

# The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ

January 8, 2023  
10:00 AM



St. John's Episcopal Church  
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*A warm welcome to all who come to worship at St. John's this day. We are glad you are here! If you are visiting with us, we would like to get to know you better, so please fill out a visitor's card available from an usher or on the ushers table at the rear in the narthex.*

## Prelude

## The Word of God BCP Page 355

*If able, please stand.*

**Hymn 124 What star is this, with beams so bright**

*Puer nobis*

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

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

Celebrant 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.

**People Amen.**

## Hymn S280 Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## The Collect of the Day BCP Page 214

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

*The people are seated.*

## The Lessons

### A Reading from Isaiah 60:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. <sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. <sup>6</sup>A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

LEM The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 72** *All sing antiphon as indicated.*

### Antiphon



All na-tions shall be - hold the won-ders God hath done.

<sup>1</sup>Give the King your justice, O God, \* and your righteousness to the King's Son; <sup>2</sup>That he may rule your people righteously \* and the poor with justice; <sup>3</sup>That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \* and the little hills bring righteousness. **Antiphon**

<sup>4</sup>He shall defend the needy among the people; \* he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor. <sup>5</sup>He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \* from one generation to another. <sup>6</sup>He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \* like showers that water the earth. <sup>7</sup>In his time shall the righteous flourish; \* there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. **Antiphon**

<sup>10</sup>The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \* and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts. <sup>11</sup>All kings shall bow down before him, \* and all the nations do him service. **Antiphon**

<sup>12</sup>For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \* and the oppressed who has no helper. <sup>13</sup>He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \* he shall preserve the lives of the needy. <sup>14</sup>He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \* and dear shall their blood be in his sight. **Antiphon**

### **Second Reading from Ephesians 3:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. <sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

LEM            The Word of the Lord.

People        **Thanks be to God.**

*If able, please stand.*

### **Hymn 128    We Three Kings**

*Three Kings of Orient*

*Stanza 1 – Congregation and Choir*

*Stanza 2-4 Choir*

*All sing refrain after each verse*

*During the hymn, the Gospel book is brought into the midst of the people.*

### **The Gospel**

Celebrant    The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 2: 1-12

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

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

<sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.”” <sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Celebrant      The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The people are seated.*

## **Hymn 128    We Three Kings**

*Three Kings of Orient*

*All sing Stanza 5 and refrain*

## **A Time with Children**

### **The Sermon**

*If able, please stand.*

### **The Nicene Creed    BCP Page 358**

**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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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 of the People**

LEM              Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. We pray as pilgrims, “Lead us to your presence; Almighty God, grant to your Church wisdom. Work through us that we might lead many to the knowledge and love of you. Lead us to your presence;

**People      Let us see your glory.**

LEM Defend the needy, Lord Christ. Rescue the poor and thwart all the ways of oppression. Lead us to your presence;

**People** **Let us see your glory.**

LEM The heavens reveal your wonders, O God. Give us eyes to see, hearts to follow, and lives that pay you homage. Lead us to your presence;

**People** **Let us see your glory.**

LEM Bless all students as they return to school and university. May they find wisdom as well as knowledge; give them a hunger for your truth. Lead us to your presence;

**People** **Let us see your glory.**

LEM Loving God, you are the help of the helpless and the deliverer of those in distress: bless and heal all those in need. Lead us to your presence;

**People** **Let us see your glory.**

LEM Great redeemer, you have guided us to your presence; you have shown us your glory. Grant us, that we might at last, see you face to face. Lead us to your presence;

**People** **Let us see your glory.**

LEM Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. John's. Be with us as we welcome the next rector for our church. Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us. Lead us to your presence;

**People** **Let us see your glory.**

LEM Please offer your prayers of intercession and thanksgiving.

Officiant Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People** **Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin and Absolution** BCP Page 360

*If able, please kneel or stand.*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**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.**

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.

**People** **Amen.**

*If able, please stand.*

## **The Peace**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*The people are seated.*

## **Announcements**

## Vestry Installation

JoAnn Maher, Thomas Markwood, Andrew McCauley and Valerie Paredes

## Daughters of the King Admission

Elizabeth McCauley, Mary Smith and Tanya Scott (reinstated)

## Hymn 494 Crown him with many crowns (verses 1,2,5)

*Diademata*

# The Holy Communion

BCP Page 361

*When the elements and the offering plates are brought forward, if able please stand. After they are on the altar, please be seated.*

## Offertory Anthem

### Doxology Hymn 380 (verse 3)

*Old 100<sup>th</sup>*

*If able, please stand.*

**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.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

**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.**

**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 you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

## People and Celebrant

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly — Lord God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and earth are  
4 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
8 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*If able, please kneel or stand.*

**Celebrant** Holy and precious 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:

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

**Celebrant** 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.

**People** **Amen.**

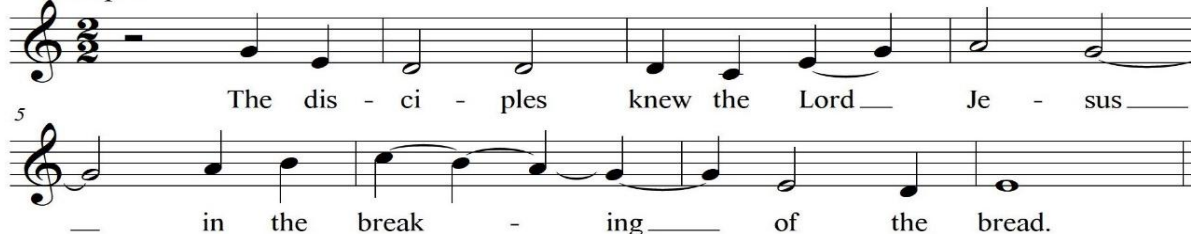
### The Lord's Prayer BCP Page 364

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

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

### The Breaking of the Bread and Fraction Anthem *Sung first by the choir, then by all.*

*Antiphon*



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus  
in the break - ing of the bread.

### Verses:

1. The bread which we break, Alleluia, is the communion of the Body of Christ.
2. One body are we, Alleluia, for though many we share one bread.

## **The Communion**

*The people are seated.*

*We offer Communion to all who are baptized regardless of church tradition. We have wafers for those allergic to gluten, wheat, dairy and corn. Simply ask the celebrant who gives the bread. Those who wish to have their wafer dipped in the wine, please ask the celebrant. Those not receiving Communion are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing; please cross your chest with your arms.*

## **Post-Communion Prayer** BCP Page 365/366

*If able, please kneel or stand.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

**People** Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of you Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of you Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*If able, please stand.*

## **The Blessing**

**Hymn 473 Lift high the cross**

*Crucifer*

## **The Dismissal**

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

## **The Postlude**

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