



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY – JANUARY 9, 2022

READINGS: ISAIAH 43:1-7; PSALM 29; LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22

WE WELCOME THE REV. DONNA LOCKHART, DEACON, TO WORSHIP WITH US THIS MORNING.

Organ: Adagio - Stan Pethel

THE WORD OF GOD

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

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

Alleluia. This is my beloved, my child; With whom I am well-pleased. **Alleluia.**

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.**

Hymn 76, On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Eternal God, at the baptism of Jesus you revealed him as your Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us, your children, also born of water and the Spirit, faithful to our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

In this prophetic reading, the Lord assures Israel that they are not to fear. Sons and daughters will be summoned from the ends of the earth – everyone called by God's name and formed for God's glory.

Now 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.**

In Psalm 89 the Lord is praised for faithful love and mighty justice. The cantor sings the refrain, all repeat, and then sing as indicated:

My hand will hold him fast and my arm will make him strong. No enemy shall deceive him, nor any wicked man bring him down. **R.**

My faithfulness and love shall be with him, and he shall be victorious through my Name. I shall make his dominion extend from the Great Sea to the River. **R.**

He will say to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.' I will make him my firstborn and higher than the kings of the earth. **R.**

I will keep my love for him forever, and my covenant will stand firm for him. I will establish his line for ever and his throne as the days of heaven." **R.**

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Our Gospel is the story of Jesus' baptism. A voice from Heaven speaks to him in words that echo ancient oracles concerning the king and the calling of the Lord's chosen servant.

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. Michael L. Bradley, rector

The Prayers of the People

In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, "Lord, grant us peace."

By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

Prayers are offered for our community, the nation and the world. The people are invited to offer their own prayers of petition or thanks.

Lord God, you revealed your Son in the waters of the Jordan and anointed him with the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim good news to all people. Sanctify us by the same Spirit, that we may proclaim the healing power of the gospel by acts of love in your name. **Amen.**

Holy Communion

Solo: O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word – words, Ruth Duck; music, Robert Buckley Farlee

O radiant Christ, Incarnate Word, eternal love revealed in time: Come, make your home within our hearts, that we may dwell in light sublime. Our bartered, busy lives burn dim, too tired to care, too numb to feel. Come, shine upon our shadowed world: your radiance bathes with power to heal. Your glory shone at Jordan's stream, the font where we were born anew. Attune your church to know you near, illumine all we say and do. O Light of Nations, fill the earth; our faith and hope and love renew. Come, lead the peoples to your peace, as stars once led the way to you.

Praise to God, who has given us life. **Blessed be God, for the gift of love.**

Praise to God, who forgives our sin. **Blessed be God, who sets us free.**

Praise to God, who kindles our faith. **Blessed be God, our strength, our hope.**

Let us reaffirm the vows and promises made when we were baptized with water and the Holy Spirit.

What is your faith?

I believe and trust in God the Father, maker and sustainer of all things; and in God the Son, my savior, Jesus Christ; and in God the Holy Spirit, giver of life and truth. This is my faith.

How will you share your faith?

With God's help, I will proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.

How will you live a Christian life?

With God's help, I will continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.

How will you confront injustice in the world and respond to sin?

With God's help, I will persevere in resisting evil, and when I fall into sin, I will repent and return to the Lord.

How will you encounter those of differing faith?

With God's help, I will seek and serve Christ in all persons, and love my neighbor as I am loved by God.

How will your life and ministry bring about God's kingdom on earth?

With God's help, I will strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.

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 our thanks and praise.**

God of hope, in your Holy Spirit you hovered . . .singing their hymn of unending praise:

**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, Hosanna in the highest.**

The celebrant continues with the Prayer of Consecration, Memorial Acclamation, and Great Amen.

After the breaking of the bread:

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 and rejoice that Christ's light shines in all the world, and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

All are invited to come forward and receive the Body of Christ.

Those who desire a blessing, please keep your hands folded as a sign to the celebrant.

After all have received Communion, please stand and pray together:

Gracious God; **Lover of all, by this sacrament you make us one family in Christ your Son, one in the sharing of his body and blood, one in the communion of his Spirit. Help us to grow in love for one another and come to the full maturity of the Body of Christ. We ask this in his name. Amen.**

Lord God Almighty, bless our home, and under its shelter let there be health, light, peace, safety; love of you and obedience to your commandments; and thanksgiving to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. May your blessing remain on our home and upon those who live herein; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

My sisters and brothers in Christ, the first full moon after the equinox falls on Saturday, April 16th.
Therefore, it is announced that Easter Day shall be celebrated on April 17th.

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifested in us, that our lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, be upon us, and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 120: The Sinless One to Jordan Came

Organ: Trumpet Tune in D Major - David Lasky

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Our 75th Year!

We share the light of Christ by actively loving and serving our neighbors in the world.

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