



Holy Eucharist – 1st Sunday after Epiphany

Baptism of Our Lord

January 11, 2026, 10a.m.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
8110 St. Andrew's Church Road
Louisville, Kentucky 40258

*BCP refers to the red Book of Common prayer, found in the red cloth holder in front of you. Hymnal refers to the Hymnal 1982 (blue book), also found in the cloth holder. Insert refers to handout with scripture readings. Bold items are said/ sung by all. Please stand or kneel as you are able where marked with a **

***Opening Hymn: Hymnal #76 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”(vs1-3)**

***The Opening Words: BCP p. 355**

Priest: Our service begins on page 355 of the prayerbook.
Priest: Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen
Priest:

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 Deo Hymnal #S280**

**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.**

Priest: **The Lord be with you**

People: **And also with you**

Priest: **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.*

Priest: **Please be seated for the readings.**

Isaiah 42:1-9

Reader: **A reading from the book of Isaiah.**

Here 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.

He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

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

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

See, 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**

Psalm 29

Priest: **Let us read in unison Psalm 29 found in your insert.**

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; *
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**
- 3 The 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.**
- 5 The 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.**
- 7 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.**
- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.**
- 9 And in the temple of the Lord *
all are crying, "Glory!"**

**10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

Acts 10:34-43

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how 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. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not 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. He 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. All 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.

***The Gospel Hymn: Hymnal #81 "Lo How a Rose e'er Blooming"
Matthew 3:13-17**

Officiant: A reading of the gospel according to St. Matthew

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

(read in Karen first, then English) (Sgaw Karen Language)

ဒီးယုန်ရှုးဟးထီၣ်လၢကီၢ်ကၢလံၤလၢဒီးဟဲဝဲဆူယၢဒုၣ်ကျိ

ဆူစီၤယံၤဟံၣ်အအိၣ်ဒ်သီးအကဒီးဘျၢအသးလၢအစုပူၤလီၤ. စီၤယံၤဟံၣ်သးအိၣ်

ဂုံလိာ်တၢ်အံၤ ဒီးတြီအီၤဒီးစံး, “ယၢ်တြးဒီးဘျုးယသးလၢနစုပူၤဒီးနဟဲဆူယအိၣ်
လၢတၢ်ဒီးဘျုးအဂီၢ်တခါ.”

ဘၣ်ဆၣ်ဒီးယုၣ်ရှုးစံးဆၢအီၤ, “မ့ၢ်ဘျီအဝဲအံၤ မံၤနသုတဂုံလိာ်ယၢ်တဂ့ၤ.
အဂ့ၢ်ဒ်အံၤ, ဒီဖျိတၢ်အံၤန့ၣ်ပကမၤလၢပွဲၤထီၣ်ကစၢ်ယွၤအတၢ် အဲၣ်ဒီးခဲလၢ်လီၤ.”
ဒီးစီၤယိၤဟၣ်အၢၣ်လီၤထွဲအခံၤလီၤ.

တုၤယုၣ်ရှုးဘၣ်တၢ်ဘျုးအီၤဝံၤဟဲက့ၤထီၣ်လၢထံကျါန့ၣ်,
တၢ်မၤအသးလၢမူခိၣ်ဘၣ်တၢ်အိးထီၣ်အီၤဒီးအဝဲထံၣ်ဘၣ်ကစၢ်ယွၤ
အသးဟဲလီၤလၢအလိၤမၤအသးဒ်ထီၣ်လွံၤယုၤလီၤဒီးစီၤလီၤဝဲ
အသးန့ၣ်လီၤ. အန့ၣ်ဒီး တၢ်အကလုာ်သီၣ်ထီၣ်လၢမူခိၣ်ဒီးစံး,
“အအံၤမ့ၢ်ယဖိခွါဒ်ယဲလၢယအဲၣ်အီၤဒီးဘၣ်သ့ၣ်ဘၣ် သးယၤဒိၣ်မးတဂၤလီၤ.”

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.”

Officiant: **The Gospel of the Lord**

People: **Praise to you Lord Christ**

The Sermon

This sermon is from the Episcopal Church website & is written by the Rev. Erin Morey, the Assistant Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania.

If you were to read the section of the Gospel of Mark that comes before today's gospel reading, you might be really surprised by what is happening here. John the Baptist has just told a crowd of people, "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." And, suddenly, it seems, the very person that John has been speaking about arrives, asking John to baptize him! It's no wonder that John is shocked and initially resists baptizing Jesus. At the conclusion of this reading, God's spirit descends on Jesus, and we hear the voice of God: "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We can assume, then, that God approves of Jesus's baptism.

But all of this still leaves us with a big question: Why did Jesus, the Son of God, need to be baptized? What is going on here?

It could be said that Jesus's baptism sets in motion the events that will lead to his death, Resurrection, and Ascension. Perhaps Jesus needed to be baptized as a sign—showing that his earthly ministry has begun and would culminate in the events of Good Friday and Easter.

It seems that the author of this text wanted us to be able to imagine ourselves as part of Jesus's story. And this makes sense, because Jesus's baptism is part of his human life. At this point in the year, both in our culture and liturgy, we have left Christmas behind. The decorations are put away. We are in the season after Epiphany. Jesus isn't a baby anymore. But, the power of Jesus's human birth, the world-shattering effect of his Incarnation, remains still with us. Jesus took on our humanity in his birth and continued to share in what it meant to be human throughout his life—and even in his death.

The question of why Jesus needed to be baptized also raises the question, why do *we* get baptized? In our Book of Common Prayer, Holy Baptism is defined as "the sacrament by which God adopts us as his children, and makes us members of Christ's Body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of God." It also tells us that the inward and spiritual grace we receive in Baptism is "union with Christ in

his death and resurrection, birth into God's family the Church, forgiveness of sins, and new life in the Holy Spirit.”

Just as Jesus's baptism signified the beginning of his participation in a new mission in the world, so too does ours. When we are baptized, we are told that we now share in Christ's priesthood—even if we are a helpless infant. At our baptism, we are told to “confess the faith of Christ crucified” and “proclaim his resurrection,” even before we are able to speak!

If we are anxious about the daunting prospect of sharing in Christ's priesthood, this Gospel can remind us that baptism is a sacrament of joyful connection. In the Incarnation, Jesus shares in our humanity. And in Baptism, we share in Christ's Body. We are connected not only to God, but to one another, as members of the household of God.

And not only are we *connected* through Baptism, even more, we are *adopted* as God's children. And we know —because this Gospel tells us—that God is a loving Father who takes pride in his Son. How lucky we are that we get to share in that love! *Amen.*

Priest: **Let us say the Nicene Creed together on page 358 in the prayerbook.**

***The Nicene Creed:**

We believe in one God

**the Father, the Almighty
maker of heaven and earth
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father
God from God, Light from Light
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake, he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

The Prayers of the People

The reader leads the Prayers of the People

Jesus calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light. Washed clean by the waters of baptism, let us pray that we may live the life to which he has called us by saying **hear our prayer**

The magi came from the east to worship your Son. Grant to Christians everywhere Father, the spirit of adoration, especially to the world-wide Anglican Communion and our Archbishop-elect Sarah; the diocese of Kentucky and our bishop Terry, St. Peter's Parish and our priest Fine, and all deacons and lay ministers at work in the world and to persecuted churches around the world.

Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, baptizing with the Spirit and with fire, strengthen us to withstand all the trials of our faith. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ. Father, grant an abundance of peace to your world, especially to the people of the United States of America and to our President Donald, our Governor Andy, and our Mayor Craig, Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death. Father, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless, and all who suffer, especially **Joe, Catherine, Bleh Htoo, Mark Tha, Donna, Peggy, John, Kler Htoo, Bill, Joy, Debbie, Moe Loe, George, Ted, Lucy, Valentine, Pah Noe, Gay Ku, Michael, Terry, Beverly, Fiona, Moe Moe, Peh Naw, Paw Khu, Eileen, Tracy, Liz, Heidi, Gerald, Nancy, Addison, Janet, Peggy, Laura, Abigail, Rebecca, Nate, Phil, Shirley, and Harry;** and for all who struggle with depression, fear, anxiety, and mental illness. We pray for all immigrants in our country. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Father, we rejoice in our fellowship with the shepherds, the angels, the magi, the Virgin Mary, John the Baptist, Saint Joseph, Saint Peter and all the faithful departed, and those from our community

who have died in years past: **Eunice Hickerson, William Hansell, Carl William Russell, Elva Stewart, Dot Crick, Kenneth Sears, Edward Mudd, Dolores Fowler, Emily Marchand, and Dot Jones.** The Sanctuary Candle burns in loving memory of **Juanita Mitchell.** In your unfailing love for us and for all people, hear and answer our prayers through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love. Anoint us with the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Lord of Glory, **hear our prayer.**

Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth, the visit of the magi and Our Lord's baptism. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today. Lord of Glory, **hear our prayer.**

The Priest adds a concluding Collect:

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***The Confession & Absolution**

The Priest says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor with the confession found on page 360 in the prayerbook.

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**

The 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

***The Peace**

All Stand. The Priest says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***People:* And also with you**

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

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Celebrations

Announcements

(Warden to lead Announcements)

The Offering

The Priest Says:

Let us with gladness present the offerings of our life and labor to the Lord.

***Offering Hymn: Hymnal #616 “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”**

***The Doxology: Hymnal #380, verse 3**

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;

Praise him all creatures here below,

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

***Holy Eucharist, Prayer A: BCP p. 361**

The Holy Communion

***The Priest Says:* We continue on page 361 in the prayerbook.**

***Priest:* The Lord be with you**

***People:* And Also with you.**

***Priest:* Lift up your hearts.**

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

***Priest:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

***People:* It is right to give God thanks and praise..**

Then facing the Holy Table, the Priest proceeds:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Priest 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:

Priest and People

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

The Priest continues:

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 forever. *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,
forever and ever. Amen**

***The Breaking of the Bread**

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

Priest: **Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;**

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Priest: **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.**

Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward for bread and wine; all people are invited to come forward for a blessing.

All are invited to go to the back of the church for a healing blessing after receiving communion.

***The Post-Communion Prayer**

Priest: **Let us pray the post communion prayer on page 365 in the prayerbook.**

Priest and people:

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**

The Priest blesses the congregation

***Closing Hymn: Hymnal #128 “We Three Kings”**

***The Dismissal**

Priest: **Go in Peace, to love and serve the Lord.**

People: **Thanks be to God**

