

**A Service of Morning Prayer
for January 9, 2022
The Baptism of the Lord
First Sunday after the Epiphany**



Fresco by Castera Bazile, 1950, in Holy Trinity Anglican Cathedral, Port au Prince Haiti -- mostly destroyed by earthquake on Jan. 12, 2010
from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

A voice came from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17

CP 86 More Than We Can Ask or Imagine

1 More than we can ask or imagine,
More than we can ever dare to dream,
We are the children of heaven's creation,
God's own beloved, each called by name,

And we cry, Glory! (Glory) Glory! (Glory)
Glory to God who calls us by name!
Glory! (Glory) Glory! (Glory)
Glory to God! Glory we sing!

2 More than we will ever imagine,
More than we will ever understand.
We are sent to walk with compassion,
To live out God's love by heart and by hand.

And we cry, Glory! (Glory) Glory! (Glory)
Glory to God who calls us by name!
Glory! (Glory) Glory! (Glory)
Glory to God! Glory our song!

3 More than we can ask or imagine,
More than we could ever desire;
Out of the dust God's building a kingdom,
Like wine from the press, like bread from the
fire.

And we cry, Glory! (Glory) Glory! (Glory)
Glory to God who calls us by name!
Glory! (Glory) Glory! (Glory)
Glory on earth! Glory on high!

Glory! (Glory) Glory (Glory)
Glory to God! Glory we cry!
Glory! (Glory) Glory! (Glory)
Glory on earth! Glory on high!
Glory on earth! Glory on high!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all.

And also with you.

May his grace and peace be with you.
May he fill our hearts with joy.

Almighty God,
**To you all hearts are open,
 All desires known,
 And from you no secrets are hidden.
 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.**

Psalm 29

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

29:1 Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

29:2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.

29:3 The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

29:4 The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

29:5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

29:6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

29:7 The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

29:8 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

29:9 The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

29:10 The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

29:11 May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

A Reading from Isaiah 43:1-7

43:1 But now 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.

43:2 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.

43:3 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.

43:4 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.

43:5 Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;

43:6 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--

43:7 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.**

CP 631 The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy

1 The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
For Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
And here and hereafter the kingdom shall
grow.

3 The kingdom of God is challenge and
choice:
Believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his
cross:
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

2 The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
The captives are freed, the sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed God's banquet to
share;
And hope is awakened in place of despair.

4 God's kingdom is come, the gift and the
goal;
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his
call;
And all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

A Reading from Acts 8: 14-17

8:14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.

8:15 The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit

8:16 (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus).

8:17 Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 115 Awake O Sinner Rise From Death

1 Awake, O sleeper, rise from death,
and Christ shall give you light,
so learn his love-its length and breadth,
its fullness, depth, and height.

4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved,
who died that he might save;
with kind and gentle hearts forgive
as God in Christ forgave.

2 To us on earth he came to bring
from sin and fear release,
to give the Spirit's unity,
the very bond of peace.

5 For us Christ lived, for us he died
and conquered in the strife.
Awake, arise, go forth in faith,
and Christ shall give you life.

3 There is one Body and one hope,
one Spirit and one call,
one Lord, one Faith, and one Baptism,
one Father of us all.

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

3:15 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,

3:16 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.

3:17 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."

3:21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened,

3:22 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 Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

CCLI 5401541 Baptised in the Jordan River

1 Baptized in the Jordan River
Making all the waters pure
Christ has come to heal deliver
All the world by wondrous cure
God is stripped in His descending
Toward the dark of Jordan's grave
Clothing us in His ascending
God arises now to save

3 Join the Lord by imitation
Find in God a second birth
Through the loving transformation
Heaven makes its home on earth
Live the grace of Jordan's story
Follow where the Lord has trod
Wrapped in light and robed in glory
We are raised on high by God

2 Look above and see how heaven
Opens up with greatest love
For the Spirit blest is given
Now descending like a dove
From the skies in wonder broken
Words reveal the Holy One
Hear His words forever spoken
This is My beloved Son

4 Come you baptized sons and daughters
Come rejoice in what you saw
God has blessed the Jordan's waters
Filling us with grace and awe
Let the earth and heaven hear it
Shout for joy the Lord acclaim
Praising Father Son and Spirit
Now we share in Christ's own name

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**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.**

**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. Amen.**

Prayers of the People compiled by the Rev. Alison Westervelt, and led by Betty Johnson.

On this Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, when Christ was revealed as the Beloved Son, we turn to God our Father confident that he will hear and answer our prayers as we say,

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

At the beginning of this New year we pray that you will fill your church throughout the world with your Holy Spirit. Mindful that Christians worship and gather in many different settings and circumstances, we pray for a church which reaches out not just to those who find faith easy but those who struggle with faith.

- for the Iglesia Anglicana de Chile
- for the National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop, the Most Rev. Mark MacDonald.
- for St. Augustine of Canterbury, Edmonton: Jonathan Crane, Rector; Anne Wightman, Honorary Assistant.
- for the Buyé Diocese Youth Coordinator: Audace Kwizera.
- for the people of the Enoch Cree Nation.
- For our diocese of Edmonton and Bishop Stephen...
- For our clergy, Heather and Alison, our music ministry, Nadine, our lay ministers and all who serve you with their time, talents and treasures in our Parish of St. Peter's, that as we plan and pray our way into 2022 that we always be a church that practices compassion and inclusion. That the doors of this church always be wide enough to offer peace and kindness to all who enter in.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving God, we pray come with power in your world to make your loving kindness and peace known and honoured in every land. We pray for peace across the nations of the world, especially those traumatised by violence and civil war. Lord God, you hold heaven and earth in a single peace.

Shine your love on the waste of our conflict and sorrow and give peace among the nations and peace in our hearts.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

We turn our thoughts nearer home and mindful of the extreme weather we have been experiencing and those of us who have no place to call home, we pray for those of us suffering the effects of freezing temperatures.

We pray for those of us who are exhausted and stressed by the ongoing pandemic and those of us who feel anxious for the future. Be with all of us we pray, that we may know the calm of your presence through him who stilled the raging of the storm, Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

We pray this morning for any we know who are struggling with life at this time whether through illness, uncertainty, stress or worries of some kind.

We bring before you: Sandra... Merle..... Mona..... Lois Ward..... Ray and Mary..... Irene Kathryn..... Helen..... Jenifer..... Judy..... Tony and Mary Jean..... Luisa..... Lois Davis..... Evelyn..... Miranda..... Iain..... Diane and Bill..... Maxime..... Barry Westervelt..... Geraldine.... Florence..... Joan..... Kathleen. We offer to God our own concerns for those we know and love and for ourselves for things which it may be hard to share with others. Lord, fix our hearts on you where peace may be found amidst turmoil and pain.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Lord of life and death, we bring to remembrance those we love but see no longer. We would like to pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of Jerry Dyck and for those who mourn. Grant us a real and spiritual sense of continuing unity being bound together in love in Christ. Rejoicing in the fellowship of all your saints we commend ourselves and all people to your unfailing love.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Heavenly Father, you have shown us your love and salvation in the baptism of your Son. Accept these prayers of your children in the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect

Eternal Father,
 who at the baptism of Jesus
 revealed him to be your Son,
 anointing him with the Holy Spirit,
 keep your children, born of water and the Spirit,
 faithful to their calling;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever. Amen.

And now, as our Saviour 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,
 the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

CP 658 Filled With The Spirit's Power

1 Filled with the Spirit's power, with one accord
 the infant church confessed its risen Lord.
 O Holy Spirit, in the church today
 no less your power of fellowship display.

2 Now with the mind of Christ set us on fire,
 that unity may be our great desire.
 Give joy and peace; give faith to hear your call,
 and readiness in each to work for all.

3 Widen our love, good Spirit, to embrace
 in your strong care people of every race.
 Like wind and fire with life among us move,
 till we are known as Christ's, and Christians prove.

The Dismissal

A voice came from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God.

May the God of peace enable us to do His will in every kind of goodness
 working in us what pleases Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory
 for ever and ever, Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.