



ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ISLE OF HOPE, GA

St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Isle of Hope
The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of our Lord
An Order for Communion Under Special Circumstances
10:00am Service
January 10, 2021

*We are a welcoming community of faith and love that serves one another
and seeks to draw others to God through our ministries.*

OPENING MUSIC

The Officiant opens with the collect of the day saying,

The Lord be with you.

BCP p 212

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray. 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 LESSONS *The people sit*

The First Lesson

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Genesis 1:1–5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 29

BCP p 620

- 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 GOSPEL

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

A reading from the gospel of Mark.

Mark 1:4–11

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.” The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOMILY

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Prayer Book p 292

Celebrant 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, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Celebrant Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **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.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Litanist In the waters of baptism, we were called to be God's children and to minister to one another. Let us therefore pray for ourselves, for one another, and for all in need of our prayers, saying: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Litanist Let us pray for the church, that it may stand fast in the one faith to which it has been called. *[Silence.]* Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Litanist Let us pray for the world, that our conflicts may cease and that peace may reign in this new year. *[Silence.]* Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Litanist Let us pray for all Christians who have been baptized into one family of faith, that our lives reflect the forgiveness and love which was first shown us. *[Silence.]* Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Litanist Let us pray for all who are blind to the injustices of our world, that their eyes may be opened and that they may work for an end to oppression and injustice. *[Silence.]* Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Litanist Let us pray for the sick (especially those we now name) that their sickness may be turned to health and that they may once again join us in our work and worship. *[Silence.]* Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

[Here other intercessions may be offered.]

Litanist Let us pray for the faithful who have gone before us, that we may follow the example of their lives and be reunited with them in the joy of everlasting life. *[Silence.]* Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Litanist Omniscient God, you know our thoughts and needs better than we ourselves. Accept our prayers which we now offer, and strengthen us to do your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP p 360

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

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.**

A deacon or lay person using the preceding form remains kneeling, and substitutes "us" for "you" and "our" for "your."

Officiant Let us pray in the words our Savior Christ has taught us.

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.

Officiant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Sacrament is administered with the following or other words

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

Or

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Those who do not have access to Holy Communion are invited to pray the following prayer of Spiritual Communion.

A PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In unison,

Blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. And particularly for the blessings given me.... I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

BCP p 399

Officiant Let us pray. **Gracious Father, we give you praise and thanks for this Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of your beloved Son Jesus Christ, the pledge of our redemption; and we pray that it may bring us forgiveness of our sins, strength in our weakness, and everlasting salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Join us for Virtual Coffee Hour: Conversation with the Clergy through Facebook comments on live video. Birthday and Anniversary blessings will be offered upon request.

Announcements

The Rev. Henry Louttit, Jr., former Bishop of Georgia – We are saddened by the recent death of Bishop Henry Louttit, Jr. Please, pray for his wife, Jan, and their daughters, Amy, Katie, and Susan, and the Louttit family. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations go to our Honey Creek Retreat Center. Donations may be made by texting HoneyCreek to 73256 or via check (see HoneyCreek.org).

Nominations are now closed for Vestry candidates to be elected to serve 2021-2023. Ballots were mailed out on Thursday, January 7th, and must be received in the church office **by noon on Thursday, January 21st to be counted**. You may mail them to the church office (2 St. Thomas Ave.), or place them in the manila envelope found in the chapel. All confirmed parishioners 16 and older are allowed to vote. If you did not receive the correct amount of ballots, contact Frances Conner and she will them to you. Please, vote for four candidates. The top four vote getters will be elected. Due to the unusual circumstances of this season, we will not be able to receive nominations "from the floor" of our Annual Parish Meeting. Vestry candidates are: Melinda Bailey, Charlie Barrow, Paige Case, Eleanor Foster, Stewart Marshall, Bobby Minis.

The Parish Annual Meeting will be a ZOOM meeting at 11:00am on Sunday, January 24. A link will go out via email prior to the meeting.

Contribution statements will be sent out the week of January 10th. Please, contact Frances Conner if you have any questions.

Sunday, January 17: Virtual Service, 10:00am, Morning Prayer

The Vestry meets Monday, January 18 at 6:pm. ZOOM link will go out in Monday's email.

The office will be closed Monday, January 18th in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

Our chapel is always open if you would like a quiet place to pray. Copies of the weekly bulletin with the prayer list are available there. Bulletins are placed in the chapel on Thursday afternoon. A manila envelope is there for your completed vestry ballots.

Remember you can download the "Instant Church Directory" App on your cell phone or computer. You create your own account by using your email address. The site is updated regularly, so you will always have the latest contact information. Hard copies are available by request.

Intercession List

TRIP Franklin	CHARLES Corbell, Jr.	TRAVIS Gay Sneed
TAYLOR Summerell	SARALYN Porter	TERRY Webb
MOLLY McGoldrick	JOSEPHINE & FINLEY	SHAWN Harris
BETTIE Shore	PHYLLIS Posey	NATALIE Deriso
FRITZ Knarr	CHARLIE	MIKE LEE
SELINA Johnson	JULIE McIntosh	ELEANOR Foster
DORIE Nichols	SHERRY Richardson	BAKER FAMILY
TANYA	WILL Quaile	MARY Webb
SARAH	ALISHA Quante	PEGGY & PETER
SKY	JANET	KATIE Jarrell
KITTY Hill	PADGE Arrington	IRMA Steel
RAEGAN Highsmith	RUSTY Youmans	DALE Hendrix, Jr.
LEM Highsmith	MIKE Cashwell	BONNEY & BOB
MIKE Winters	DEBORAH MAHANY &	BIVENS FAMILY
CHERYL Hoffman	FAMILY	CASE FAMILY
EVELYN Ussery	ALEXANDRA	JOSEPH Weaver
CHRIS Daniels	PEPPI	DAVID
THOMAS Regal	NANCY Young	ELEANOR Koonse
BENNETT Smith	USHER Gay	REID
PHIL Hope	RICHARD & VANIA	ANSIE
KATHY McCurry	BUBBA Groover	DANIEL
BARBARA Odermatt	LEIANN & Tony	BETTY Davenport
ELEANOR Fennell	JANIS Quinn	BETTY & GUS Anderson
BILL Wall	CONNIE Burke	TOD Woods
RHANDA Wilson	SARAH Burnes	BILL Dubincek
JOE Keith	ANDRE & LYNN Dyers	JACALYN Cooper
KENT, CLAIRE & OLIVER	BETSY Turner	BECKY Denis

Our Servicemen & Women: Bruce Ford-Coates, Geoff Radley, Toni Paruso, Joseph Winters, Brian Stott, Andy Cameron, Christopher Dulaney, Christopher Collins, Michael Deloach, Hudson Tanner, Seth Eastman II, Ben Jared Peterson, Brent McDowell, Chandler Edwards, Mitchel Godbey

The Rt. Rev. Frank Logue, Bishop of Georgia
The Rev. Melanie Lemburg, Rector
The Rev. Aimee Baxter, Minister of Discipleship
Bernadette Winters, Minister of Music
Frances Conner, Parish Administrator
Nicole King, Sexton
Emerson Quaile, Maintenance

Contact us:

Rev. Melanie Lemburg, Email: revmelanie@stthomasioh.org

Rev. Aimee Baxter, Email: revaimee@stthomasioh.org

Frances Conner, Office Email: evangelone@aol.com

Bernadette Winters, Email: mjw10irish@bellsouth.net

The Vestry

Bill Franklin, Senior Warden
Tracy Edgar, Joe Roberts, Junior Wardens
Mitch Green, Treasurer

Mary Ryan Aimar
Mary Hardee
Ingrid Poppell

Jeff Conner
Rebecca McNicoll
Scott Tanner

Jane Gilchrist
Hugh Papy
Ellie Titus

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