

# First Sunday after the Epiphany

The Baptism of our Lord

January 8, 2023

Words of Welcome

Gathering Hymn: Thy strong word

**Hymnal #381**

**1. Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;  
at thy speaking it was done;  
for created light we thank thee,  
while thine ordered seasons run:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**2. Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,  
dark as night and deep as death,  
broke the light of thy salvation,  
breathed thine own live-giving breath:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**4. God the Father, Light-Creator,  
to thee laud and honor be;  
to thee, Light of Light begotten,  
praise be sung eternally;  
Holy Spirit, Light-Revealer, glory, glory be to thee;  
mortals, angels, now and ever praise the Holy Trinity.**

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.**

### The Invitatory and Psalter

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.  
*People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**  
**Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God;**  
**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

*Officiant* 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 Faith: Psalm 29

Give the Lord glory, you spirits!

**Give glory! Honor God's strength!**

Honor the name of the Lord!

**Bow when the Lord comes, majestic and holy.**

God's voice thunders above the massive seas, powerful, splendid.

**God shatters the cedars, the cedars of Lebanon,**

Makes Lebanon jump like a calf, Sirion like a wild ox.

**God's voice strikes fire, makes the desert shudder,**

Kadesh shudder in labor, deer writhe in labor; God strips the trees.

**All shout "Glory!" In your temple, Lord.**

For you rule the mighty waters, you rule over all forever.

**Give strength to your people, Lord, and bless your people with peace.**

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God;

**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

### First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9

*Reader* A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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.  
*Reader*   Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People*    **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle N: A Song of God's Love (1 John 4:7-12)

**Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God.**  
**Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.**  
**Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.**  
**God's love was revealed among us in this way:**  
**God sent God's only Son into the world**  
**so that we might live through Jesus Christ.**  
**Beloved, since God loved us so much,**  
**we also ought to love one another.**  
**For if we love one another, God abides in us,**  
**And God's love will be perfected in us.**  
**Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God;**  
**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:13-17

*Reader*    A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.  
 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."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

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

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Miranda Hassett

## The Prayers

*Officiant* 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.

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Officiant* 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.

*Officiant* 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.  
*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.

*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.*

## The Collect of the Day

*Officiant*

Heavenly 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. Amen.

*The Officiant may read one of the following Collects as well:*

### *A Collect for Peace*

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### *A Collect for Grace*

Lord God, almighty and everlasting One, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### *A Collect for Guidance*

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Sharing of Blessings

*Officiant* Does anyone have any blessings or celebrations to share with the assembly today?

## 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!**

*Celebrant*

Let us speak Christ's peace to one another. ...

## Announcements

Song of the Season: "I Am Sending You Light"

Melanie DeMore

## The Blessing

*Celebrant*

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ shine in our hearts and fill our lives with joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen!**

## Dismissal

*Officiant*

Let us bless the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God!**