

Welcome to St. John's Church



'The Baptism of Christ,' Leonardi da Vinci 1745

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

*January 12, 2025
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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 YouTube Page:

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

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

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

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 bap - tized, God's Spi - rit on you came,
2 God called you his be - lov - ed Son, called you his ser - vant true,
3 Straight - way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed his call
4 Bap - tize us with your Spi - rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,

as peace - ful as a dove and yet as ur - gent as a flame.
sent you his king - dom to pro - claim, his ho - ly will to do.
free - ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.
that, like - wise in God's ser - vice we may per - fect free - dom find.

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People ***Glory to God for ever and ever.***

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 Gloria S# 280

Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a-lone are the Lord, 7. you a-lone are the Most
 High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the
 glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

God 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 Readings

INTRODUCTION: In this reading from the Hebrew Scriptures, the prophet Isaiah assures Israel that they are God's chosen people, who are not to fear; God will save them.

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."

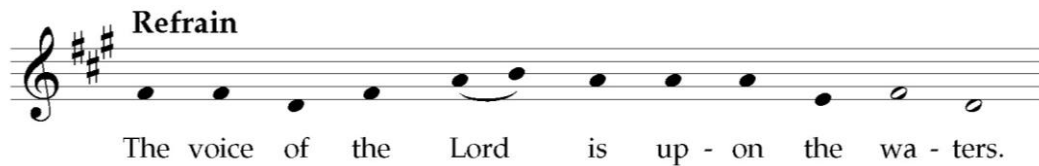
The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

the congregation is invited to join in the Refrain.



- 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 we hear of the spread of the early church as converts are received from among the Samaritans.

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..

The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Gradual Hymn # 116 *I Come, The Great Redeemer Cries*

1 "I come," the great Re - deem - er cries, "to do thy will, O Lord!"
2 "Thus it be - comes us to ful - fill all right - eous - ness," he said.
3 Hark, a glad voice! The Fa - ther speaks from heaven's ex - alt - ed height:
4 The Sa - vior Je - sus, well - be - loved! His Name we will pro - fess,
5 No more we'll count our - selves our own but his in bonds of love.

1 At Jor - dan's stream, be - hold! He seals the sure pro - phet - ic word.
2 Then, faith - ful to the Lord's com - mands, through Jor - dan's flood was led.
3 "This is my Son, my well - be - loved, in whom I take de - light."
4 like him de - sir - ous to ful - fill God's will in right - eous - ness.
5 Oh, may such bonds for ev - er draw our souls to things a - bove!

INTRODUCTION: The Gospel this morning is the story of Jesus' baptism.

**The Holy Gospel of our Savior 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, Rector

The Nicene Creed

*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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.*

*the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;*

*he ascended into heaven
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

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

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the prayers

+ For an overflowing gift of generosity, that we may reflect God’s abundant care for all of creation, lifting others out of systemic poverty, increasing the mission work of our churches, and reaping the joy of a philanthropic life; let us pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

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

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ For Joe, our President, and Donald, our President-elect, and all who exercise authority in the nations of the world, that they will faithfully establish justice on earth, and carry the torch of freedom and peace into all their deliberations; let us pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ For the Church, 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, O 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; let us pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ In thanksgiving for the Body and Blood of Christ, a foretaste of that heavenly banquet upon which the faithful departed continually feast; let us pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

In companionship with the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints whose constant intercession strengthens our faith, let us continue our prayers either silently in our hearts, or aloud in our midst.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our

divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the confession

*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 Priest, stands and says

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, but also time for true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of God 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-)

Text:

*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 Saviour, Lord Jesu. Alleluia!

The Great Thanksgiving

God 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 our thanks and praise.***

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing
and fed us with your constant love;
you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ
and knit us into one body.

Through your Spirit, you replenish us
and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels
and with the faithful of every generation,
we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus *Messa da Capella* Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes 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

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of the universe and giver of life.

You formed us in your own image
and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care
that we might be your faithful stewards
and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image
in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation,
abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us,
and prepared the way of salvation for all people.
Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery,
sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word,
made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family,
and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross,
he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.
On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his friends,
and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."
As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all
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.

Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.
By your Holy Spirit may they be for us
the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Grant that we who share these gifts
may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ's Body in the world.
Bring us into the everlasting heritage
of your daughters and sons,

that with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, our Patron,
and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and 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.*

Fraction Anthem S # 154

Christ Our Passover

Hurd

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Agnus Dei *Messa da Capella*

Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

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

INSTRUCTIONS: *Those wishing to receive Communion should come forward to the Altar rail as directed. Please speak with an Usher if you need to receive Communion in the pew. The consecrated host will be placed in the hands or upon the tongue of the recipient, as desired. If one wishes intinction, then either the chalice bearer or the communicant may take the host and dip it in the wine. Otherwise, communicants may sip from the chalice, assisting by taking hold of its base. If the communicant does not wish to receive the wine, one can simply cross their arms across their chest after receiving the bread so to indicate.*

Communion Hymn # 316 *This is the Hour of Banquet and of Song*



1 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
2 Too soon we rise; we go our sev - eral ways;
3 Feast af - ter feast thus comes and pass - es by,



this is the heaven - ly ta - ble spread for me;
the feast, though not the love, is past and gone,
yet, pass - ing, points to the glad feast a - bove,



here let me feast, and feast - ing, still pro - long the
the Bread and Wine con - sumed: yet all our days thou
giv - ing us fore - taste of the fes - tal joy, the



brief, bright hour of fel - low - ship with thee.
still art here with us— our Shield and Sun.
Lamb's great mar - riage feast of bliss and love.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

*Loving God,
 we give you thanks
 for restoring us in your image
 and nourishing us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
 Now send us forth
 a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
 that we may proclaim your love to the world
 and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.*

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn # 135

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Jes - us, 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;
 4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen - dent light,

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;
 where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;
 man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;
 When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,

an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 cross and Eas - ter Day at - test God in man made man - i - fest.

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman: *Celebrant & Preacher*

Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*

John Magee: *8:00 Reader*

Rebecca Bent: *10:00 Reader*

MB Witt: *Chalicer*

Fr. Geoff: *VeeJay*

MB Witt, Ginny Renolds: *Altar Guild*

Bob Futh, Natalie Dyer: *Ushers/Greeters*

Rebecca Bent: *Coffee Hour*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry

Mary Davis, Worth Bracken: *Wardens*

David Gillespie: *Treasurer*

Andris Kalnins: *Assistant Treasurer*

Justin Ormand: *Clerk*

Class of 2024

Rebecca Bent, Michael Del Nin, Susan McFeely

Class of 2025

MB Witt, Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins

Class of 2026

Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Justin Ormand

Diocesan Delegates: Sara Coles, MB Witt

Laura Daly: **Alternate**



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

St. John's Episcopal Church

Friday, January 17th, 2025

11:30-5:30

On behalf of the Washington Council of Congregations, St. John's will be hosting a Blood Drive in January. The Red Cross will soon be taking appointments for that event. To make an appointment, go online:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>

