

January 12, 2025

The First Sunday After The Epiphany Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

The Holy Eucharist

A bell tolls.

We invite you to quiet your hearts and minds as we prepare for worship.

THE PRELUDE

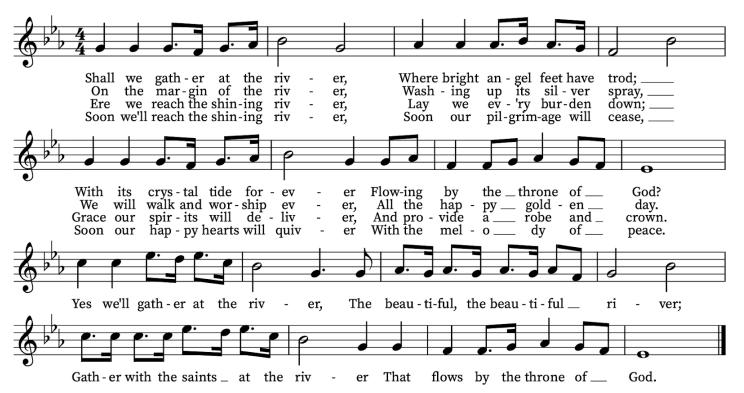
Behold that Star Charles Callahan

The Liturgy of Gathering

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE GATHERING HYMN *

Shall We Gather At the River LEVAS II-141



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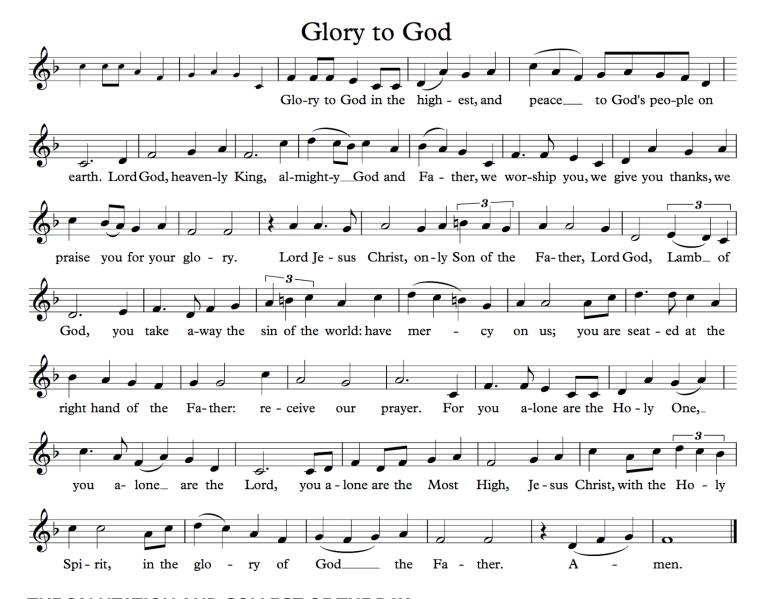
THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God. Glory to God for ever and ever.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Let us pray: 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.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE*



THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.

And also with you.

God 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 Liturgy of the Word

Please sit.

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 43:1-7

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

The reading is introduced.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight,

and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

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."

A brief silence, then:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29 Afferte Domino

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)

The psalm is prayed in responsively by whole verse.

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

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; * worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; * the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; * the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; * the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, * and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

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.

The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe * and strips the forests bare.

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

The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; * the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.

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

Glory to God, Source of All Being, Incarnate Word, and Holy Spirit; * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES

Acts 8:14-17

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

The reading is introduced.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.

A brief silence, then:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O 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."

A brief silence, then:

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

THE HOMILY

Pastoral Associate Patti Walter

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE RENEWAL OF THE BAPTISMAL VOWS

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, as we celebrate Christ's baptism by John in the River Jordan, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced evil and promised to serve God faithfully in the holy catholic Church.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ? **I do.**

Do you believe in God, the Source of All Being? I believe in God, the Source of All Being, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Beloved One of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's Beloved One, our Lord:
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary;
who suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried,
and who descended to the dead.
Who on the third day rose again,
ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God.
Christ will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

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

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? I will, with God's help.

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

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

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? I will, with God's help.

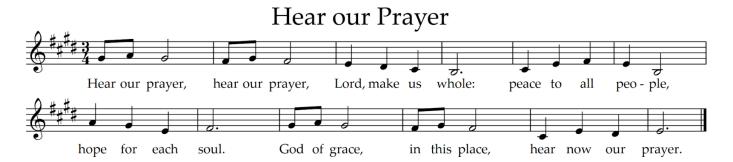
Let us pray...Almighty God, in Christ you have given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins: Grant that we may continue in the covenant we have made in the waters of Baptism, and give to us eternal life by your grace; through Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen**.

Remember your baptism and be grateful.

Water is sprinkled on the Assembly in remembrance of their baptism

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

It is our custom to light candles for those who are sick or distressed and to remember those who have died. The prayer stations are on either side of the Altar. The refrain is sung once. *



Officiant: Gracious God, as we experience the season of Epiphany, we seek your light that we may share it with others.

Loving God, whose Presence guides the Universal Church, may all who hear Your call discover how to be faithful as we go forth in faith in 2025. (pause)

Help us hear Your call.

Wellspring of All Knowledge, we hold the nations and all their actions up to the light. May they discern how to work collaboratively for the common good with justice for all. (pause)

Help us hear Your call.

Holy Light, shine Your peace into our hearts that we may envision and enact peace throughout our troubled world. (pause)

Help us hear Your call.

Source of All Life, as our planet struggles to survive the abuse Your people have created, help us find new and better ways to care for Your creation. (pause)

Help us hear Your call.

Companion Who Walks with Us, show us at St. Barnabas how to live in the light of Christ's presence as we are called both here and in the community beyond our walls. (pause)

Help us hear Your call.

Source of Compassion, we pray for St. Barnabas Parish as we seek to serve those in need, especially for the Absalom Jones Fund for Episcopal Historically Black Colleges and Universities that advance racial justice through higher education. (pause)

Help us hear Your call.

Beloved One, we hold up to You all those in any darkness or difficulty that they may know Your light, especially those for whom we have been asked to pray: Skyler, the Bird family, Steve and his mom, Greg, Kate, Jill, Charles, Joy, Margaret, Darryl, Anne, Mat, the people of Ukraine, the people of Sudan, the people in the Middle East, those who suffer from conflict and natural and human disaster, all victims of gun violence, and those we name aloud or in silence . (pause)

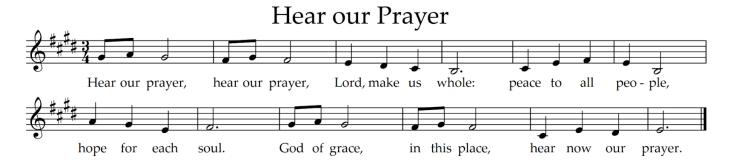
Help us hear Your call.

Spirit of Wisdom, we entrust to You those we love but see no more, and those we name in silence or aloud. (pause)

Help us hear Your call.

Celebrant: We offer these prayers to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. **Amen**.

The refrain is sung once more. *



THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

All share a greeting of peace.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Liturgy of the Meal

THE OFFERTORY

The Offertory Sentence

Please sit.

The Presentation of the Bread and Wine

Offertory Music

Down To the River to Pray

Arr. St. Barnabas Choir

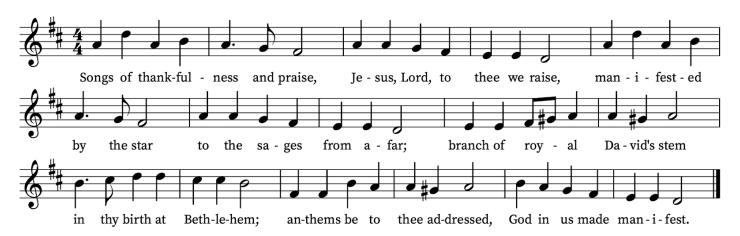
Choir

The Presentation of the Gifts

Please stand in body or spirit.

The Offertory Hymn*

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise H-135 $_{\mbox{\scriptsize Verse}~1}$



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Enriching Our Worship 2

The Preface and Proper Preface

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

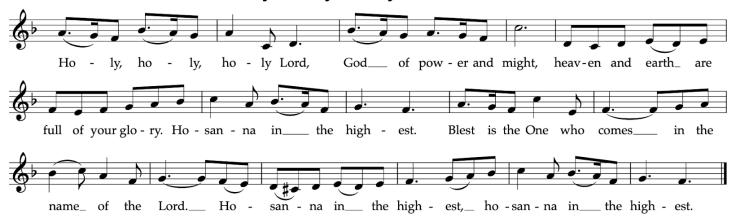
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing.

Holy, Holy, Holy ELW-193



The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

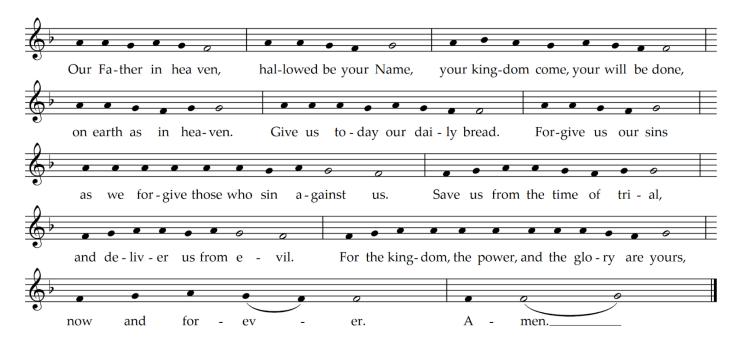
Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Barnabas, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

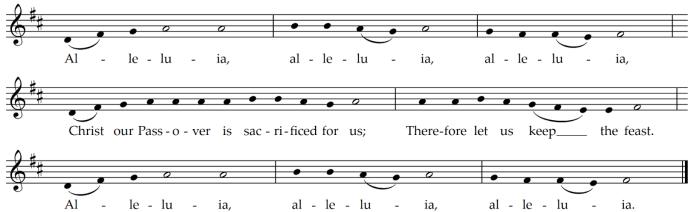
It is our custom to hold hands during The Lord's Prayer.

As Jesus has taught us, we pray those words that bind us together:



The Breaking of the Bread and Fraction Anthem*





The Invitation To Communion

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Receive who you are, and become what you receive.

Please sit.

This is the table of God. As Jesus welcomed everyone to his table, and so we at St. Barnabas welcome everyone to this table. Gather around the Altar as you are directed. You may stand or kneel as is your custom. The Celebrant will place a wafer into your hand. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. You have two options to receive the wine. A Chalice Bearer will offer the Common Cup from which you may drink, or you may dip the bread in the wine when a second chalice comes in turn. You may also choose not to partake of the Cup. When you have received the Sacrament, please return to your seat. If you or your children prefer only to receive a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your hands over your chest.

The Music During Communion

Winter Wind Gian Carlo Menotti

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE SENDING OUT OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (Occasional)

N. in the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

We who are many are one Body, because we all share one Bread, one Cup.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray...God our Redeemer,

you have fed us at this Table with the gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the Good News of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

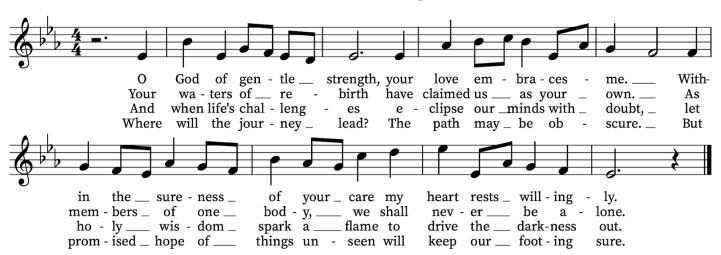
The Liturgy of Sending

THE BLESSING

May Christ, the light of the world, fill you with love, joy and peace; and the blessing of God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen**.

THE SENDING HYMN

O God of Gentle Strength WLP-771



THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE POSTLUDE

In Thee is Gladness J. S. Bach

^{*}Hymn music and lyrics are reprinted under One License #A-729701.

^{**}Liturgical pieces are from Sundays and Seasons: Year B 2025, Augsburg Fortress, Publishers, Minneapolis.