

# First Sunday after the Epiphany

The Baptism of our Lord

January 10, 2021

Words of Welcome

Gathering Hymn: Brightest and Best

**Hymnal #118**

**2 Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining;  
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.**

**REFRAIN:**

**Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;  
star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

**3 Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,  
odours of Edom, and offerings divine,  
gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,  
myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?    REFRAIN**

**4 Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
vainly with gifts would his favour secure:  
richer by far is the heart's adoration,  
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.    REFRAIN**

## The Confession & Absolution

### *Officiant*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth God's praise, to hear the holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind for worship, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

*A substantial silence for reflection is kept.*

*Officiant* You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:  
Lord, have mercy.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Officiant* You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:  
Christ, have mercy.

*People* **Christ, have mercy.**

*Officiant* You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:  
Lord, have mercy.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Celebrant* The almighty and merciful God grant us pardon and remission of all our sins, renewal of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**  
Rise, O shine, for your light has come! For, look, darkness covers the earth, and gloom enshrouds the peoples; but the glory of the LORD has dawned upon us.

## Song of Praise

**Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you!**

*Ruth Cunningham, used by permission*

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*All* **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 First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

*Reader* A reading from the book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

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

Psalm 29:3-4, 9 - 11

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.**

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 Reading: Mark 1:1-11

*Reader* A reading from the gospel of Mark.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" ',

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

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

## The Baptismal Covenant

- Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?  
*People* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**
- Celebrant* Do you believe 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.**
- Celebrant* Do you believe 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, and the life everlasting.**
- Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?  
*People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?  
*People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?  
*People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?  
*People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?  
*People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Celebrant* O God of our ancestors, Ancient of Days, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon us your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised us to the new life of grace. Sustain us, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give us inquiring and

discerning hearts; the courage to will and to persevere; a spirit to know and to love you; and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Hymn: "When comes the time"

When comes the time, when comes the place  
Wherein the world's illusions fade,  
Then do we seek that Mystery,  
The Truth unknown, the Pow'r not made.

I come to plunge into the flood  
Of doubt and faith, boldly embrace  
The death of fear and vanity  
In waters charged with heav'nly grace.

For Israel traveled here before,  
Passed through the sea to freedom find,  
And Jesus bathed in Jordan's stream  
To show the way for humankind.

O God, the Source of all I am,  
The Hope with in, the Breath, the Fire,  
The saving, healing balm of Love,  
Possess my life, my self entire.

## The Prayers

*Celebrant* We now enter a time of prayer. You may wish to bow your head, open your hands, or prepare your body for prayer in some other way.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Now, let us pray as God's beloved children, using the prayer Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

Send prayer requests to to [prayers@stdunstans.com](mailto:prayers@stdunstans.com).

- Officiant* Let us continue in prayer. We will hold up our needs and blessings to God. You can speak your prayers out loud, type them into the Chat area, or hold them in your heart. As you are able, please hold others' prayer requests before God in your heart as well.  
Let us pray for all churches and their leaders, and for all God's people everywhere.  
*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*
- Officiant* Let us pray for all those in authority. In this season, we pray especially for all newly-elected public officials, for those working to alleviate the pandemic, for all those working for justice and equity, and for those you now name.  
*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*
- Officiant* Let us pray for all nations and peoples.  
*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*
- Officiant* Let us pray for the earth and the whole created order.  
*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*
- Officiant* Let us pray for our local communities. We pray for all essential workers and healthcare workers. This week I invite your prayers for .... , and those whom you now name.  
*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*
- Officiant* Let us pray for those in any need or trouble, especially those on our parish prayer list: ....  
You are invited to name others in need of prayer, and to hold up your own struggles to the light of God's love.  
*The people may offer additional names.*
- Officiant* Let us pray for all who have died, and for those who mourn.  
*The people may offer additional names.*
- Officiant* Let us pray for our common life and work as God's people.  
*The people may offer their prayers aloud.*
- Celebrant* Lord God, the bright splendor whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light, discern the glory of your presence in the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Savior. Guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in him. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Celebrant* We are the body of Christ.  
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.  
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
and builds up our common life.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you!

*All* **And also with you!**

*We greet one another in the name of Christ.*

## The Blessing

*Celebrant* May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Dismissal

*Officiant* Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen. *Ephesians 3:20,21*

Let us bless the Lord,

*People* **Thanks be to God!**

## Sending Song: Torah Ora

*“Torah ora” is Hebrew for “God’s Law is our light.”*

**God has spoken to his people, Alleluia!**  
**And his words are words of wisdom, Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**God has spoken to his people, Alleluia!**  
**And his words are words of wisdom, Alleluia!**

*Alternate words: Torah ora, Torah ora... (repeat)*

## Announcements