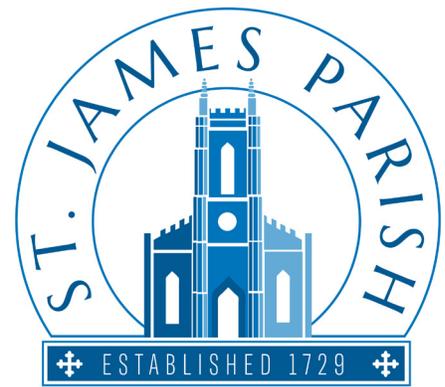


WINTER WORSHIP

SUNDAY 10 JANUARY 2021

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY



Paul met some of Jesus's followers and asked them, "When you put your faith in Jesus, were you given the Holy Spirit?" "The followers answered. "We have never even heard of the Holy Spirit." Paul asked them why were you baptized and they answered, "Because of what John taught. Paul told them that John baptized people so that they would turn to God and he also told them that someone else was coming, and that they should put their faith in him. John was telling them about Jesus. Paul baptized them in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul placed his hands on them, The Holy Spirit was given to them, and they spoke unknown languages and prophesied.

Gathering Music *(Sung by the music team; the congregation is invited to listen)*

Wade in the water,
Wade in the water, children,
Wade in the water,
God's a-going to trouble the water.

See that host all dressed in white,
God's a-going to trouble the water.
The leader looks like the Israelite,
God's a-going to trouble the water,

See that band all dressed in red,
God's a-going to trouble the water.
Looks like the band that Moses led,
God's a-going to trouble the water.

Look over yonder, what do you see?
God's a-going to trouble the water.
The Holy Ghost a-coming on me,
God's a-going to trouble the water.

If you don't believe I've been redeemed,
God's a-going to trouble the water.
Just follow me down to the Jordan's stream,
God's a-going to trouble the water.

Opening Sentences

In the beginning, when it was dark, God said, "Let there be light."
And there was light.

(The sign of light - a lighted candle - is placed on a central table.)

In the beginning, when it was quiet, The Word was with God.
And the Word was God.

(The sign of the Word - an open Bible - is placed on the table.)

When the time was right, God sent His Son.
He came among us and was one of us.

(The Sign of the Son - a cross - is placed on the table.)

Song of Prayer: *(Sung by the music team; the congregation is invited to listen)*

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord.
There are sweet expressions on each face,
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.
*Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly dove,
stay right here with us, filling us with your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.*

There are blessings you cannot receive
till you know him in his fullness, and believe.
You're the one to profit when you say,
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way."
Refrain

If you say he saved you from your sin,
now you're weak, you're bound, and cannot enter in,
you can make it right if you will yield;
you'll enjoy the Holy Spirit that we feel.
Refrain

Leader The God of Love is with us.

People **The Spirit of love is in us.**

Leader Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

Leader Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, to you our hearts are open and our inmost desires are known. We cannot hide our most intimate secrets from you. We ask you to be present at all times in our thoughts and our hearts, and to purify them, so that we may love you with the love of the Holy Spirit and praise your name with humility and joy; Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

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.**

Hymn of Praise: *(Sung by the music team; the congregation is invited to listen)*

Praise the Lord! ye heavens adore him; praise him angels in the height;
sun and moon, rejoice before him; praise him, all ye stars of light.
Praise the Lord! for he hath spoken; worlds his mighty voice obeyed;
laws which never shall be broken for their guidance he hath made.

Praise the Lord! for he is glorious never shall his promise fail;
God hath made his saints victorious; sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation! Hosts on high, his power proclaim;
heaven and earth, and all creation, laud and magnify his Name.

The Word of God

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.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Acts 19:1–7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled across the hill country to Ephesus, where he met some of the Lord's followers. He asked them, "When you put your faith in Jesus, were you given the Holy Spirit?" "No!" they answered. "We have never even heard of the Holy Spirit." "Then why were you baptized?" Paul asked. They answered, "Because of what John taught." Paul replied, "John baptized people so that they would turn to God. But he also told them that someone else was coming, and that they should put their faith in him. Jesus is the one that John was talking about." After the people heard Paul say this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Paul placed his hands on them. The Holy Spirit was given to them, and they spoke unknown languages and prophesied. There were about twelve men in this group.

Sequence Hymn:

As I went down to the river to pray,
Studyin' about that good old way,
And who shall wear the starry (robe and) crown,
Good Lord, show me the way,
*O sisters, let's go down,
Let's go down, come on down,
O sisters, let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.*

*O brothers, let's go down...
O fathers, let's go down...
O mothers, let's go down...
O sinners, let's go down...
Down to the river to pray.*

The Holy Gospel:

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. (1:4–14)
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

So John the Baptist showed up in the desert and told everyone, "Turn back to God and be baptized! Then your sins will be forgiven." From all Judea and Jerusalem crowds of people went to John. They told how sorry they were for their sins, and he baptized them in the Jordan River. John wore clothes made of camel's hair. He had a leather strap around his waist and ate grasshoppers and wild honey. John also told the people, "Someone more powerful is going to come. And I am not good enough even to stoop down and untie his sandals. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit!" About that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. As soon as Jesus came out of the water, he saw the sky open and the Holy Spirit coming down to him like a dove. A voice from heaven said, "You are my own dear Son, and I am pleased with you."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Message

The Rev. Michael Singer

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

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

Leader Lord Jesus Christ,

People **Be with us, within us, behind us and before us.**

Leader We bind ourselves, O God, today, to the strong name of the Trinity,

People **And we name you: Three in One, One in Three; and claim our place in your community of love.**

Leader We are embraced, loving God, in the community that is the heart not just of our church, but also in the community that is the very heart of who you are,

People **Three in One; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Leader Within that great love, we are held and treasured. Lord, hear our prayers this evening;

People **We pray for our hurting world.**

Leader That war-makers will find peace. That the hungry will find food. That refugees will find shelter. That injustice will be answered with all that is right and good.

People **We pray for all who suffer.**

Leader For those we love dearly. For those we barely know. For those whose suffering, we have ignored. Be present in the healing touch of all hands that help the sick and suffering. And send your Spirit to comfort and protect all who need you.

People **We pray for all who struggle.**

Leader For those who cannot see a way through broken relationships, difficult financial realities, emotional darkness, and deep, deep loneliness. May we find you even in the most helpless places. And may we, your people, be present also in those places, bringing Good News and hope to all who are longing for the true life that only you can provide.

People **We pray for all who are joyful.**

Leader We rejoice at the promise of new life, and the goodness of each new day. We celebrate the movement through milestones: births, graduations, new jobs, new relationships; and the hopes that they bring. We remember those moments of blessing in our own lives and we thank you for the opportunity to use our lives to your glory, to live lives that are full and worthy of your calling.

We lift up to you, Lord, the prayers that you've placed on our hearts in our own words at this time...

We will intentionally PAUSE for the community present to share their requests, thanksgivings, desires, hopes & joys either out loud or silently.

We bind ourselves, O God, today, to the strong name of the Trinity.

People **And we name you: Three in One, One in Three: and claim our place in your community of love.**

Leader Lord Jesus Christ

People **Be with us, within us, behind us, before us. Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned.
I will confess my sins to the Lord, I will not conceal my wrongdoings.

Silence

God forgives and heals us.

We need your healing, merciful God:

give us true repentance.

Some sins are plain to us;

some escape us,

some we cannot face.

Forgive us;

set us free to hear your word to us;

set us free to serve you.

The Celebrant continues

God forgives you.

Forgive others;

forgive yourself.

Silence

Through Christ, God has put away your sin:
approach your God in peace.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Music at the Offertory: “*Seek Ye First*” (Sung by the music team; the congregation is invited to listen)

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
And His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you;
Allelu, Alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you,
Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and it shall be opened unto you;
Allelu, Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth
are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one
who comes in the
name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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:

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

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 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.

Blessed are you now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Lord's Prayer (*Celebrant and People*)

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant continues

We break this bread
to share in the Body of Christ.
**We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

Music during Eucharist: (*Sung by the music team; the congregation is invited to listen*)

Lord prepare me
To be a sanctuary
Pure and holy
Tried and true
With thanksgiving
I'll be a living
Sanctuary
For you.

Post-Communion Prayer (*Celebrant and People*)

**Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Night Prayer

Lord,
It is night.

The night is for stillness.
Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.
What has been done has been done;
What has not been done has not been done;
Let it be.

The night is dark.
Let our fears of the darkness of the world
And in our lives rest in you.

The night is quiet.
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,
All dear to us,
And all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.
Let us look expectantly to a new day,
New joys,
New possibilities.

In your name we pray. **AMEN**

Blessing

Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind, and the blessing of God be with you always. **AMEN.**

Closing Song

Give thanks with a grateful heart;
Give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
Let the poor say, "I am rich,
Because of what the Lord has done for us"

Dismissal



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