

Go forth and scatter the darkness

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD!

Each year on this First Sunday after the Epiphany, we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord.

This Feast is one of four occasions in the year designated by the Prayer Book as a baptismal day. (The other three are Easter, Pentecost, and All Saints' Day.) Each of the four days has its particular theme, which enhances our understanding of one aspect of the primary Christian sacrament, Holy Baptism.

Jesus' baptism was for all the Gospel writers and in the apostolic preaching of the Gospel, the event that initiated the redemptive ministry of the Messiah. It was in that event that Jesus was revealed as Messiah (Christ). God designated him as the beloved Son and he was anointed by the Holy Spirit. We renew our baptismal vows today in the context of this theme.

In Holy Baptism, each Christian is adopted as the child of God. Each Christian becomes a "messianic" person, anointed by the Holy Spirit. We do not simply become passive recipients of the benefits of Christ; we are "christed" or christened. We become sharers in his life and in his redemptive ministry.

COLORS

For this feast we keep the color white that we began using on Chirstmas. It is the color of celebration, joy, and peace in the western world. With the color gold, white symbolizes the greatest work of God in the world, specifically His incarnation into this world at Christmas, and His triumph over death and evil at Easter. White is the color used for funerals, as we celebrate the passage of another soul into the Kingdom of God. Likewise, it is the color of baptisms and weddings which is why we use it on this Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

SEATING

Our chairs face forward as we direct our praise to God on this day of celebration.

BAPTISMAL FONT

The baptismal bowl is in place and full of water which we will use to remind ourselves of our baptismal call during this liturgy.

PRELUDE SONG OF JOY ARR JOEL RANEY

H 490

WELCOME

I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT **GATHERING HYMN** want walk as child the light. Ι want to the bright - ness of God. see_ look - ing Christ. 3 ľm for_ the com - ing of want to fol low Je sus. Ι want look Je to at sus. want to be with Je sus. God The give the world. the light to setstars Clear sun of right - eous - ness, shine on my path, and When with pa - tience the we have run race, we life. of is Je sus. star my show me the the Fa ther. way to shall of know the joy. Je sus. Refrain The there is dark - ness all. In him no at night and the day are both like. The a rit.Lamb is the light of the ci ty of God. a tempo Shine in heart, Lord Je my sus.

Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934). Copyright © 1970, 1975, Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: Houston, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934).

OPENING ACCLAMATIONS Stand

Presider Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer and Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

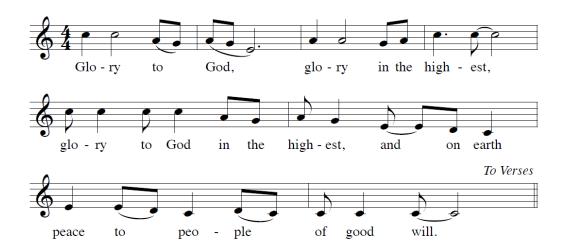
Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are

hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may

truly love you, and worthily praise your holy name; through our Savior Jesus Christ.

People Amen.

GLORIA



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Ageless One, 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

Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting

People Amen.

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES Seated

THE FIRST LESSON

Reader A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;

I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;

a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,

who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:

I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind,

to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;

before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



- 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. ANTIPHON
- 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; ANTIPHON
- 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. ANTIPHON
- 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!" ANTIPHON
- The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- The Lord shall give strength to his people;
 the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. ANTIPHON

THE SECOND LESSON

Reader

A reading from the book of Acts.

10:34-43

Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

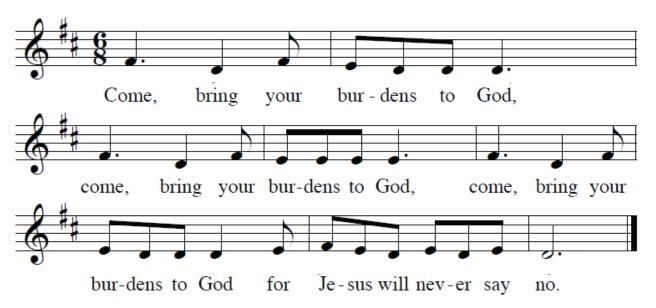
People

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ANTIPHON Stand

COME BRING YOUR BURDENS TO GOD

Sung twice.



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THE GOSPEL

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. 3:13-17

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus

answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all

righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is

my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

GOSPEL ANTIPHON

COME BRING YOUR BURDENS TO GOD

Sung once. See previous page for music and lyrics.

SERMON

THE REV. LAURIE ANZILOTTI

After the sermon, silence is kept for a time.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Presider My siblings in Christ, through the Paschal mystery, we are buried with Christ by Baptism

into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, on this feast of the Baptism of our Lord, to renew the sacred promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced evil and promised to serve God faithfully through God's holy

Church.

Presider Do you trust in God?

People I believe in God, creator of heaven and earth.

Presider Do you trust 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 trust 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

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Presider How will you connect to Christ in community?

People With God's help I will continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the

breaking of bread, and in the prayers.

Presider How will you resist evil and turn to Christ?

People With God's help I will persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever I fall into sin, repent

and return to the Lord.

Presider How will you show Christ in your life?

People With God's help I will proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.

Presider How will you seek and serve Christ in your life?

People With God's help I will seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving my neighbor as

myself.

Presider How will you work for the reign of God?

People With God's help I will strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the

dignity of every human being.

Presider How will you preserve God's creation?

People With God's help I will cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect and restore the

beauty and integrity of all creation.

Presider May Almighty God, the Eternal, 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 grace, in Christ

Jesus our Lord.

People Amen.

The Presider sprinkles the people with holy water as a reminder of their baptism.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Presider: Merciful God, you know our every need before we ask. In your loving presence, we lift our

prayers to you saying; "Lord, in your mercy; hear our prayer."

After each prayer, all say, "Hear our prayer."

Presider: Holy One, we bring our prayers to you, confident that you hear them; sure that you know

even those prayers for which we do not yet have words. And all of these come to you

through your Child, Jesus Christ, and the living Spirit that blows among us.

People: Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

We invite you to extend the peace of God to those in the congregation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Seated

BIRTHDAY BLESSING

Presider Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever

they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may your peace which passes

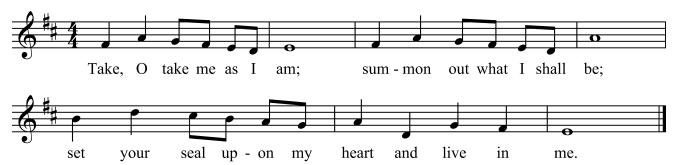
understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

We return with thanksgiving the gifts God has given us. This includes bread and wine of the earth and financial offerings from our labor.

Sing three times.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Stand

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 our thanks and praise.

Presider All thanks and praise

are yours at all times and in all places,

our true and loving God;

through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,

the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world

and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;

You brought forth all creatures of the earth

and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,

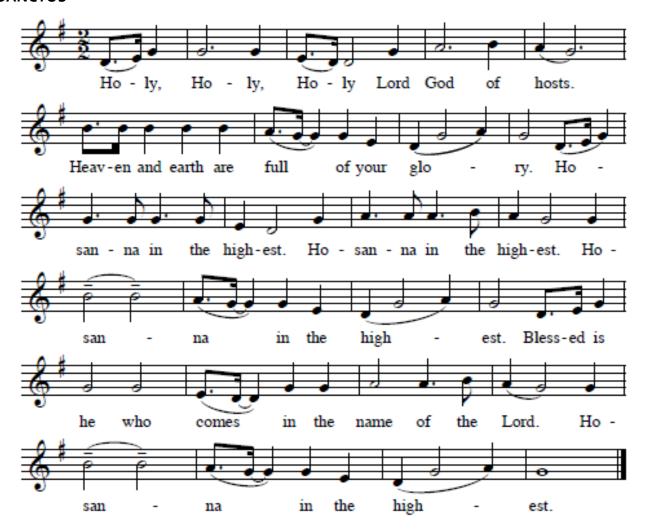
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;

And so as the morning stars sing your praises

we join the heavenly beings and all creation

as we shout with joy:

SANCTUS



Presider

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,
your Word has never been silent;
you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,
you delivered them from bondage
and led them to a land of promise.
Of your grace, you gave Jesus
to be human, to share our life,
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign
and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin,

brought us into your life,
reconciled us to you,
and restored us to the glory you intend for us.
We thank you that on the night before he died for us
Jesus took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
gave it to his friends and said:
"Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

People

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Presider

Send your Holy Spirit upon us

and upon these gifts of bread and wine

that they may be to us

the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,

may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,

and in the fullness of time gather us

with St. Francis, St. Clare, and all your people

into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,

by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator

in voices of unending praise.

AMEN





THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider 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,

for ever and ever. Amen.

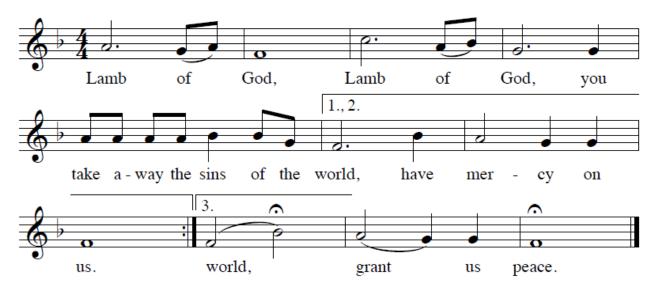
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

FRACTION ANTHEM



Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Our bread is gluten-, dairy- and nut-free. This Eucharistic table does not belong to the Episcopal Church or to St. Francis'. This is God's table, and all are welcome. In the Episcopal Church, we receive both the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Jesus. If you choose not to receive communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your heart to receive a blessing.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER Stand

After all have received communion the Presider says

Presider Let us pray.

People 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.

BLESSING

Presider May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the

Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord.

People Amen.

Presider May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the

Jordan, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth.

People Amen.

Presider May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,

transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

People Amen.

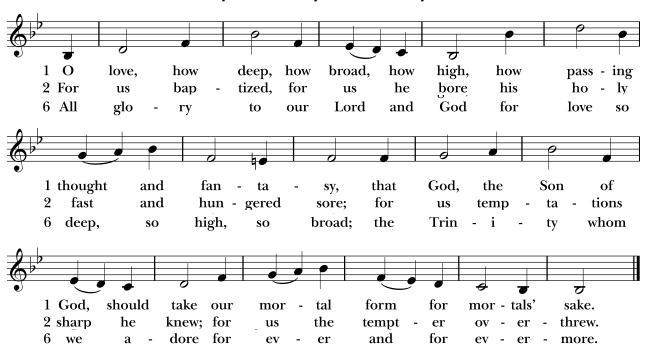
Presider And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you

and remain with you forever.

People Amen.

SENDING HYMN O LOVE, HOW DEEP, HOW BROAD, HOW HIGH

H 448



Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.; harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949).

DISMISSAL

Presider The Lord says, 'Go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations.' Go in peace to

love and serve the Lord.

People In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE FUGUE #3 CRAIG PENFIELD