

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Holy Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist
October 28, 2012, 9:30 am

We worship today according to the Order for Holy Baptism,
beginning on page 299 of the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer.

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn: *Brethren, We Have Met To Worship*
(This is one of Lavonne Hart's favorites)

**Brethren, we have met to worship
And adore the Lord our God.
Will you pray with all your power,
While we try to preach the Word?
All is vain unless the Spirit
of the Holy One comes down;
Brethren, pray, and holy manna
Will be showered all around.**

**Sisters, will you join and help us?
Moses' sister aided him;
Will you help the trembling mourners
Who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior,
Tell them that He will be found;
Sisters, pray, and holy manna
Will be showered all around.**

**Let us love our God supremely;
Let us love each other too.
Let us love and pray for sinners
'Til Our God makes all things new.
Then He'll call us home to heaven;
At His table we'll sit down.
Christ will gird himself and serve us
With sweet manna all around.**

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
**And blessed be his 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 and Father of all.
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith,
hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you
promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus
Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons (the people sit)

The First Lesson – Jeremiah 31:7-9

Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame, those with child and
those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.
With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm – Psalm 126

Refrain:

**The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.**

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, *
"The LORD has done great things for them."

The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
**will come again with joy, shouldering their
sheaves.**

Refrain:

**The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.**

The Epistle – Hebrews 7:23-28

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Sequence – Mark 10:46-52 (the people stand)

Hymn – *I Want To Walk As a Child of the Light*.....490
Verses 1-2

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Jesus and his disciples came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Hymn – *I Want To Walk As a Child of the Light*.....490
Verse 3

Sermon.....The Rt Rev Santosh Marray

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

Celebrant:
The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.
The Parents and Godparents present the candidate, as follows:
Parents and Godparents:
I present Dezzel Anthony to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.
Celebrant:

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.

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?
I will, with God's help.

Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?
I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?
I renounce them.

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?
I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
I do.

Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?
I do.

The other Candidate(s) will now be presented.

Father Arnold:
I present (names) for Confirmation.

The Bishop asks the candidates
Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidates
I do.

Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
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

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 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 Candidates

The Celebrant then says to the congregation:

Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth and for those who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

The Lay Reader leads the following petitions:

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

Lord, hear our prayer.

Open their heart to your grace and truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill them with your holy and life giving Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

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

Lord, hear our prayer.

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

Lord, hear our prayer.

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

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 for ever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him 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, 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.**

The Baptism

The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying:

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

Then the Priest places a hand on the child's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying to him:

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

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him 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 Celebrant says:

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.

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 that 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 Confirmand and says
Defend, O Lord, your servant *N.* with your heavenly grace, that *he* may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more, until *he* comes to your everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

The Bishop receives and lays hands upon Ramona Heil-Norris, saying
Ramona Ann, we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. **Amen.**

Laying hands upon Charlotte Poole, the Bishop says
Charlotte Parris, may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom.

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 Prayers of the People (Form III, page 387 of the Book of Common Prayer)

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.
Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.
We pray for Katharine, our presiding bishop, for Kee and Santosh, our bishops, for Arnold, our priest, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.
We pray for Barack, our President; for Robert, our governor; for George, our mayor; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.
Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.
Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.
Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.
We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for **Lynda** Denton, **Dot** Harris, **Alice** Williams, **Lannon** Poole, **Dawn** Jones (Jere and Pam VanEtten), **Amber**, **Jared** and **Dezsel** Oliver (Kathy Haynie), **Brandon** Boland (Cathy Jones), **Bobby** Borden (Amanda Borden), **Chris** Eady (Lynne Eady), **Beverly** Johnson, **Bobby** Gillis, and **Columbus** Gillis (Ann Easley), **Lisa** Wallace (Laura Williams), **Leni** Young (Pat Jordan), **Jenna** Moates (Kelli Kerr), **Wilson** Owen Weaver – Thanksgiving (Jere and Pam Van Etten), **John** Myer (Ann Easley, John and Kathy Haynie), **Chelsea** Baker (Ann Easley), **Cathy** Hall (Ann Easley), Family of **Dean** Shelton (Ann Easley), and **Mike**

Bailey (Ann Easley). Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions.
The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Introduction of Parents, Godparents, and Confirmands

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*....474
Tune: *Hamburg* (not *Rockingham* as used in the Hymnal)
(This one of Ann Easley's favorites)

The Presentation

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glorify to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

The people sing (found in the Hymnal at S 129)

**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

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Communion Hymn: *Be Still My Soul*

(This is one of Ann Easley's favorites)

**Be still, my soul; the Lord is on thy side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to thy God to order and provide;
In every change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; thy best, thy heavenly, Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

**Be still, my soul; thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as He has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence, let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.**

After Communion, the people stand or kneel and the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

**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.**

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn (the people stand)

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.....688

(This is one of Lavonne Hart's favorites)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The parents of Dezsel Anthony Oliver are Jared Stephen Oliver and Amber Elizabeth Oliver. His godparents are Scott McCurry and Jamie Nicole McCurry. Our own Kathy Haynie is Jared's mother and Dezsel's grandmother.

We are delighted to receive Ramona Ann Heil-Norris into the Anglican Communion today and to welcome Charlotte Parris Poole (who is reaffirming her faith) into our congregation. In addition, the following persons are being confirmed today:

- Randy Lynn Norris
 - Barbara Ann Boswell Trogdon
 - Carol Lavonne Mangum Hart
 - Martha Ann Haynie Easley
 - William Lannon Poole, Jr
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Today's loose offering will be directed to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund to assist in unexpected needs in the diocese. Checks may be written to Diocese of AL (or to Church of the Epiphany marked "Bp's Fund").

Join us in the parish hall immediately following worship for a reception honoring Dezsel and those joining our fellowship, an opportunity for the congregation to visit with Bishop Marray, and lunch at noon.

Serving at Epiphany this week:

Ushers: Lee and Amanda Borden
Altar Guild: Cathy Jones and Ann Easley
Lay Reader: Kathy Haynie

Chalice Bearer: Jere Van Etten
Refreshments: Cathy Jones
Stewards: Eddie and Pam Harper

And next

Ushers: Jimmy and Betty Weldon
Altar Guild: Betty Weldon and Pam Van Etten
Lay Reader: Laura Williams

Chalice Bearer: Jean Kerr
Refreshments: Amanda Borden
Stewards: Maurice and Debra McCord