

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name; you are mine.

Isaiah 43:1b

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
The Baptism of Our Lord
January 13, 2013, 9:30 am

We worship during the season of Epiphany according to the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two,
beginning on page 355 of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn: *O Love How Deep*.....448

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

**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis (*found in the Hymnal at S 280*)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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 (the people sit)

The First Lesson – 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."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 29

Refrain:

**Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**

Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *

ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *

worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;

the God of glory thunders; *

the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *

the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; *

the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *

and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;

the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *

the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe *

and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the LORD *

all are crying, "Glory!"

The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *

the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.

The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Refrain:

**Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**

The Epistle – Acts 8:14-17

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Sequence – Luke 3:15-17,21-22 (the people stand)

Hymn: *On Jordan's Bank*.....128
Verses 1-3

The Holy Gospel of our Lord 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.

Hymn: *On Jordan's Bank*.....128
Verses 4-5

Sermon

The Baptismal Covenant (*the people stand*)

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.

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

Father, we pray for Church of the Epiphany, Guntersville; St. Timothy's, Athens; Our companion diocese of Haiti and its bishop, Zaché; for our diaconal ministry in The Firehouse Shelter (Birmingham), First Stop (Huntsville) and for all other ministries to the homeless; for our seminarians completing their third year of formation; and 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 Bobby, 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 Alan Thompson and all 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, Charlotte and Lannon Poole, Pam Harper, 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), 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), **Ed Clayton** (Jean Kerr), **Billie Wilkinson**, **Lindsey Burt** (Eddie and Pam Harper), **Jimmie Cantrell** (Al Cantrell), **Melinda Henderson** (Ann Easley), **Kathy Brumbleloe** (Ann Easley), **Lee Musso** (Cathy Jones), **Oletta Goodwin**, **Sherry Gritz**, (Arnold Bush) and the others we now name: *(the people here add their own petitions)*. Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin (the people stand or kneel)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

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: *Spirit of the Living God*.....SH-8

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.

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 the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the

knowledge of your glory in the face of your son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

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

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**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 Lord 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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; 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 Father, now and for ever. **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.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

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: *Jesus, Name Above All Names*....SH-73

*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: *Hail To the Lord's Anointed*.....616

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Serving at Epiphany this week

Ushers: Greg DuBay and Lynne Eady
Altar Guild: Ann Easley and Laura Williams
Lay Reader: Amanda Borden

Chalice Bearer: Laura Williams
Refreshments: Amanda Borden
Stewards: Eddie and Pam Harper