



The First Sunday after the Epiphany The Baptism of our Lord

January 12, 2025

10:15 a.m.



Welcome to Church of the Ascension

Church of the Ascension provides opportunities to
Connect with God and one another,
Grow in faith and understanding, and
Serve the Lord, one another, and the world around us.

We are an active community of faith committed to welcoming all
and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Christ-centered + Spirit-filled + Mission-minded


The Liturgy of the Word of God

✠ *Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

✠ Processional Hymn

"Baptized in Water"



1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ, our King; heirs of sal - va - tion,
tomb with Christ, our King; one with his ris - ing,
sign of Christ, our King; born of one Fa - ther,



trust - ing his prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
freed and for - giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
we are his chil - dren, joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

✠ Greetings and Opening Acclamation

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

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.**

✠ Hymn of Praise (Gloria)

Hymnal #S280

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 the 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

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 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 First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

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. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29

- 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 8:14-17

A Reading from the Book of Acts

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. **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Chapel

Children ages 3 – 8 and their Leaders exit to “Children’s Chapel,” returning at the Peace.

✠ Sequence Hymn “Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the Living God fall fresh on me. Spirit of the Living God fall fresh on me
Melt me mold me fill me use me. Spirit of the Living God fall fresh on me

CCLI Song # 23488 | Daniel Iverson

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The Holy Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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. "

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

✠ Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers ? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? **I will, with God's help.**

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.**

✠ Prayers of the People

Celebrant: As we celebrate the baptism of Christ, let us offer prayers to Jesus the Beloved Son, in whose name we have been baptized.

For the Church, especially for Sean our Presiding Bishop and Carrie our bishop, that our lives may be empowered by the Spirit to follow where God leads us.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For this Parish Family, that we who are baptized may open our hearts to God's presence in surprising places. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For a new dawning of peace and reconciliation, that wars and violence may cease everywhere, that those who strive for peace may not tire, and that God will open new pathways for all who are at odds to recognize the good in one another.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who suffer from the cold, those affected by the fires in California, those who lack the physical and financial resources they need, those who are in need of a shepherd's care, and those who suffer, especially Sherry, Jenny, Molly, Bill, Bob, Ernest, Rich, Kadaj, Mary, Rick, Kathy, Kevin, (*pause*) that they may hear God's affirmation that they are beloved.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, especially Betsy, Alison, Ken and Deb, that they may walk in your presence. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For President James Carter and those who have died, that they may receive the fulfillment of that blessed hope bestowed in baptism. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary the God-bearer, John the Baptist and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord our God.

Celebrant: Gracious and loving God, you have anointed your people with the waters of Baptism and made us your beloved children. Hear our prayers and fill us with your Spirit that we may share the work of your Son, bringing blessing and light to all in the world, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

✠ The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer

O God, our times are in your hands: look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace. Send your blessings upon them, that their homes may be a haven of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements



The Celebration of the Holy Communion

Thank you for your financial support! To make an online offering, please scan the QR code.

Offertory

“All Who Are Thirsty”

All who are thirsty, All who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep we sing

Holy Spirit come. Holy Spirit come.
Holy Spirit come. Holy Spirit come.

As deep cries out to deep, As deep cries out to
deep. As deep cries out to deep we sing

Come Lord Jesus come. Come Lord Jesus come.
Come Lord Jesus come. Come Lord Jesus come.

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✦ Presentation Hymn “What Star Is This?” (Hymn #124) verse 5 & Doxology

1. To God, the Father, heavenly Light, to Christ, revealed in earthly night, to God the Holy Ghost we raise our equal and unending praise.
2. 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: Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer 2

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

✦ Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord”

Hymnal #S125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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:



Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Mary, Joseph, John, and all your saints, from every tribe, language, people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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.

The Great "AMEN"

Setting: Mass of Creation



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 Bread

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

Fraction Anthem

“Jesus Lamb of God”

Je - sus, Lamb of God; You take a - way the sin of the
 world. Have mer - cy on us.
 Je - sus, Lamb of God; You take a - way the
 sin of the world. Grant us your - peace.

Chords: Am7, D, G/B, Am7, D, G/B, Em, Am7, Cm7, F, Bb/D, Cm7, F, Bb/D, Gm, Cm7, F, D, G, C, Dsus4, D, G/B, C, Ab, F, Bb, Eb, F sus4, F, Bb/D, Eb, F, C/E, Eb/G, Am7, D, G/B, Am7, D, Cm7, F, Bb/D, Cm7, F.

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. **Amen.**

The Communion of the People

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When directed by an Usher, please come forward to receive Holy Communion. If you would prefer a blessing, please indicate by crossing your arms over your chest.

Communion Music

“Here I Am To Worship”

1. Light of the world you stepped down into
 darkness. Opened my eyes let me see
 Beauty that made this heart adore You
 Hope of a life spent with You
 Chorus

2. King of all days oh so highly exalted
 Glorious in heaven above
 Humbly You came to the earth You created
 All for love's sake became poor
 Chorus

Chorus:

So here I am to worship. Here I am to bow down.
 Here I am to say that You're my God.
 You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
 altogether wonderful to me

And I'll never know how much it cost
 To see my sin upon that cross
 And I'll never know how much it cost
 To see my sin upon that cross

“The Lord Is My Light”

J. Berthier

Theme A



The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in



God I trust, in God I trust. The

Theme B



The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in



God I trust, in God I trust. The

✠ Post Communion Prayer

From Enriching Our Worship

Let us pray.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Sending of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant: With whom will you share this communion? *Lay Eucharistic Visitors* say the names of those that they will visit.

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

The Blessing

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world. And the blessing of God and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

“Hail to the Lord's Anointed”

Hymnal #616

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.
2. He comes with succor speedy
to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

3. He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.
5. O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest;
from age to age more glorious,
all blessing and all blest;
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his Name shall stand for ever,
his changeless Name of Love.

Words: James Montgomery | Music: *Es Flog Ein Kleins Waldvögelein*

✠ The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

Worship Assistants	January 12	January 19
Organist	Mary Butler	Donna Parker
Musicians	Adult Ensemble	Praise Ensemble
Ushers	Bryan Lance, <i>1 needed</i>	David Horn
Acolyte	Ellen Anderson	Raymond Lui
Lector	Buck Lyon-Vaiden	Roberta Gore
Chalicians	Kim Tompkins, Kat Dittrich, Betsy Reinders, <i>1 needed</i>	Kim Tompkins, Kat Dittrich, Betsy Reinders, Sandy White
Worship Slides	Roberta Gore	Emelia Howe
Audio Visual	Travis Collins	Gabriel Hoff

January Altar Guild: Team 5

Bobbie Gooding Susan Considine Debbie Linard Liz Lowe Merle Martin

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Frank and Beverly Baker.

The Bread and Wine are given to the glory of God by Tom and Sharon Schwartz, in celebration of granddaughter, Alison Schwartz's birthday.

Attendance - January 5:

8:00 am - 25 10:15 am In-person - 62 YouTube - 9 Facebook - 0 **Total: 96**

Readings for Next Sunday: Second Sunday after the Epiphany - C

Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11

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The Reverend Pierre-Henry Buisson, Rector

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