



THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY:  
THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

JANUARY 12, 2025, AT 11:15 AM  
& LIVESTREAMED ONLINE

BAPTISM & HOLY EUCHARIST

THE WORD OF GOD

**Prelude**

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele, BWV 654  
(Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness)

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685–1750)

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Hymn LEVAS II 141**

Shall we gather at the river

*Hanson Place*

*This hymn is in **Lift Every Voice and Sing II**, the black and red hymnal found in your pew rack.*

**Opening Acclamation**

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

**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

There is one Body and one Spirit;

**There is one hope in God's call to us;**

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

**One God, Creator of all.**

**Collect of the Day**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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

**First Reading** *seated* 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."

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 29:2-9**

Antiphon: Leon Roberts (1950–1999)

*The People sing the antiphon after it has been introduced by the choir and where indicated in the text.*



The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion.

Ascribe due honor to God's holy Name; \*  
worship the Most High in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of God is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; \*  
God is upon the mighty waters. *Antiphon*

The voice of God is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of God is a voice of splendor.

The voice of God breaks the cedar trees; \*  
God breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

God makes Lebanon skip like a calf \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. *Antiphon*

The voice of God splits the flames of fire; the voice of God shakes the wilderness; \*  
God shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of God makes the oak trees writhe \*  
and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Holy One, \*  
all are crying, "Glory!" *Antiphon*

**Gospel Alleluia** *standing as you are able* From *The Mass of St. Augustine*

Leon Roberts



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

The Holy Gospel of our Savior 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.**

**Sermon** The Rev. Ledlie I. Laughlin

*Please be seated at the invitation of the preacher. A period of silence will be observed after the sermon.*

## PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

*The Congregation may be seated.*

*Presider* The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Parents and Godparents* I present Sydney Clair Popovici to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*The Presider asks the Parents and Godparents*

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and Godparents* I will, with God's help.

*Presider* Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and Godparents* I will, with God's help.

*The Presider asks the following questions of the Parents and Godparents who speak on behalf of the infant*

*Question* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Answer* I do.

*The Presider addresses the Congregation, saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

*The Congregation responds* **We will.**

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

*The People stand as they are able.*

## THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

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 cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?  
**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.**

### **Prayers for the Candidate**

*The Presider then says to the Congregation*

Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

*Leader* Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Open her heart to your grace and truth.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Send her into the world in witness to your love.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*The Presider continues*

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Thanksgiving over the Water**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to our Sovereign God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Loving God, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Presider touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE BAPTISM

*The People may be seated. The Candidate is presented by name to the Presider who pours water upon the Candidate, saying*

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*A candle, lighted from the Paschal candle, is given to the newly baptized with these words*

N., receive the light of Christ as a sign that you have passed from darkness into light. Shine as God's light in the world in the power of God's Spirit. **Amen.**

**Hymn** *standing as you are able*

Baptized in water

*Bunessan*

*The Presider sprinkles the congregation with baptismal water, a sign of our renewed baptismal covenant.*



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, trust - ing his  
tomb with Christ— our king:— one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
sign of Christ— our king:— born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise— we sing.—  
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise— we sing.—  
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise— we sing.—

— Text: Michael Saward (1932–2015)

*Presider* Let us pray.

Loving God, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, 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.**

*The Presider then marks the sign of the cross on the person's forehead using Chrism, consecrated by the bishop on Maundy Thursday, saying*

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

**Peace** *The Presider says to the People*

The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

*All greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ.*

**Announcements**

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## At the Offertory

*The Holy Spirit inspires us to give generously, to extend Christ's mission in this place and the wider world. Please visit <http://tinyurl.com/GivetoSCEC> to make your offering, or you can text to give using your phone. Text SCEC and AMOUNT to 73256 (QR code in Connections) and you will receive a text with instructions.*

## Anthem

O Bread of Life from heaven      David Ashley White (b. 1944)  
The St. Columba Singers

O Bread of Life from heaven, to saints and angels given; O Manna from above! The souls that hunger, feed thou. The hearts that seek thee, lead thou, with thy sweet, tender love.

—Text: Latin hymn 17th century, tr. Philip Schaff (1819–1893)

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*Please stand as you are able as the offering is brought forward and blessed.*

## The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them unto God.**

Let us give thanks to our Sovereign God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in Jesus Christ our Savior you have received us as your children, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus and Benedictus** *sung by all*      Holy, holy, holy      Leon Roberts

The musical score is written on four staves in G major and 6/8 time. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord's name, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord's name, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

**We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O God of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Columba and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

### The Lord's Prayer

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.**

### Breaking of the Bread

*The bread is broken and silence observed.*

#### Fraction Anthem

From *Eucharist of the Soul*

Lena McLin (1928–2023)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: grant us peace.

### Invitation to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome at Christ's table.

## Communion

*Christ welcomes all to communion. ■ Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine, guiding the chalice to your lips. ■ If you do not want to sip the wine, it is also perfectly appropriate to receive the bread only. We do not allow dipping the bread into the wine. ■ Respond to communion by saying "Amen." ■ If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. ■ Gluten-free wafers are available at each communion station. ■ Baptism is offered several times a year; speak to a priest to learn more.*

## Laying on of Hands and Prayer for Healing

*The Healing Rite is offered in St. Aiden's Chapel during Communion at the 9 and 11:15 am liturgies on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Prayers for yourself or another are welcome. Enter the chapel through the door under the balcony to the right of the altar, or visit the station at the back of the nave.*

**Music** Meditation on *Deep River* Charles Callahan (1951–2023)

**Hymn 339** Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness *Schmücke dich*

**Prayer after Communion** *standing as you are able*

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Presider* As we are gathered, fed, and sent by God, let us ask ourselves: With whom can I share the Good News? Whom will I invite to join us at this table?

**Sending Forth of Eucharistic Ministers** *when scheduled*

In the name of St. Columba's we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that N. may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

**We who are many are one body, as we all share one bread, one cup.**

**Blessing** *The People respond Amen.*

**Hymn 135** Songs of thankfulness and praise *Salzburg*

**Dismissal** *The People respond Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

**Postlude** Prelude in B Minor, BWV 544 Johann Sebastian Bach

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## Liturgical Note

Today is the Baptism of Jesus, one of the special baptismal feasts of the church. In celebration of all those being baptized, we remember and renew our own baptismal covenant. If you are curious about baptism, please be in touch with a member of the clergy team.

## Land Acknowledgement

We meet today on the traditional land of the first people of Nacotchtank, who were custodians of the land for thousands of years, caring for and nurturing it. We give thanks for their stewardship and lament the ways the Nacotchtank were removed from their ancestral home. We pray for all who live on this land and pay our respects to the native leaders past, present, and emerging.

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