of the world and their leaders; for international efforts to prevent war and reduce violence; for the armed forces; for police officers; and for peacemakers: that God inspire all people to work for the harmonious well-being of others, let us pray. *A brief silence.* O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

For students; for teachers and school administrators; for parents assisting their children in home schooling; and for young people who are finding a way toward graduation: that as the academic year resumes, God give resilience to everyone in the search for education, let us pray. *A brief silence.* O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

For all who are in trouble, want, or sickness; for the countless who are suffering with COVID-19; for medical workers; for people who are hungry or homeless, imprisoned or lonely; and for those we name in our hearts, that God grant health and wholeness to a world so filled with pain, let us pray. *A brief silence.* O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

For ourselves: that we rejoice in our adoption as members of God's family, and that now in silence we bring to God our heart's requests, let us pray. *A longer period of silence.* O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

In gratitude for our beloved dead, we offer our praise for all who have accompanied us and supported us and taught us throughout our days; that at our end we join with them in everlasting joy, let us pray. *A brief silence.* O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

*Presider* Almighty and most merciful God, you are the mighty Voice from heaven, you are our beloved Savior, you are the descending Dove. We give you thanks for all your goodness and tender mercies, and we ask you to accept our prayers for the sake of your mercy, today and forever. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE OFFERTORY

#### Offertory Sentence

*With joy, we give thanks to God for all who support this community of love and faith. Now more than ever, your gifts truly do continue the mission and ministries of Grace Church.*

*If you wish to give electronically, please scan the QR code or follow the link to our electronic giving platform.*



<http://www.gracehinsdale.org/give>

## Iona Invitation

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ.  
It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more.

So come, you who have much faith and you have little;  
You who have been here often  
and you who have not been for a long time or ever before;  
You who have tried to follow and you who have failed;

Come, not because the Church invites you;  
It is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

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

*Presider* God of hope, in your Holy Spirit  
you hovered over the face of the waters in creation,  
and in your pillar of fire  
you led your people to liberation across the Red Sea.  
Through the waters you brought your people  
into the life and land of promise.  
In your Son's baptism at the Jordan  
we see your creative and liberating purpose at work  
amid our human flaws and failures,  
and we hear anew with hope the promise of your voice.  
In our own baptism you number us among your saints,  
created and redeemed for your glory.  
Through baptism you bury us in death with Christ  
yet raise us to new life with him for ever.

And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels and archangels,  
and all the company of heaven,  
singing the hymn of your unending praise.

*All*      **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.**

*Presider*      Blessing God, who sent down your Holy Spirit  
like a dove upon your Beloved,  
send your Spirit among us now to sanctify us by your grace.  
By the power of that same Spirit, make these gifts of bread and wine  
be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;  
who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,  
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,  
"Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me."  
After supper he took the cup.  
Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
"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.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

*People*      **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

*Presider*      Father of glory, you have opened your heaven and come among us.  
Be close to those who ache for your liberating power  
in the midst of travails and seek your open heaven.  
Visit all who need the healing, forgiving, peacemaking, and restoring  
touch of your Spirit and look for your kingdom to come.  
Bless all who long to be called beloved,  
by sibling or parent or spouse or friend or child,  
and any who are searching for the love that only you can bring,

until all stand in your presence, and sing your name,  
and are enfolded in your embrace,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

*All* **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 BREAD

*The bread is broken. Silence is kept.*

### Fraction Anthem

*Presider* Alleluia! Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed for us.

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

### The Invitation

*From a sermon of St. Augustine*

*Presider* Behold what you are.

*People* **May we become what we receive.**

## THE COMMUNION

### THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*All* **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.

## THE BLESSING

HYMN

“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”

DEO GRACIAS



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing  
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his



thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of  
 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions  
 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and



God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.  
 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.

## SENT FORTH TO THE WORLD

THE DISMISSAL

*After the dismissal, the people respond* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

POSTLUDE

Fugue in c minor (BWV 549b)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

## **How do we deal with difficult Bible passages when we encounter them?**

How do we deal with passages which historically have been used by others to vilify groups of people—passages that may seem to condone exclusion or condemnation of groups we may perceive as “other than us”? Everyone looks at scripture through a lens of some kind—a lens which will subsequently help shape the way they approach a given passage and ultimately interpret it.

We use the Baptismal Covenant as our lens, specifically “to seek and serve Christ in all persons,” and “to strive for justice and peace among all people.” (See the *Book of Common Prayer*, p. 304.) Through the Covenant, we understand how we are called to follow Christ and approach the difficult biblical passages with this knowledge in mind.

## **Why use incense in worship?**

Incense has a long history in Christianity, Judaism and other religions. It adds our noses to the multi-sensory experience of worship. The psalmist expresses the symbolism of incense and prayer: “Let my prayer rise like incense before you; the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.”

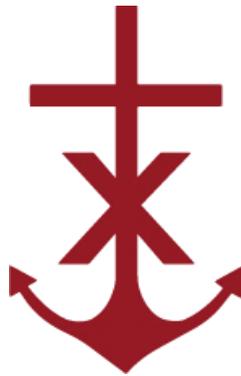
The clouds of incense represent cleansing and purification. The sweet smell suggests Christ's righteousness that covers sin. In some traditions, incense is used to honor holy things and holy people (the gathered people, that is, the body of Christ). The altar/table, the bread and wine, the ministers and the assembly may be “censed” as a way of showing their importance in the liturgy. Incense adds a festive accompaniment to processions, creating “holy clouds” and “holy smells” in the air.

The sweet smell of incense is a doorway to the holy in the same way that beautiful music, flowers, stained glass, or a room/building can lead us to ponder the mystery of God's presence. Incense in worship is an ancient practice that connects us to the Church around the world and through the ages.

## **Acknowledgements**

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise,” Text: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885), alt. Tune: SALZBURG, melody Jakob Hintze (1622-1702). Psalm 29: refrain setting by Robert Wetzler. “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High,” Text: Latin, 15<sup>th</sup> cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Tune: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad melody, Trinity College MS., 15<sup>th</sup> cent. Scripture texts are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Music reprinted under OneLicense.net, license # A-720489.

*Welcome to the transformative power  
of Christ's love;  
if you're here, you belong!*



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