

The First Sunday after Epiphany
St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY
8 January 2023 Year A
10:30 AM

* Indicates please stand

Prelude Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

***Processional Hymn** Earth has many a noble city (*Stuttgart*)

Hymnal #127

***Opening Acclamation**

BCP 355

***Collect For Purity**

***Gloria**

Hymnal #S-280

The Collect of the Day

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.*

The 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

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

Afferte Domino

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 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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Sequence Christ, when for us (*Caithnass*)

Hymnal #121

***The Gospel Reading**

Matthew 3:13-17

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

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."

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.

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**

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.

+ For the Church to spread the Gospel by showing up to work for justice and an end to hunger and poverty.

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

Joan	Charles	Penny	Deb
Richard	Dick	Peter	
Shirley	Rebecca	Dave	
Wes	Strater	Cece	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week

Chavon Bunch, Virginia Fenton

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

Anthem Open the Heavens

Christopher Upton (b. 1974)

Open the heavens, Holy Spirit, for us to see Jesus interceding for us;
May we be willing to share his baptism, ready to share his cup
And strengthened to serve him for ever, Amen.

***Presentation Hymn** When Jesus went to Jordan's stream (*Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam*)

Hymnal #139

*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 (*Sanctus*)

Hymnal #S-125

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

Fraction Anthem Lamb of God (*Agnus Dei*)

Hymnal #S-163

The Communion of the People

Hymnal #-294

*All people are invited to the Lord's Table.
Eucharist will be distributed in the center aisle. Please come forward in a single line to receive.
You may either intinct your wafer in the small chalice, or you may drink from the larger common chalice
after consuming the wafer.
Please replace your mask after receiving the sacrament.
Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

Communion Hymn Baptized in Water (*Point Loma*)

Hymnal # 294

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

***Recessional** : "I come," the great Redeemer cries (*The Endris Nygbt*)

Hymnal #116

Dismissal

Postlude *In dir est Freude*

J.S. Bach

Liturgical Ministers: Muriel Everhart, Gwen Freeman, Amber Massa

Acolyte: Amber Massa

Virtual Vergers: Sara VanLooy, Virginia McGhee

St. John's extends a warm welcome to visitors!

May you experience the Lord's presence during worship. Please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate and stay for coffee in the parish hall after the service.

LARGE PRINT EDITIONS OF THE SERVICE ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from **One License** with license # **A – 724223**

**Earth has many a noble city (*Stuttgart*)
Hymnal #127**

1. Earth has many a noble city;
Bethlehem, thou dost all excel:
out of thee the Lord from heaven
came to rule his Israel.

2. Fairer than the sun at morning
was the star that told his birth,
to the world its God announcing
seen in fleshly form on earth.

3. Eastern sages at his cradle
make oblations rich and rare;
see them give, in deep devotion,
gold and frankincense and myrrh.

4 Sacred gifts of mystic meaning:
incense doth their God disclose,
gold the King of kings proclaimeth,
myrrh his sepulcher foreshows.

5 Jesus, whom the Gentiles worshiped
at thy glad epiphany,
unto thee, with God the Father
and the Spirit, glory be.

**Christ, when for us you were baptized
(*Caithness*)
Hymnal #121**

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

3 Straight-way and steadfast until death
you then obeyed the call
freely as Son of Man to serve
and give your life for all.

Hymns

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

When Jesus went to Jordan's stream

**(*Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam*)
Hymnal #139**

1 When Jesus went to Jordan's stream his
Father's will obeying,
and was baptized by John, there came a voice
from heaven saying,
"This is my dear beloved Son upon whom
rests my favor."
And till God's will is fully done he will not
bend or waver,
for he is Christ the Savior.

2 The Holy Spirit then was shown, a dove on
him descending,
the Triune God us thus made known in Christ
as love unending.
He taught, he healed, he raised the dead, yet, in
his great endeavors
to save us, his own blood was shed; but death
could hold him never.
He rose, and lives for ever.

3 He came by water and by blood to heal our
lost condition;
he cleanses, reconciles to God, and gives the
Great Commission.
Then let us not heed worldly lies no rest upon
our merit,
but trust in Christ who will baptize with water
and the Spirit
that we may life inherit.

**Baptized in water (*Point loma*)
Hymnal #294**

1 Baptized in water,
sealed by the spirit
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king;

heirs of salvation,
trusting his promise -
faithfully now God's praise we sing.

2 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our king;
one with his rising,
freed and forgiven
thankfully now God's praise we sing.

3 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our king;
born of one Father,
we are his children -
joyfully now God's praise we sing.

"I come," the great Redeemer cries (*Point luma*)
Hymnal #294

1 "I come," the great Redeemer cries,
"To do thy will, O Lord!"

At Jordan's stream, behold!
He seals the sure prophetic word.

2 "Thus it becomes to fulfill
all righteousness," he said.
Then, faithful to the Lord's commands,
through Jordan's flood was led.

3 Hark, a glad voice! The Father speaks
from heaven's exalted height:
"This is my Son, my well-beloved
in whom I take delight."

4 The Savior Jesus, well-beloved!
His Name we will profess,
like him desirous to fulfill
God's will in righteousness.

5 No more we'll count ourselves our own
but his in bonds of love.
Oh, may such bonds for ever draw
our souls to things above!



St. John's Church
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"Like" us on facebook @ Saint John's Episcopal Church

Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 10–3

The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector

Cora Yao, Senior Warden
Parish Administrator, Cathy Wagner
Director of Music/Organist, Anna Stepler

Gwen Freeman, Junior Warden
Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

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.

Please Join Us:

Coffee Hour has resumed in the Parish Hall following the service. Please continue to wear your mask when you are not actively eating or drinking.

Morning Prayer Monday – Thursday at 9:30 on Facebook and YouTube.

Forward Day by Day for **February, March and April** is available on the table in the rear of the church.

Flowers: If you wish to give Sunday flowers in memory of a loved one, please call the church office (607-273-6532).