

"Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost."

Luke 15:6b

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Holy Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist
September 15, 2013, 10:30 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: *When Morning Gilds the Skies*.....427

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.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons (the people sit)

The First Lesson – Ezekiel 36:24-28

I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Psalm – Psalm 23

Refrain:

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; *
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul; *
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; *
**for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.**

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; *

**thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Refrain:

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

The Epistle – 1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners -- of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Sequence – Luke 15:1-10 (the people stand)

Hymn – *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*664
Verses 1-2

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glorify to You, Lord Christ.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search

carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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

Hymn – *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*664
Verse 3

Sermon.....The Rt Rev Santosh Marray

Celebration of the Ministry of The Rev Dr John Wells Warren

The Institution (the people sit)

The Senior Warden, standing before the bishop with the new minister, says:

Bishop Marray, we have come together today to welcome Father Wells, who has been chosen to serve as Vicar of the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany in Tallassee. We believe that he is well qualified, and that he has been prayerfully and lawfully selected.

The Bishop then says:

Wells, do you, in the presence of this congregation, commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility?

Father Wells then says:

I do.

The Bishop then addresses the congregation:

Will you who witness this new beginning support and uphold Father Wells in this ministry?

The people answer:

We will.

The Bishop, standing, says:

Let us then offer our prayers to God for all his people, for this congregation, and for Father Wells, their Vicar.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Everliving God, strengthen and sustain Wells, that with patience and understanding he may love and care for your people; and grant that together they may follow Jesus Christ, offering to you their gifts and talents; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Induction

Members of the congregation welcome and charge Wells:

Father Wells, receive this Bible, and be among us as one who proclaims the Word. **Amen.**

Father Wells, receive this stole, and be among us as a pastor and priest. **Amen.**

Father Wells, receive this Book of Common Prayer, and be among us as a man of prayer. **Amen.**

Father Wells, receive this oil, and be among us as a healer and reconciler. **Amen.**

Father Wells, receive this bread and wine, and be among us to break the Bread and bless the Cup. **Amen.**

The Bishop presents a vessel of water, saying:

Wells, receive this water, and help baptize in obedience to our Lord. **Amen.**

The Bishop then says:

Wells, let all these be signs of the ministry which is mine and yours in this place. **Amen.**

The new Minister kneels in the midst of the church, and says:

O Lord my God, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; yet you have called your servant to stand in your house, and to serve at your altar. To you and to your service I devote myself, body, soul, and spirit. Fill my memory with the record of your mighty works; enlighten my understanding with the light of your Holy Spirit; and may all the desires of my heart and will center in what you would have me do. Make me an instrument of your salvation for the people entrusted to my care, and grant that I may faithfully administer your holy Sacraments, and by my life and teaching set forth your true and living Word. Be always with me in carrying out the duties of my ministry. In prayer, quicken my devotion; in praises, heighten my love and gratitude; in preaching, give me readiness of thought and expression; and grant that, by the clearness and brightness of your holy Word, all the world may be drawn into your blessed kingdom. All this I ask for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Bishop then presents the new minister to the congregation:

I present to you your new Vicar, the Reverend Doctor John Wells Warren and his wife Leigh.

The people express their approval.

Dedication of Gospel Book

The Bishop says:

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Jesus opened their minds:

To understand the Scriptures.

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Father, we thank you for the priests who have served this church since its inception, each of whom has shared your Good News with us, and we dedicate this Gospel Book to them. Each of their names is inscribed in the Gospel Book we dedicate today:

- Al Perkins
- Richard Brown
- Rick Oberheide
- Buddy Oliver
- Larry Sharpton
- Arnold Bush
- Wells Warren

O heavenly Father, whose blessed Son taught the disciples in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself: Accept this Gospel Book which we dedicate here today, and grant that we may so diligently search your holy Word that we may find

in it the wisdom that leads to salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

Celebrant:

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsors:

I present Kara Shea Davis to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present James Cantwell Davis to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant:

Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidates:

I do.

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.

After both 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 these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

The Lay Readers lead 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 Bishop 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 consecrates the 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

The candidate is presented by name to Father Wells, who then pours water upon the candidate, saying:

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

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

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 Father Wells places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying to each one:

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

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

The Bishop 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, Father Wells, Kara Shea, and Jim process to the Chancel. 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 have 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.**

Confirmation

The Bishop lays hands upon each one and says

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

Defend, O Lord, your servant Jim 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.**

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 of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn: *Amazing Grace*.....671
(This is one of Jim's and Kara Shea'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

(Eucharistic Prayer D, BCP p 372)

(Musical Responses in the Hymnal at S 120)

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 truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Sanctus (found in the Hymnal at S 128)

The people stand or kneel

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation. Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember all who minister in your Church. Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth. Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and 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.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem: *O Lamb of God*.....S 157

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: *Glorify Thy Name*.....SH-2

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 Episcopal Blessing

Recessional Hymn (the people stand)

How Great Thou Art.....SH-37

(This is one of Jim's and Kara Shea's favorites)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

We are delighted today to welcome James Cantwell Davis and Kara Shea Davis by baptism into our little part of the community of Christ. They are sponsored by Lee and Amanda Borden.

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").

Please join us in the parish hall immediately following worship for a reception honoring Jim and Kara Shea, an opportunity for the congregation to visit with Bishop Marray, and lunch.

Serving at Epiphany this week:

Ushers: Maurice and Debra McCord
Altar Guild: Jean Kerr
Lay Readers: Lee and Amanda Borden
Piano: Caleb Hart

Eucharistic Minister: Jean Kerr
Bishop's Chaplain: Jere Van Etten
Refreshments: Betty Weldon
Stewards: Maurice and Debra McCord

And next

Ushers: Jere and Pam Van Etten
Altar Guild: Cathy Jones
Lay Reader: Betty Weldon
Piano: Caleb Hart

Eucharistic Minister: Lee Borden
Refreshments: Lavonne Hart
Stewards: Eddie and Pam Harper