



St. John's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Holy Baptism
First Sunday after the Epiphany
Baptism of Our Lord
January 8, 2023



The flowers on the altar are arranged by Allyson Ludington and given to the glory of God.

ST. JOHN'S CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Ripp Hardaway, Rector
Jenny Montgomery, Administrative Assistant to the Rector
Cheryl Smith, Director of Children & Family Ministries
Kyle Smith, Youth Leader

Desiree Moultrie, Director of Finance and Operations
Grace Symmons, Director of Communications
Rube Harrison, A/V Technology Lead
Art Gonzalez, Sexton

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 299

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People **One God and Father of all.**

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL *Follow the crucifer and join Ms. Cheryl for a children's worship time. (11 a.m. service only)*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Thomas Cranmer, 1549

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

FIRST LESSON | Isaiah 42:1-9

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

BCP p. 620

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, * ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.	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.
2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; * worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.	8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe * and strips the forests bare.
3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; * the Lord is upon the mighty waters.	9 And in the temple of the Lord * all are crying, "Glory!"
4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; * the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.	10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; * the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; * the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;	11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; * the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.
6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, * and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.	

SECOND LESSON | Acts 10:34-43

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.**

GOSPEL HYMN | O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High (v. 1, 2)

Hymn 448

THE HOLY GOSPEL | Matthew 3:13-17

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL HYMN | O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High (v. 3)

Hymn 448

THE SERMON *A period of silence for reflection will follow.*

The Rev. Ripp Hardaway

THE PRESENTATION FOR BAPTISM

From the beginning the Church has received believers by baptism. Believers' children have also been baptized so that with help and encouragement they should grow up in Christ and by the grace of God serve Christ all the days of their life. On the day when the apostles first preached the Gospel of Christ's resurrection, Peter urged his hearers "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus the Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God may call." (Acts 2:38-39)

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

BCP p. 301

Celebrant The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

(8:45 a.m.) Sponsors **I present Chris Delanna Grayson to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.**

Celebrant Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate **I do.**

(11 a.m.) Parents & Godparents **I present Albert Henry "Hank" Gentry to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.**

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that this child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents & Godparents **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help them to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents & Godparents **I will, with God's help.**

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and 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.**

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person/this child in her/his life in Christ?
Congregation **We will.**

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

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

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

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant Do you believe in the 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.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant 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.**

THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

Let us now pray for Chris (8:45 a.m.) / Hank (11 a.m.) who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver *her/him*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open *her/him* heart to your grace and truth.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill *her/him* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep *her/him* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach *her/him* to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send *her/him* into the world in witness to your love.

4 People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring *her/him* to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

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.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

BCP p 306

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying,

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God 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.

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 forever 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 forever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

BCP p 307

The candidate is presented to the Celebrant, who then immerses, or pours water upon the candidate, saying,

Chris/Hank, 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 *her/him* to the new life of grace. Sustain *her/him*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *her/him* 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 the Priest places a hand on the candidate's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying,

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

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People **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 PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC | Teach Us To Love Your Word, Lord

Kathy James

<i>Teach us to love Your Word Lord</i>	<i>Your people were slaves in Egypt</i>	<i>When we were yet not a people</i>	<i>Teach us to walk in Your way Lord</i>
<i>Let it cleanse us through and through</i>	<i>Your mighty word set them free</i>	<i>Your Word gathered us in</i>	<i>Your kindness to us sets us free</i>
<i>As we open our hearts to obey You</i>	<i>Calling them into a new land</i>	<i>You made of us a new nation</i>	<i>Turns us to love one another</i>
<i>Break us remake us anew</i>	<i>You led them safe through the sea</i>	<i>To praise You in wonder and love</i>	<i>Sharing Your mercy and peace</i>

*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. Amen.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B; BCP p. 367

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant 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

Hymn S-130

<i>Holy, holy, holy Lord,</i>	<i>Hosanna in the highest.</i>
<i>God of power and might,</i>	<i>Hosanna in the highest.</i>
<i>Holy, holy, holy Lord,</i>	<i>Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.</i>
<i>God of power and might,</i>	<i>Hosanna in the highest.</i>
<i>heaven and earth are full,</i>	<i>Hosanna in the highest.</i>
<i>full of your glory.</i>	

(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 St. John and 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 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Celebrant 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 ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

BCP p. 365

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. To receive the bread, place one hand over the other with palms facing upward. To indicate that you would like to receive a blessing instead, cross arms over chest. Please let Fr. Ripp know if you would like to receive a gluten free wafer.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Kathy James

The Commission (CCLI #7146623)

<i>See my hands look at my feet</i>	<i>Don't forget the things that I taught you</i>	<i>Go tell the world about me</i>
<i>It's okay if it's hard to believe</i>	<i>I conquered death and I hold the keys</i>	<i>For I was dead but now I live</i>
<i>I have faith you will do greater things</i>	<i>Where I go you will go too someday</i>	<i>Oh I've gotta go now for a little while aye</i>
<i>It's my time to go but before I leave</i>	<i>But there's much to do here before you leave</i>	<i>But goodbye is not the end</i>
<i>Go tell the world about me</i>	<i>End of the journey the end of the road</i>	<i>(Go tell the world) Go tell them about me</i>
<i>I was dead but now I live</i>	<i>My spirit is with you wherever you go</i>	<i>(Go tell the world) I've gotta go</i>
<i>I've gotta go now for a little while</i>	<i>You have a purpose and I have a plan</i>	<i>Go tell the world) For a little while</i>
<i>But goodbye is not the (end)</i>	<i>I'll make you this promise</i>	<i>But goodbye is not the end</i>
	<i>I'll come back again but until then</i>	

The Heart of Worship (CCLI #2296522)

<i>When the music fades all is stripped away</i>	<i>I'm coming back to the heart of worship</i>
<i>And I simply come</i>	<i>And it's all about You all about You Jesus</i>
<i>Longing just to bring something that's of worth</i>	<i>I'm sorry Lord for the thing I've made it</i>
<i>That will bless Your heart</i>	<i>When it's all about You all about You Jesus</i>
<i>I'll bring You more than a song</i>	<i>King of endless worth no one could express</i>
<i>For a song in itself is not what You have required</i>	<i>How much You deserve</i>
<i>You search much deeper within</i>	<i>Though I'm weak and poor all I have is Yours</i>
<i>Through the way things appear</i>	<i>Ev'ry single breath</i>
<i>You're looking into my heart</i>	

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BCP p 365

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

CLOSING HYMN | Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hymn 616

THE DISMISSAL

BCP p 366

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

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**



The Church Office will be closed on January 16th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

119th Council of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas | February 16 - 18, 2023 | American Bank Center, Corpus Christi

Council will meet in Corpus Christi in February. If you would like to attend as a delegate from St. John's, please email ripp@stjohnsnb.com. We will elect delegates and alternates during our Parish Meeting on January 15th at 10 a.m.

Reserve Altar Flowers for 2023!

With a donation of at least \$50, Sunday flowers can be dedicated to something special, such as a birthday, anniversary, graduation, or memorial to any special person in your life, by any parishioner at St. John's. Dedications are recognized in the weekly bulletins. Donations cover the cost of flowers and supplies; any remaining money goes to the Flower Fund for future special events. Use the QR code or complete the form in the Narthex to request a Sunday in 2023. Reservations are not available during Lent or on High Holy Sundays. Reservations are also first come first served. Contact Allyson (allyson.ludington@gmail.com) with any questions.

Town Hall Meeting | January 8 at 10 a.m. | Parish Hall

Fr. Ripp will provide an overview of the upcoming diocesan bishop election and answer questions you may have about the process. Children's Activities will take place in the Children's Room during this meeting.

Vestry Meeting | January 10 at 6:15 p.m. | Upstairs Conference Room

Lunch Bunch | Wednesday, January 11th at 11 a.m. | McAdoo's (196 N Castell Ave) | Next month: February 8th at The Roost

Food, fun, and fellowship! The Lunch Bunch meets at 11 a.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at various restaurants around town. RSVP helps reserve seats but last minute attendees are welcome, too. Call Sandy Bryan (512-426-0059) for more information and to RSVP.

Wednesday Evening Offering | Our Church: Christian, Anglican and Episcopal | January 11 - March 8 | 7 - 8 p.m. in the Conference Room

The things that make our Episcopal Church distinct today arose in the context of historical events in the Holy Lands, in Rome, in Constantinople, on the European continent, in England and finally in the American colonies and the United States. This series will examine that history and how it impacts our faith and practices today. Facilitated by Bob King.

Annual Parish Meeting | January 15 at 10 a.m. | Parish Hall and live on YouTube

Attend to hear updates about the year ahead and vote to elect those who will represent St. John's at Diocesan Council in February. Children's Activities will take place in the Children's Room during this meeting.

Good Book Club | At-home Epiphany Study of Ruth and Esther

Learn more, download the resources, and sign up for email updates at goodbookclub.org

English for Spanish Speakers - Volunteers Needed | Wednesday Evenings at 6:00 p.m. | January 11 - May 3, 2023

Penny Griffith will teach this class and is looking for St. John's volunteers to help by practicing conversations in English with the students. This free class is available for 12 students and is open to the community. Contact Penny at penny.griffith@gmail.com for more information.

Newcomers Dinner | Sunday, January 22 at 4:30 p.m. | Don & Jo Ann Bedford's Home

This is an opportunity for newcomers to get to know other newcomers as well as current church members in a small group setting. Anyone who has not yet attended a newcomers event is welcome! Email Ray Purser (houstonian62@yahoo.com) with any questions. Use the link at the QR code above to RSVP.

Adult Christian Education & Children and Youth Sunday School begins on January 22

St. John's 101 | Music/Multipurpose Room | Sundays at 10 a.m.

This class is designed to help you understand the Episcopal Church and how we at St. John's live into the vision and mission to which God calls us. This is informative for life-long Episcopalians and those wanting to learn more about this denomination and its spiritual depth. Anyone interested in joining St. John's or being Confirmed, Received, or Reaffirming their faith, in the Episcopal Church should take this class.

Ephesians Study: "Rooted and Grounded in Love" | Parish Hall | Sundays at 10 a.m.

The Letter to the Ephesians offers us an opportunity to read, study, and reflect on a different kind of letter in the New Testament canon. As we will discover, Ephesians does not address specific issues arising in a particular church. Instead, the letter offers important insights into what God has accomplished for the entire world in the person of Christ and what it means for us to grow into the full stature of Christ in the midst of a culture that tempts us to worship many idols and ideologies that are not of God.

Children and Youth Sunday School Classes | Classrooms/Children's Room/Youth Room | Sundays at 10 a.m.

LITURGICAL ASSISTANTS

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Clark Hendley & Rob Soeldner (8:45 a.m.)
Adrian Quintanilla & Kay Guerin (11 a.m.)

USHERS

Harriet Aristeguieta & Sandy Payson (8:45 a.m.)
Jane Stewart & Matthew Eckmann (11 a.m.)

ALTAR GUILD

Carol Lenker & Sarah Spradling (8:45 a.m.)
Kathy Simmons & Elisa Hoover (11 a.m.)

GREETERS

Suzanne Winters, Ray Purser, Doug Hollowell (8:45 a.m.)
Ginga & Dave Golson (11 a.m.)

ACOLYTES

John Michael Douglas (8:45 a.m.)
Allison Drichta & Nate Eckmann-Rivera

ORGANIST

Marti Ahern