



THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

The Episcopal Church of Agoura, Oak Park, and Westlake Village

The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ January 9, 2022

Welcome to the Church of the Epiphany! We are delighted you have come to worship with us today. We are part of the Episcopal Church; if you are unfamiliar with our rituals and customs, just be present with this ancient liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship. Thanks for joining us today!

If you are interested in learning more about our church, please fill out the information card and place it in the collection plate; we are excited to meet you and would love to get to know you. Start by joining us for coffee after the service!

In case you need one, Assisted Listening Devices are available from the ushers in the back of the Church.

Holy Baptism and Confirmation with the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

PRELUDE

Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kamm, BuxWV 180
(Christ, our Lord, to the Jordan came)

DIETRICH BUXTEHUDE (1637-1707)

The Word of God

At the sound of the bell, all stand and sing

ENTRANCE HYMN

Hymn 636

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord

FOUNDATION

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant

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

People

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

SALUTATION FOR BAPTISM

Celebrant

There is one Body and one Spirit;

People

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

Celebrant

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People

One God and Father of all.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

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 Lessons

All sit for the readings.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹Now 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.
²When 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.
³For 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.
⁴Because 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.
⁵Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
⁶I 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—
⁷everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All remain seated and say together

PSALM: 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.

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The Celebrant says

The Candidate(s) for Holy Baptism will now be presented

The candidates who are able to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Sponsors.

Sponsor I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Celebrant asks each candidate when presented

Celebrant Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate I do.

Then candidates who are unable to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Parents and Godparents

Parents and Godparents

I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented the Celebrant 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.

Celebrant

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.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

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.

When there are others to be presented, the Bishop says

The other Candidate(s) will now be presented.

Presenters I present *these persons* for Confirmation.

The Bishop asks the candidates

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidate I do.

Bishop Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these persons* in *their* life in Christ?

People **We will.**

The Celebrant then says these or similar words

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

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 the 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.

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

The Celebrant says to the congregation

Let us now pray for *these persons* who *are* to receive the Sacrament of new birth [and for those (this person) who *have* renewed *their* commitment to Christ.]

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open *their hearts* to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant says

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 forever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

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, Father, 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 Celebrant 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.**

CONSECRATION OF THE CHRISM

The Bishop may then consecrate oil of Chrism, placing a hand on the vessel of oil, and saying

Eternal Father, whose blessed Son was anointed by the Holy Spirit to be the Savior and servant of all, we pray you to consecrate this oil, that those who are sealed with it may share in the royal priesthood of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or 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.**

When this action has been completed for all candidates, the Bishop or Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *these* your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *them* to the new life of grace. Sustain *them*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit.

Give *them* 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.**

Then the Bishop or Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross [using Chrism if desired] and saying to each one

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

Or this action may be done immediately after the administration of the water and before the preceding prayer.

WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

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.

PRAYERS AT CONFIRMATION

The Bishop says to the congregation

Let us now pray for *these persons* who have renewed *their* commitment to Christ.

Silence may be kept.

Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in *these your servants* the covenant you made with *them* at *their* Baptism. Send *them* forth in the power of the Spirit to perform the service you set before *them*; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Bishop lays hands upon each one and says

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant *N.* with your Holy Spirit; empower *him* for your service; and sustain *him* all the days of *his* life. **Amen.**

Then the Bishop says

Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be over *these your servants*; let your Holy Spirit ever be with *them*; and so lead *them* in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that *they* may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The Peace is now exchanged

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Baptism of Jesus

(sung by the Parish Choir)

When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John,
he did not come for pardon, but as the sinless one.
He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.

He came to share temptation, our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation to die upon the cross.
So when the Dove descended on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended, the age of grace began.

Come, Holy Spirit, aid us to keep the vows we make;
this very day invade us, and every bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction, the gift we covet most;
to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost.

TEXT: FRED PRATT GREEN (1903-2000)
MUSIC: AUSTIN C. LOVELACE (1919-2010)

PRESENTATION HYMN

Hymn 121

Christ, when for us you were baptized

CAITHNESS

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, 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 S-125

RICHARD PROULX (1937-2010)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The People stand or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be your 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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

AT THE FRACTION

Hymn 324, verse 3 only

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

PICARDY

INVITATION

The Celebrant says

This is Christ's banquet. It is made ready for those who love God and those who want to love God more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often, and you who have not been here long. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come, because it is Christ who invites you.

COMMUNION HYMN



With you, O Lord, is life in all its fullness, and
in your light we shall see true light. With you, O Lord, is
life in all its fullness, and in your light we shall see true light.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
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.**

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

Hymn 448

O love, how deep, how broad, how high

DEUS TUORUM MILITUM

DISMISSAL

Celebrant

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

How firm a foundation

DALE WOOD (1934-2003)

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