

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

www.stpaulspgh.org

Feast of the Baptism of our Lord
Epiphany Sunday
Sunday, January 8, 2023 • 10:45am
Celebrating: The Rev. Laura Di Panfilo
Preaching: The Rev. Noah H. Evans

God loves you, no exceptions.

You are always welcome at God's table at St. Paul's.

St. Paul's is a spiritual home and welcoming community to people of all ages, generations, educational backgrounds, financial means, abilities and disabilities, races, ethnicities, and nationalities, without regard to sexual orientation, gender, or gender identity/expression, and with many different family and religious backgrounds. Some of us are lifelong Episcopalians; some were raised in other Protestant denominations or in the Roman Catholic Church; some are new to the Christian faith; some are not sure what they believe. There is a place here for you.

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Thank you!

Prelude: Music for Cello and Piano

Spring Song
Ave Maria

Frank Bridge (1879-1941)
J. S. Bach/Charles Gounod

Nadine Sherman Glorioso, Cello

Welcome and Greetings

Processional Hymn: On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry

Hymnal 76

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.*

Gloria in excelsis

Hymnal S 280

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant 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 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.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29
(Please join in singing – turn to the back of the leaflet for music)

Setting, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Sequence Hymn: When Jesus went to Jordan's stream

Hymnal 139

The Gospel
Matthew 3:13-17

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
People 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.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Noah H. Evans

The 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

The Prayers of the People are written by the St. Paul's Thursday 11:30am Small Book Group. Respond with, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Confession of Sin

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins to God.

Minister and People

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Celebrant

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

The Blessing of the Chalk from Epiphany Blessings of Our Homes

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Thank you!

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem: Psalm 29: Bringt her dem Herren SWV 283
Emily Hastings-Keene, soloist; Steven Cosnek, Conductor

Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)

*Bring here to the Lord,
Ye mighty ones,
Honor and strength. Bring here to the Lord,
The Glory of his name. Pray to the Lord,
In sacred song. All ye lands, worship Him.*

The Great Thanksgiving, EOW Prayer 3
The people may stand or kneel.

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
All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Celebrant and People, Hymnal S 129
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues
Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People
Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Celebrant continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with St. Paul and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Celebrant and People

Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Agnus Dei

Hymnal S 163

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the people of God.

Everyone is welcome to receive communion. Please come forward to receive through the center aisle, returning through the side aisles. You are welcome to receive just the bread, or the bread and the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please take the bread in your hand and sip the wine from the chalice. For sanitary reasons, we ask you not to dip the host in the wine. If someone with you would like communion brought to them, please let a greeter know.

Healing Prayer

Before or after receiving Communion, you are invited to go to one of the two prayer stations on either side of the altar for laying on of hands and prayers for healing. You may ask for a prayer for yourself, someone you care for, or a general prayer. You may stand or sit for prayer. You will be asked if you wish to be anointed with oil and if you would like a hand placed on your shoulder. Our clergy or trained lay healing prayer ministers will keep all prayer requests in private confidence.

**Communion Music: Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern
(How brightly shines the Morning Star)**

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Post Communion Prayer—said together

Let us pray.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

Processional Hymn: How bright appears the Morning Star

Hymnal 497

Dismissal

The worship is ended, the service begins.

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Music Notes

Today is the first Sunday after Epiphany, and we celebrate both the Baptism of Christ and the Epiphany revelation to the Gentiles. The latter is reflected in our closing hymn and two organ settings of the same hymn tune: Wie schön leuchtet, or “How bright appears the morning star.” It must have been a very popular 16th and 17th century Reformation hymn. Bach’s harmonization of the hymn tune that we sing today is from his very first cantata, and the organ settings by Pachelbel and Buxtehude are “cantus firmus” organ chorale settings with the ever-ascending chorale melody in the uppermost voice (Pachelbel) and the bass pedal (Buxtehude).

Throughout the season after Epiphany, the choir will sing choral anthems based on the Lectionary Psalms. Today we sing a setting of Psalm 29 by Heinrich Schütz, a predecessor to and foundational influence on Pachelbel, Buxtehude, Bach, and many other German Baroque composers. Schütz compositions for organ and for choir and soloists in cantatas and oratorios set the standard for German organists and composers. Sung at the Offertory, “Bringt her dem Herren” is a song of praise alternating between the soloist and short “alleluia” choruses.

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The altar flowers are given, to the glory of God, in loving memory of Stephen M. Delano and Virginia Albright.

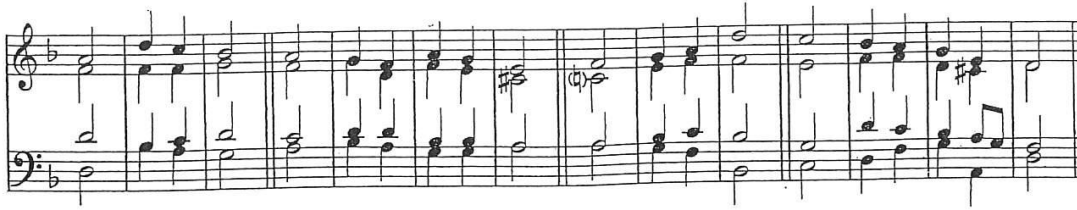
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- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the 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 ever more.
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.