

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.

Psalm 29

Afferte Domino

- 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.

The Epistle Reading

Acts 8:14–17

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***The Gospel Reading**

Luke 3:15–17, 21–22

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

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.

The Sermon

The Rev. Megan Castellan

***The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

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.

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.

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**

Through Christ we are anointed with the Holy Spirit in baptism. May the same Spirit inspire us as we offer our prayers, responding, "Hear us, God of Glory."

+ For an overflowing gift of generosity, that we may reflect God's abundant care for all of creation, lifting others out of systemic poverty, increasing the mission work of our churches, and reaping the joy of a philanthropic life; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

+ For the courage to walk through the tranquil and turbulent waters of life, knowing that in our baptism we died with Christ in darkness and joined him in the risen light; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

+ For Joseph., our President, and all who exercise authority in the nations of the world, that they will faithfully establish justice on earth, and carry the torch of freedom and peace into all their deliberations; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

+ For the Church, that it may bear witness to Jesus' forgiveness and love, offering to those outside its walls the light that illumines all darkness and releases humanity from the grip of sin; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

+ That we may know our identity through the voice of God, who claims us as his beloved sons and daughters, and invites us to share in his earthly mission; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

+ In thanksgiving for the Body and Blood of Christ, a foretaste of that heavenly banquet upon which the faithful departed continually feast; let us pray.

Hear us, God of Glory.

In companionship with the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints whose constant intercession strengthens our faith, let us continue our prayers.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, and especially for:

Dave	Jean	Laurie	Carl	Jonathan
Amelia	Vivian	Theodore	Jennifer	Paula
Mary	Sarah	Margaret	Ovie	Carol
Tom	Felice	Elaine	Stanley	Lorraine
Giovanni	Edith	Pat	Carol	Howie
Cindy	Elaine	Heather	Sara	
Dan	Joan	Judy	Jon	
Wes	Cathey	Tina	James	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:
Chavon Bunch, Virginia Fenton, Cassady Richardson

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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.*

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**

Please remain in your pew. Wave!

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Announcements & Welcome

Offertory Sentence

Organ Offertory: *Dundee* (God moves in a mysterious way) - Healey Willan (1880–1968)

***Presentation Hymn** The sinless one to Jordan came (*Solemnis haec festivitas*) **Hymnal # 120 vs 1–5**

***The Great Thanksgiving**

Expanded Language Prayer A

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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: *continuing:* 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

Hymnal S-129

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and became 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 maker of all.

Jesus 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 Savior 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, Jesus 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, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ.

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 Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

The Communion of the People

All people are invited to the Lord's Table.

Eucharist will be distributed in the form of the bread with wine available for intincture. Please come forward in a single line in the center aisle to receive. Wait to remove your mask until you return to your seat, and then replace it after consuming the Sacrament.

Post Communion Prayer

*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.*

Blessing

***Hymn** Hail to the Lord's Anointed (*Es flog ein kleines Waldvögelein*) **Hymnal # 616 vs. 1, 2 & 4**

Dismissal

Postlude Reflection on *Caithness* Charles Callahan, 2009

Liturgical Ministers: Cynthia Gration, Gwen Freeman, Sara VanLooy

Virtual Vergers: Matthew Sanaker, Sara VanLooy

Choral Music Sung by the St. John's Cyber Choir

HYMNS

Christ, when for us you were baptized (*Caithness*) Hymnal # 121 vs. 1, 2 & 4

1 Christ, when for us you were baptized,
God's spirit on you came,
as peaceful as a dove and yet
as urgent as a flame.

2 God called you his beloved Son,
called you his servant true
sent you his kingdom to proclaim
his holy will to do.

4 Baptize us with your spirit, Lord,
your cross on us be signed,
that, likewise in God's service we
may perfect freedom find.

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The sinless one to Jordan came (*Solemnis haec festivitas*) Hymnal # 120

1 The sinless one to Jordan came,
and in the river shared our stain;
God's righteousness he thus fulfilled,
and chose the path his Father willed.

2 Uprising from the waters there,
and Father's voice did then declare
that Christ, the Son of God, had come
to lead his scattered people home.

3 Above him see the heavenly Dove,
the sign of God the Father's love,
now by the Holy Spirit shed
upon the Son's anointed head.

4 How blest that mission then begun
to heal and save a race undone!

Straight to the wilderness he goes
to wrestle with his people's foes.

5 O Christ, may we baptized from sin,
go forth with you a world to win:
grant us the Holy Spirit's power
to shield us in temptation's hour.

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Hail to the Lord's Anointed (*Es flog ein kleines Waldvögelein*) Hymnal # 616 vs. 1, 2 & 4

1 Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

2 He comes with succor speedy
to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

4 Kings shall bow down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.



St. John's Church

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Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 10-3

The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector

Matthew Sanaker, Sr. Warden

Parish Administrator

Karen A. Hindenlang, Director of Music/Organist

Lynne Walton, Intern

Cora Yao, Jr. Warden

Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

Crawford R. Thoburn, Assisting Conductor

George E. Damp, Guest Organist

If you need pastoral assistance, or just want to reach out to Mtr. Megan, please call her at 315-757-0251, or e-mail mtrmegan@stjohnsithaca.org.

If you would like to contribute to our ministries, you may make a secure donation at <https://stjohnsithaca.org/donate/>. Thank you!

Sign up for our weekly newsletter The Fledgling by contacting the church office.

Cyber Choir welcomes new participants. For info, see our Director of Music/Organist Karen Hindenlang after the service or contact her through the church office.

Please Join Us: Morning Prayer weekdays at 9:30 on Facebook and YouTube..

2022 PLEDGE ENVELOPES, for those who use them, are on the table in the back of the nave. They are sorted alphabetically by last name. Please pick up your envelopes and take them home with you at your earliest convenience. If you do not find your envelopes, or have never had envelopes and wish to begin using them, please contact the parish office: (607) 273-6532 or office@stjohnsithaca.org.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH is Sunday, January 16th at 12:00 pm on Zoom.

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