

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY:
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Morning Prayer – January 10, 2021

OPENING HYMN - “Baptized In Water, Sealed By The Spirit”

294, Hymnal 1982
tune: *Bunessan*

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.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Officiant:

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. *Isaiah 60:3*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Officiant and People:

*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.*

Officiant: 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 INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: ***And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.***

Officiant and People:

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.***

Officiant: The Lord has shown forth his glory:

People: ***Come let us adore him.***

PSALM 29

Officiant and People:

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 FIRST LESSON - ACTS 19:1-7

Reader: A reading from the Book of Acts.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul

said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

THE GOSPEL - MARK 1:4-11

Gospeler: A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Gospeler: Here ends the reading.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Benson Shelton

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant and People:

***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.***

THE PRAYERS

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People:

***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,
for ever and ever. Amen.***

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant:

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.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reader: Sisters and brothers, ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name. Let us approach our great God with humble hearts saying: "Lord, give strength to your people; ***Bless us with peace.***"

 Lover of souls, you seal us by your Holy Spirit in baptism and claim us as your own forever: may our offering of worship be acceptable in your sight.

Silence

Reader: Lord, give strength to your people;

***People:* Bless us with peace.**

Reader: Lover of souls, you sit enthroned as king for evermore: may the leaders of the nations do justice and govern with mercy.

Silence

Reader: Lord, give strength to your people;

***People:* Bless us with peace.**

Reader: Lover of souls, you created the heavens and the earth: we praise you that you make holy such basic things of earth – water for baptism, grapes and grain to sustain our souls.

The people may add their own thanksgivings, followed by silence.

Reader: Lord, give strength to your people;

***People:* Bless us with peace.**

Reader: Lover of souls, you forgive the sins of the penitent and care for the injured: be with all victims of gun violence; heal and convert the hearts of the violent. May our town know peace.

Silence

Reader: Lord, give strength to your people;

People: ***Bless us with peace.***

Reader: Lover of souls, your voice is a voice of splendor: speak healing and comfort to all the heartbroken and needy.

The people may add their own petitions, followed by silence.

Reader: Lord, give strength to your people;

People: ***Bless us with peace.***

Reader: Lover of souls, you called the light into being: let light perpetual shine on those who have died. May we all rest in the hope of life eternal.

Silence

Reader: Lord, give strength to your people;

People: ***Bless us with peace.***

Silence

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant and People:

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

THE BLESSING

Officiant:

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his only Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

CHRIST HAS NO BODY

Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)

Deacon:

Christ has no body now on earth but yours,
No hands but yours,
No feet but yours,

Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion
is to look out to the earth,

Yours are the feet by which he is to go about doing good
And yours are the hands by which he is to bless us now.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Now let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

CLOSING HYMN - "Christ, When For Us You Were Baptized"

121, Hymnal 1982

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. Straightway and steadfast until death you then obeyed his call
freely as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.
4. Baptize us with your Spirit Lord, your cross on us be signed,
that, like wise in God's service we may perfect freedom find.

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DAILY PRAYERS
INTERCESSIONS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Birthdays this week

Jan. 10: Ruth Fugee
Jan. 13: Rolf Haugrud
Jan. 14: Lydia Surber
Jan. 16: Julia Green

Anniversaries

None

Needs of our own congregation and others

Anne Morris	Wayne Sanders	Benji Brackman
Audrey Bryce	Ray Johns	Bo Cornwell
Barbara Cook	Melanie Chambers	Frank Drumheller
Benjamin Ryan	John Bunt	Butch Davies
Bill Browning	Linda Stacey	Kirsten Brannon
Buddy Clark	Haley Clark	Emily Willis
Jackie Drumheller	Peter Schwenke	Doris Stover
Jeanette Goss	Joe Leary	Deacon Emmetri Beane
Robert Dodd	Martha Turner	Bern Gagnon
Rosalie White	Caitlin Turner	Mike Millikin
Russ Lloyd	Edie Clark	Dan Hadlock
Sally Jebson	Anthony Smith	Catherine
Stephen Brown	Gwen Kennedy	Nadine
Jack Kunlo	Harry Gillispie	

Military

Braeden Woodside (AWSAN USN)	Matthew Stevens (RTC USMC)
Carrington Travers (PO)	Nate Cotter (USMC)
David A. Hoffman (Lt. Col.)	Rudolph Travers, Jr. (E3)
Jessica Helsel (Capt.)	Taylor Craddock (USSF)
Michael Sprinkel (US Navy)	

We Are Here For You!

Please visit our website or find us on Facebook
Web: ststephensculpeper.net | FB: St-Stephens-Episcopal-Church-Culpeper

January 10, 2021

LECTIO DIVINA ON ZOOM

DOK offers Lectio Divina each Tuesday, at 7 PM on Zoom. All ladies of the church are invited to join this Zoom group as they focus on the Gospel of Mark, during the season of Epiphany through Feb. 16 (Shrove Tuesday). The Gospel of Mark gets right to the point: "The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ." Check out this additional resource to: www.goodbookclub.org.

What is Lectio Divina?

Lectio Divina (Divine Prayer) is a very ancient, monastic form of prayer—practiced long (1000+ years) before we embraced it. The main characteristics in each different read-through is to listen freshly, to place ourselves inside the story and allow the message to enter us and discover where that story is meeting us in our lives. It takes practice to settle into our quiet times. Distractions will come. If we can acknowledge these wandering thoughts and let them go so as to return to the stillness, then the Holy Spirit can speak to our hearts and we can just rest in God's presence.

HOW DO YOU PRAY THE LECTIO DIVINA?

Lectio Divina is a practice of scriptural reading. It involves meditating on a passage of the Bible, preferably the Gospel of the day.

Steps to pray:

- 1. INVOKE**
Invite the Holy Spirit to guide the reading of the Scripture.
- 2. READ**
Ask yourself: What is this passage saying? If you can, use a Bible commentary.
- 3. MEDITATE**
In a moment of silence, try to listen to the voice of God.
- 4. PRAY**
Begin to dialogue with the Lord and open yourself to his will.
- 5. CONTEMPLATE**
Listen closely with your heart and put into practice what he has told you.

Please know that we all have challenges with this, but over time, as we keep pulling our minds back to a word or phrase of our own choosing, we can develop a habit of "Centering" our listening prayer.

For questions, additional information, and to request a Zoom invitation, contact Kitty Whitman: momeka@comcast.net | 825-4443 or Faith Dickerson: faithandbrian.giles@gmail.com | 540-825-3545.

THE CULPEPER FOOD CLOSET NEED OF THE WEEK

Below are few items we will need over the next several weeks, however any donation is gratefully accepted.

- Beef Stew
- Canned Pasta (Chef Boyardee, SpaghettiOs)
- Canned Meat (chicken, tuna, ham, Spam, Treet)
- Microwave Meals
- Canned Chili
- Hand Soap
- Fruit Drinks

Mail monetary donations to: The Culpeper Food Closet
P.O. Box 343
Culpeper, VA 22701

2021 Pledge Cards Due

Please return your 2021 pledge card as soon as possible.

If you are unable to pledge, please consider giving using one of our convenient methods.

Giving is a way to worship God — to honor Him as your provider, and remind yourself that all of your resources belong to Him, provided through His grace. You should have received a 2021 pledge card in the mail last month. Please be sure to return it as soon as possible so our Vestry can finalize the 2021 budget.

Checks by Mail or Automatic Bill Pay

Mail checks to the church office or use Bill Pay through your bank. This is the electronic equivalent of writing a check. To obtain bank information, please email Abbey Newton at: bookkeeper@ststephensculpeper.net.

Mail checks to: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
115 N. East Street
Culpeper, VA 22701

If you are mailing your regular pledge, be sure to include your envelope number on the memo line. If you are mailing an unpledged amount, please specify if it's for the General Fund or Rector's Discretionary Fund.

Online Giving

As a convenience, we accept donations on our website. This allows you to give to our General Fund or the Rector's Discretionary Fund, using a credit or debit card. You may set up a one-time or recurring donation. You can also set up your annual pledge. All donations are always safe and secure. Select the "Give" link on our website.