

Welcome to St. John's Church



The First Sunday After The Epiphany: Feast of The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

*January 9, 2022
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.*

WELCOME TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP!

The health and safety of the most vulnerable in our congregation and community remains the highest concern to St. John's. Remember that many in our communities are not vaccinated; all of those under 5 years old, those who are immuno-compromised, and those who have chosen not to be vaccinated for other reasons. While many are now vaccinated, remember that even a small percentage of those vaccinated can contract the corona virus, and while their symptoms may be milder, they can also spread the virus to loved ones and friends back home. We have not yet reached herd immunity as a nation. So please remain vigilant in safety protocols, mindful of the risk in our community, masked indoors, social distancing and getting vaccinated if possible. And be assured that we will continue to 'live stream' our worship to both our St. John's YouTube Page and our St. John's Facebook page.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*The Liturgy for the Proclamation of the Word of God
and Celebration of the Holy Communion*

St. John's asks everyone to wear masks inside the church, whether vaccinated or not.

Choral Prelude *Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam*

Johann Hermann Schein (1586-1630)

*Translation: Christ our Lord to the Jordan came,
For thus His Father willed it,
John's baptism for Himself to claim,
And thus the Son fulfilled it.
Thereby He drew for us a bath,
To wash us of transgression,
And drowned He also bitter death,
Through His own blood and passion;
A new life thus availeth.*

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

Opening Hymn # 121 *Christ, When For Us You Were Baptized*

- 1 Christ, when for us you were baptized,
God's Spirit on you came,
as peaceful as a dove and yet
as urgent as a flame.*
- 2 God called you his belovèd Son,
called you his servant true,
sent you his kingdom to proclaim,
his holy will to do.*
- 3 Straightway and steadfast until death
you then obeyed his call
freely as Son of Man to serve
and give your life for all.*
- 4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord,
your cross on us be signed,
that, likewise in God's service we
may perfect freedom find.*

The Word of God

The people standing, the Celebrant may say

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

The Celebrant says

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 Trisagion S # 102 (*sung three times*)

***Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.***

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

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 Lessons

INTRODUCTION: In the reading from the Hebrew Bible, the Jewish people have complained that God has deserted his people in the destruction of Jerusalem and in their exile. God responds, through the prophet Isaiah, "Do not fear, I am with you."

A Reading from the Book of the prophet 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."

After each Reading, the Reader may say
The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 29 *choir sings the Psalm in Anglican chant by Kathryn Rose (b. 1980)*

- 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.

INTRODUCTION: In this New Testament reading, Philip, one of the seven chosen deacons to ensure the welfare of widows and orphans, has proclaimed the good news in Samaria. Many have listened to what he has to say; some have been healed. Many have been baptized.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (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.

*After each Reading, the Reader may say
The Word of the Lord.*

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn # 134 O Light Of Light, Love Given Birth

*1 O Light of Light, Love given birth;
 Jesus, Redeemer of the earth:
 more bright than day your face did show,
 your raiment whiter than the snow.*

*2 Two prophets, who had faith to see,
 with your elect found company;
 the heavens above your glory named,
 your Father's voice his Son proclaimed.*

3 *May all who seek to praise aright
through purer lives show forth your light.
To you, the King of glory, now
all faithful hearts adoring bow.*

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

INTRODUCTION: In our Gospel reading, some expected that John the Baptist might be the Messiah, but he points to a yet mightier one to come.

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St. 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."

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, Priest-in-Charge

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

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

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;

***He was conceived by 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 the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
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. Amen.*

The Prayers of the People

Through Christ we are anointed with the Holy Spirit in baptism. May the same Spirit inspire us now as we offer our prayers, responding, “Hear us, God of Glory.”

+ After an overflowing gift of generosity at Christmastide, may we reflect God’s continued abundant care for all of creation, lifting others out of systemic poverty, increasing the mission work of our churches to the poor and lowly, and reaping the joy of a charitable and generous life; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

+ For the courage to walk through the turbulent waters of life during this terrible pandemic, knowing that in our baptism we died with Christ in darkness and joined him in the risen light of life; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

+ For all the men and women who exercise authority as leaders of the nations of the world, that they will faithfully establish mercy and justice on earth, and carry the torch of freedom and peace into all their deliberations; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

+ For the Christian Church throughout the world, that it may bear witness to Jesus’ forgiveness and love, offering to those outside its walls the light that illumines all darkness and releases humanity from the grip of sin; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

+ For all the sick and suffering, that they may know that God is with them, remembering especially Bob Futh, Kathy Coe, Janet Chenery, Ted Bent, and Chris Smith; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

+ That we may know our identity through the voice of God, who claims us as his beloved sons and daughters, and invites us to share in his earthly mission and ministry; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

+ In thanksgiving for our worship together, both in-person and online, as a foretaste of that heavenly banquet upon which the faithful community continually feasts; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

In companionship with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist, and all the saints whose constant intercession strengthens our faith, let us pause now so that all can add their own petitions and prayers, either silently in our hearts or aloud in our midst.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which sometimes infect our hearts; break down the walls that often separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and our confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all peoples, nations, races, and tongues may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and 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.***

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences of Scripture.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Anthem *The White Dove* Derek Healey (1936-)

*The White Dove hovered in the still, clear air, with such celestial beauty,
While God's dear Son stood in the water cool. Alleluia.
The White Dove hovered in the still clear air, with such ethereal beauty,
And there did John baptize our Lord Jesu. Alleluia.
The Dove descended through the still, clear air with such transcendent beauty,
And rested on our Savior, Lord Jesu. Alleluia!*

The Great Thanksgiving

The Celebrant faces the congregation and sings or says

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 God.

People ***It is right to give God 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. 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:

Sanctus *Communion Service in C Minor* Charles Wood (1866-1926)

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the consecration prayer

Then the Celebrant continues

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;***

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 the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, our Patron, 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.**

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. Then may be sung or said

*Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Agnus Dei *Communion Service in C Minor* Charles Wood (1866-1926)

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

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.**

*All baptized Christians of all ages and denominations are welcome to receive
Communion in this place. This is God's house and the Lord's table, not ours*

*Communion will be distributed in one kind only, the bread, and will be received in the pews,
as the Celebrant moves along to share. If an attendee does not wish to receive Communion,
they need only to cross their hands over their chest so to signify. Others may receive as they
wish, standing, kneeling, or seated. Please wait until the Celebrant has passed before
removing your masks and consuming the bread.*

Communion Hymn # 316 *This Is The Hour Of Banquet And Of Song*

***1 This is the hour of banquet and of song;
this is the heavenly table spread for me;
here let me feast, and feasting, still prolong
the brief, bright hour of fellowship with thee.***

- 2** *Too soon we rise; we go our several ways;
the feast, though not the love, is past and gone,
the Bread and Wine consumed: yet all our days
thou still art here with us-our Shield and Sun.*
- 3** *Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
yet, passing, points to the glad feast above,
giving us foretaste of the festal joy,
the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.*

for online worshippers, and for those who for other reasons choose not to receive, here is the Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer our praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest desire that we may always be united to you. And since we are not now receiving you physically, we ask you to come into our hearts spiritually. We embrace you with all the affections of our souls, confident that nothing can ever separate us from the love God, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*After Communion, the Celebrant says
Let us pray.*

The People may join in saying this prayer

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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Closing Hymn # 135 *Songs Of Thankfulness And Praise*

- 1** *Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,
manifested by the star*

*to the sages from afar;
branch of royal David's stem
in thy birth at Bethlehem;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.*

*2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
and at Cana, wedding-guest,
in thy Godhead manifest;
manifest in power divine,
changing water into wine;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.*

*3 Manifest in making whole
palsied limbs and fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight,
quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will,
ever bringing good from ill;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.*

*4 Manifest on mountain height,
shining in resplendent light,
where disciples filled with awe
thy transfigured glory saw.
When from there thou leddest them
steadfast to Jerusalem,
cross and Easter Day attest
God in man made manifest.*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

Organ Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Celebrant*

Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*

John Magee, *8:00 Reader*

Hunter Brown, *10:00 Reader*

Joseph Claro, *Veejay (VJ)*

MB Witt: *Altar Guild*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**78 Green Hill Road
Washington, CT 06793**

Staff

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Priest-in-Charge*
Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*
Dawn Rosiello, *Parish Administrator*
Joan Burgess, *Foundation Administrator*

Vestry

David Gillespie, Susan McFeely, *Wardens*
Joan M. Beattie, *Clerk*
Laura Daly, *Clerk Pro-Temp*
Larry Littlefield, *Treasurer*
Hunter Brown, *Assistant Treasurer*
Class of 2021
Robert Futh, Larry Littlefield, MB Witt
Class of 2022
Sara Coles, Mary Davis, Andris Kalnins
Class of 2023
Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Joseph Claro

Diocesan Delegates: Sara Coles, MB Witt.

Parish Office Telephone: (860) 868-2527

Parish Office Hours: *Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*

St. John's Email: stjohnschurch@snet.net

St. John's Website: <http://stjohnswashington.com/>

St. John's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchWashingtonCT>

St. John's YouTube Page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqlRss4BT8VwFul4qg>