

Holy Baptism

January 8, 2023

Zoom link:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=ei94MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

Epiphany 1A: The Baptism of Our Lord, Jesus Christ

Prelude

All stand as they are able

Opening Hymn

Baptized in water

Tune: *Bunessan*

Unison or harmony

Bap-tized in wa-ter, sealed by the Spi-rit,
Bap-tized in wa-ter, sealed by the Spi-rit,
Bap-tized in wa-ter, sealed by the Spi-rit,

Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:

Heirs of sal-va-tion, trusting his pro-mise,
One with his ri-sing, freed and for-gi-ven,
Born of one Fa-ther, we are God's chil-dren,

Faith-ful-ly now God's praises we sing.
 Thank-ful-ly now God's praises we sing.
 Joy-ful-ly now God's praises we sing.

Presider Blessed be God: † Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**
Presider There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Presider One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People **One God and Father of all.**

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider 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.**

All sit.

First Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- ¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
 my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
 I have put my spirit upon him;
 he will bring forth justice to the nations.
- ²He will not cry or lift up his voice,
 or make it heard in the street;
- ³a bruised reed he will not break,
 and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
 he will faithfully bring forth justice.
- ⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed
 until he has established justice in the earth;

and the coastlands wait for his teaching.”

⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶“I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,

⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.

⁹See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Remain seated

Psalm 29

to be prayed responsively

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God’s Name; *
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³The 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.**

⁵The 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.**

⁷The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁸**The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe ***

and strips the forests bare.

⁹And in the temple of the LORD *
all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Second Reading

Acts 10:34-43

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

³⁴Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and the other Gentiles]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as they are able.

Sequence Hymn

Grace alone

Chorus Book 93

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and the time signature is 4/4. Above the treble staff, the following chords are written: C, Dm/C, C, C/E, FM7, F6, G, C, Dm/C, C, C/E, F, G. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is written in the bass staff. Below the treble staff, there are two lines of lyrics: 1. Ev - 'ry prom - ise we can make, Ev - 'ry prayer and step of faith, and 2. Ev - 'ry soul we long to reach, Ev - 'ry heart we hope to teach.

Am Em G F C G E G# Am Dm7

Ev - 'ry dif - f'rence we will make, is on - ly by His
 Ev - 'ry - where we share His peace, is on - ly by His

G sus G C Dm C C E FM7 F6 G C Dm C C E

grace. Ev - 'ry moun-tain we will climb, Ev - 'ry ray of
 grace. Ev - 'ry lov - ing word we say, Ev - 'ry tear we

F G Am Em B F C G E G# Am Dm7

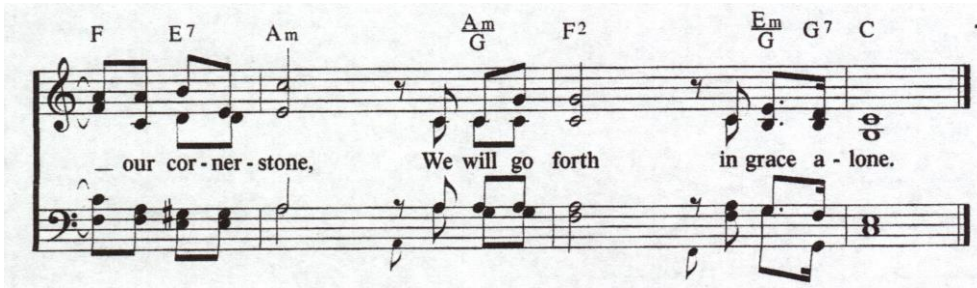
hope we shine, Ev - 'ry bless - ing left be - hind, is on - ly
 wipe a - way, Ev - 'ry sor - row turned to praise, is on - ly

G sus G E G C C E F G B C

by His grace. Grace a - lone, which God sup - plies,
 by His grace.

C E F G B C C E F

Strength un - known He will pro - vide. Christ in us,



Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

¹³Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”



Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Presider blesses the water of Baptism

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Presider 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 Presider dips the foot of the Paschal Candle in 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.**

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The candidate, parents and godparents, stand as they are able.

The Presider says

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

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

Parents and Godparents

We present Declan James Presnell to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

We present Jonah Andrew Presnell to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented the Presider 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.

Presider

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 Presider asks the following questions 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.

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

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in his life in Christ?

People **We will.**

The Presider then says

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

All stand as they are able

The Baptismal Covenant

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider 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.



Presider 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.

Presider 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.**

Presider 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.**

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider 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

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Presider then 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.**

The Baptism

The candidates are presented by name to the Presider, who then pours water upon each candidate, saying
Declan, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

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

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

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

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

When this action has been completed, the Presider, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over the newly baptized, 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 inquiring and discerning hearts, 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 Presider then says

Let us welcome the newly baptized:

Presider and People then say

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.

A Song of Thanksgiving

LEVAS 218

Jesus loves me

1. Je - sus loves me! this I know, For the bi - ble tells me so;
2. Je - sus loves me! He who died, Hea - ven's gate to op - en wide;
3. Je - sus take this heart of mine, Make it pure and whol - ly thine;

The image shows musical notation for a song. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The time signature is 6/8. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

1. Lit - tle ones to Him be - long; They are weak but He is strong.
 2. He will wash a - way my sin, Let His lit - tle child come in.
 3. On the cross you died for me, I will try to live for thee.

Yes, Je - sus loves me! — Yes, Je - sus loves me! —

Yes, Je - sus loves me! — The bi - ble tells me so.

All remain standing as they are able.

The Prayers of the People

Presider Sisters and brothers, ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Let us pray to the Lord saying, "In the house of the Lord all are crying, 'Glory.'"

Intercessor Lord, give your Church the blessing of peace. Bless our Bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig. Bless all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams, those in formation; and our brothers and sisters worshipping at St Andrew's, Livonia, Trinity Church, Belleville; and Church of the Pentecost, Bonao, in the Dominican Republic; and those in the Province of Iglesia Anglicana de Chile, and for all the members of Christ's body.

Give us the power to testify about your Son, Jesus. Give us your Spirit that we may live fully into your righteous calling. In the house of the Lord all are crying, **“Glory.”**

Silence is kept.

Lord, give this nation the blessing of peace. Make our hearts understand that you show no partiality, but know that in every nation you accept anyone who does what is right. In the house of the Lord all are crying, **“Glory.”**

Silence is kept.

Lord, give your creation the blessing of peace. You make yourself known to us in your works. You created the heavens and stretched them out; you spread out the earth and what comes from it. You are upon the mighty waters. May we witness your presence all around us. In the house of the Lord all are crying, **“Glory.”**

Silence is kept.

Your power, O God, is evident in the mysteries of our universe. By water and your Holy Spirit you have made us a new people. We give you thanks and praise for all the blessings you give us [especially _____]. In the house of the Lord all are crying, **“Glory.”**

Silence is kept.

Lord, give to our friends and family the blessing of peace. Bring your light to those who sit in darkness [especially_____]. In their places of hurt, pain, and death, declare new things and spring forth new life.

Lord, give to [_____ and all] those who have died the blessing of everlasting peace. May those who ate and drank of the body and blood of Christ in this life also know his resurrection life.

Silence is kept.

Presider Almighty and transcendent God, your glory fills all creation, and your authority extends beyond time and forever: Let your Spirit open our lives to your grace and truth, that we may always see your Christ at his coming, to whom be glory and dominion forever and ever. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

The Presider says

Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” *Mark 12:29-31*

A Minister then says

Let us confess our sins to God.

All kneel, or remain standing, as they are able.

Silence is kept.

Minister and People

**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.**

A Priest stands and says

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.

Peace

All then stand as they are able.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The People then are seated.

Announcements

Holy Communion

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Presider.

The people stand as they are able when the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Offertory Hymn

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The people remain standing.

Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

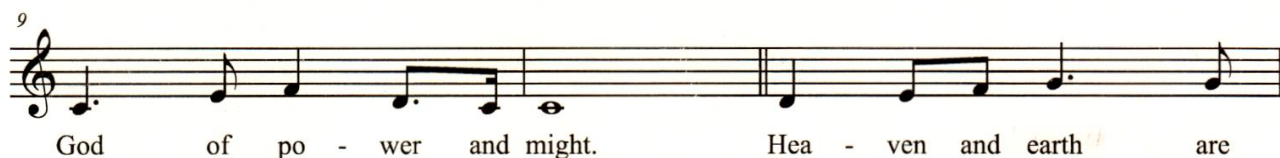
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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:

Sanctus



12
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! All

15
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -

18
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

24 *molto rit.*
Bles-sed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

The people continue to stand, or kneel, as they are able.

The Presider continues

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:

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 Presider then continues

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Presider says

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

These are the Gifts of God.
And we are the people of God.

And in union and solidarity with your faithful people
who are not able to be present at this table, we pray together:
**Strengthen and sustain us with your grace, Lord Christ,
and let us never be separated from you.**

Come spiritually into all of our hearts, Lord Christ.

May we live in you, and you in us, in this life, and in the life to come. Amen.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider and People

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Blessing

A priest blesses the people, saying

You are the body of Christ.
May you have the heart of Christ, tender for mercy.
May you have the eyes of Christ to see a world in need.
May you have the feet of Christ to bring good news.

And may the blessing of the Holy One who made you,
✠Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

Concluding Hymn

This little light of mine

LEVAS 221

1. This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon - na let it
 2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it
 3. Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon - na let it

Oh

1. shine, This lit - tle light of mine,
 2. shine, Ev - 'ry - where I go,
 3. shine, Je - sus gave it to me,

Oh

1. I'm gon - na let it shine; This lit - tle light of
 2. I'm gon - na let it shine; Ev - 'ry - where I
 3. I'm gon - na let it shine; Je - sus gave it to

Oh

1. mine, I'm gon - na let it shine, Let it
 2. go, I'm gon - na let it shine, Let it
 3. me, I'm gon - na let it shine, Let it

Oh

1. shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 2. shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 3. shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Dismissal

Minister Our worship has ended; our service begins. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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Congratulations to the newly Baptized and their Families!

Declan James Presnell
 Godparents:
 Drake Morency
 Amanda Presnell

Jonah Andrew Presnell
 Godparents:
 Samantha Morency
 Rebecca Morency

Parents:
 Kenneth Andrew Presnell Jr
 Erin Elizabeth Draper



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Faith in Action provides leadership in collecting donations to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They are in need of our continuing help. You may bring your donations to FIA, or to Nancy who will see that they get there. **If you bring food directly to FIA**, please let Nancy know, so she can continue to keep our records of donation. If you write a check, please make it

to *Faith In Action*. The **next Food In-gathering at the church is next Sunday, January 15**. Please contribute as generously as you can.

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A new small group is forming. The “Christian Support Group” will be facilitated by Joseph Vigilanti, on Saturdays from 2:00-3:00 pm, at the church. The focus of the group will be to pray and worship together, to share and discuss our faith in God, and to encourage and support each other in our faith. Everyone is welcome; open discussion and respectful debate will be shared.

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Happy New Year! This year, the **St B Quilters** are taking a break from our quilt mission and focusing on strengthening our social ties with each other and all those at St Barnabas. Being JOYFUL is this year’s mission and we are planning activities that will strengthen our bonds with each other and our community . We invite everyone to share time with us when you are able and have some fun. New ideas are welcome.

For now we are calling this activity “Social Fridays” and plan to meet on Fridays from 1-3pm at church. This day and time will be flexible depending on our monthly activities.

We are kicking off this January with a COFFEE & COLORING event. Please join us **Friday, January 13th** in the narthex. We will have books and coloring pencils available, or you can bring your own.

Our Social Fridays are a work in progress, this is our first small step.

Social Fridays Team: Kitty, Jan V, Nancy S, Pat H

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Upcoming Commemorations

- January 8 Harriet Bedell, Deaconess and Missionary, 1969
- 9 Julia Chester Emery, Lay Leader and Missionary, 1922
- 10 William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645
- 12 Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot, 1167
- 13 Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop, 367
- 14 Richard Meux Benson, Priest, 1915; and, Charles Gore, Bishop, 1932

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Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting of the congregation, on January 22. We will have our usual wonderful Potluck Lunch together, followed by this very important meeting. Put this one on your calendar, and join your brothers and sisters in Christ as we plan for the year ahead.

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Epiphany 1A January 8, 2023
Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

The season of Epiphany is when we celebrate the revealing of Christ to the world. We mark the arrival of the One who is the light of the world: a light that brings life, a light that brings hope. This light shines its brightest when we are in community - with God and with one another. The Office of Global Partnerships of The Episcopal Church invites individuals, small groups, congregations, and dioceses to use our weekly video series throughout the season of Epiphany to draw closer to each other and our Lord.

Using an adaptation of *lectio divina* with the gospel passage for each Sunday, you'll meet and hear from Episcopal missionaries who have served around the world as they read and reflect on Jesus' revelation to us. Missionary service through The Episcopal Church is accomplished through the Young Adult Service Corps (for Episcopalians aged 21-30) and Episcopal Volunteers in Mission (for Episcopalians over the age of 30). Learn more about these programs at iam.ec/yasc and iam.ec/evim respectively.

This week's *lectio divina* features Mary Higbee, Jim Higbee, the Rev. Ranjit Mathews, and the Rev. Amanda Akes-Cardwell. Watch their discussion at iam.ec/epiphany2023 and follow along by yourself or in a small group. To participate:

1. Read today's Gospel passage:

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:13-17, NRSV)

2. Reflect:

Which word or short phrase caught your attention or came to mind? Whether you're alone or in a group, say it aloud.

3. Read:

Reread the passage, perhaps in a different translation.

4. Reflect:

Where does the passage touch your life today? If you're with a group, share your responses with each other, without discussing further. If you're alone, say your response aloud or write it down.

5. Read:

Reread the passage, perhaps in yet another translation.

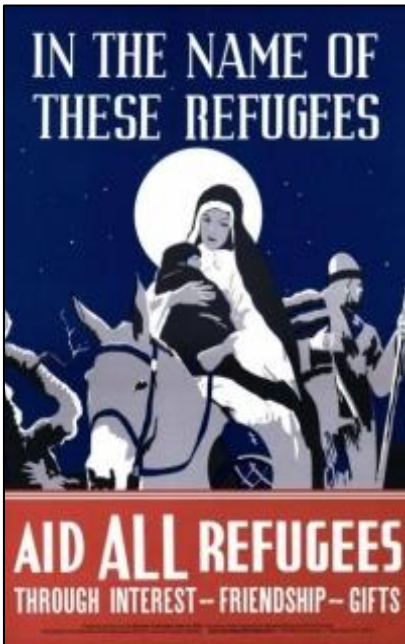
6. Reflect:

Where is God calling you to go? Where, either near or far, can you cross boundaries, listen deeply, and live like Jesus? You might consider journaling out your response and meditating on it over the course of this week.

7. Pray:

In closing, say the Collect for Epiphany 1 in the *Book of Common Prayer* (p. 214).

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Creating Space for Christ and the Neighbor

By Christopher McNabb

Episcopal Migration Ministries has resettled more than 100,000 refugees and asylum seekers, helping them to find a home and find hope.

I still remember my very first diocesan convention as a new Episcopalian. It was in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, and the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey had welcomed Presiding Bishop Michael Curry to speak. He invited the entire convention to take off our shoes, just as Moses did in front of the burning bush. Then, he wove a beautiful story about the people of Israel and their journey out of slavery into the promised land.

Bishop Curry spoke of the challenges and the frustrations, the people's fear, and the struggle to choose faith over certainty. It was in that moment that I realized I was in the right church for

me. Eventually, I pursued ordination and now have the pleasure of serving at Episcopal Migration Ministries.

As churches begin planning for the upcoming year, we journey through Advent, my favorite liturgical season. In this season, we wait with expectant hope for our Savior. I am mindful that for countless migrants throughout the world, this posture of waiting is not simply a practice of faith, but is rather the ground of their hope for survival and for a place to call home.

We at EMM seek to facilitate that homecoming, having recently celebrated the resettlement of the 100,000th refugee through our programs. This past year has seen the expansion of the Neighbor-to-Neighbor program, working to connect congregations to serve as community sponsors for asylum seekers. It also saw our team mobilize after the previous presidential

administration decimated the refugee resettlement infrastructure, rising to the challenge to welcome thousands of Afghans fleeing their country as the Taliban took control of Afghanistan.

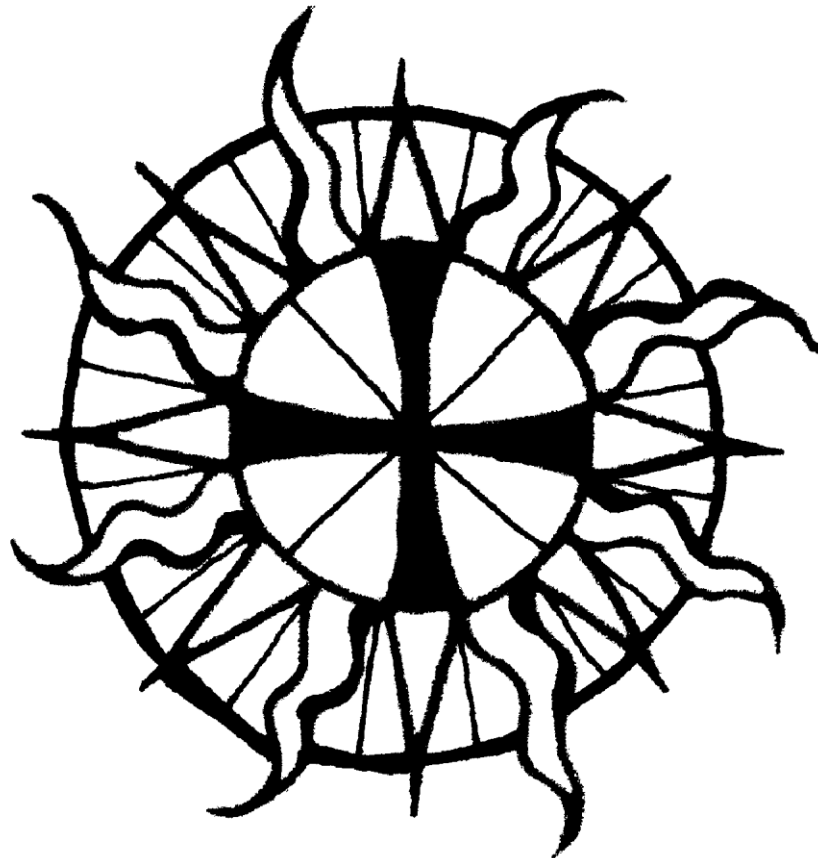
It is in times like these, when we see our faith put into action, that I remember Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s message—that this work is holy, and creating home is a sacred task. So may we create space in our lives for Christ; and may we create space in our homes, our congregations, and our communities to welcome newcomers. I can think of no better way to mark Advent.

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The Rev. Christopher McNabb serves as the program officer for recruitment and engagement for Episcopal Migration Ministries’ Neighbor-to-Neighbor program. He lives in Seattle, Washington.

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Concluding prayer at the Intercessions adapted from *The Armed Forces Prayer Book*, 1951.
Sanctus musical setting from *St Barnabas Mass*, by Doug Howell. © 2016 Creative Measures. Used by permission of the composer.
Invitation to the Table from <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/bcr-132/> Accessed 12 June 2019

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Our Mission:

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ, and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world, guided by the values of Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.



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