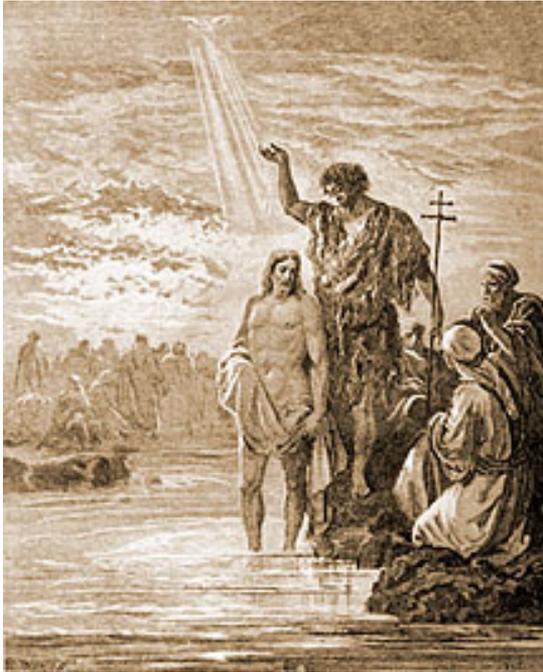


# The First Sunday After the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

January 8, 2017



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
1512 Willow  
Blytheville, AR 72315

The Rt. Rev. Larry Benfield, Bishop of Arkansas  
Fr. John Scott Trotter

870 740 9777  
[www.saintstephensblytheville.org](http://www.saintstephensblytheville.org)  
[www.facebook.com/ststephensblytheville](https://www.facebook.com/ststephensblytheville)

# Entrance Rites

*The people stand as they are able.*

## Opening Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #448 - O love, how deep, how broad, how high

## Opening Acclamation

**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.*

## Glory to God, Kyrie or Trisagion

*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #280*

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## 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.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

# The Word of God

## First Reading

A reading from The Book of Isaiah (42:1-9).

1

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.

2

He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
or make it heard in the street;

3

a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

4

He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

5

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:

6

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,

7to open the eyes that are blind,

to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

8

I am the Lord, that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,

nor my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup> 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

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Psalm 29**

*BCP p. 620*

*Afferte Domino*

- 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.

111 The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

*A period of silence is kept.*

## **Second Reading**

A reading from The Acts of the Apostles (10:34-43).

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord  
People  
Thanks be to God

*A period of silence is kept.*

*The people stand as they are able.*

## **Sequence Hymn**

The Hymnal 1982 #296 - We know that Christ is raised and dies no more

## **Gospel**

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

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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

*A period of silence is kept.*

## **Sermon**

*The people stand as they are able.*

## **The Nicene Creed**

*All say together*

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.

## **Prayers of the People**

**Intercessor** Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united  
in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the  
world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for

them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

### **Collect**

Grant, Lord God, to all who have been baptized into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, that, as we have put away the old life of sin, so we may be renewed in the spirit of our minds, and live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **Confession of Sin**

#### **Penitential Sentence**

*The Presider then says*

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14, 16*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*The people kneel as they are able.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

### **Confession of Sin**

*All say together*

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.

### **Absolution**

*Bishop or Priest*

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.*

*The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## The Holy Communion

*The people sit.*

### **Our work this week**

*The Priest says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

## Offertory Hymn

### The Hymnal 1982 # 380, vs 3

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him all creatures, here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

## The Great Thanksgiving

**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 him thanks and praise.*

### *Celebrant*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### *The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #129*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,

“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,

“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [ \_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN

*The People respond Amen.*

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Celebrant** As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

***People and  
Celebrant***

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.

# The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept.*

## Fraction Anthem

*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #167*

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

*Antiphon  
Cantor; then All*



The dis-ci-ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,



is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]



2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,



for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

*The Priest invites the people to Communion*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## Communion Hymn

1 Deck thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness, leave the  
2 Sun, who all my life dost bright - en; Light, who  
3 Je - sus, Bread of Life, I pray thee, let me

gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's  
dost my soul en - light - en; Joy, the best that an - y  
glad - ly here o - bey thee; nev - er to my hurt in -

splen - dor, there with joy thy prais - es ren - der  
know - eth; Fount, whence all my be - ing flow - eth:  
vit - ed, be thy love with love re - quit - ed;

un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed hath this  
at thy feet I cry, my Ma - ker, let me  
from this ban - quet let me mea - sure, Lord, how

won-drous ban-quet found-ed— high o'er all the heavens he  
 be a fit par-ta-ker of this bless-ed food from  
 vast and deep its trea-sure; through the gifts thou here dost

reign-eth, yet to dwell with thee he deign-eth.  
 hea-ven, for our good, thy glo-ry, giv-en.  
 give me, as thy guest in heaven re-ceive me.

Words: Johann Franck (1618-1677); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.  
 Music: *Schmücke dich*, melody Johann Crüger (1598-1662); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

*The people stand as they are able.*

## Postcommunion Prayer

*Celebrant and People*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Blessing

*The Bishop or Priest says*

May Almighty God, who enlightened the minds of the disciples by pouring out upon them the Holy Spirit, make you rich with his blessing, that you may abound more and more in that Spirit for ever.  
*Amen.*

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit as a flame of fire that rested upon the heads of the disciples, burn out all evil from your hearts, and make them shine with the pure light of his presence. *Amen.*

May God, who by the Holy Spirit caused those of many tongues to proclaim Jesus as Lord, strengthen your faith and send you out to bear witness to him in word and deed. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

### **Hymn**

The Hymnal 1982 #616 - Hail to the Lord's Anointed

### **Dismissal**

**Deacon**                    Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

## **Prayers**

Joe, Bill, Brandon, Charles, Chris, Amy, Shirley, Shelby, Sandy, Lisa, Avery, Charles, Chuck, Christie, Marcel, Angie, Jack & family, Marshal, Diane, Myrtle, Wally, Ann, Hughes, Josh, Brookes Carter, Carsen, Nadia & family, James & family, Tammy & family, Whitley & family, Nancy, Bob, Anita, Elroy, Rodney and Shelia, Frank, Shari, Rickie & Sarah, Becky and family, Tammy, Mary and Family, Friday Families, meals on wheels, making better men of young men, those suffering from seasonal storms and fires, those serving our country, those traveling, and for those we now name:

Those who have died:

## **Calendar**

1/8 First Sunday after the Epiphany

9:00 Eucharist

10:00 Annual Meeting

1/10 6:30 Al Anon

1/13 6:00pm Family Friday

1/15 Second Sunday after the Epiphany

9:00 Eucharist

10:00 Fellowship

1/17 6:30 Al Anon

1/20 6:00pm Family Friday

1/22 Bishop's Visitation

## **Announcements**

**Bishop's visit** 1/22 @9 am service, 5 Confirmands

**Wellness Conference** @ Camp Mitchell

This weekend seminar, to be held at Camp Mitchell Jan. 28–29, 2017, will focus on chronic and costly diseases, namely obesity, diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, stroke, some cancers, and dementias. The program includes presentations and interactive discussions of physical, mental, and spiritual wellness, nutrition, healthy eating, meditation, and exercise. The cost is \$190 for two nights lodging, six meals, and the program. Contact the Camp Mitchell director at 501-727-5451 for more information and to register.

## **Acolytes**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Proper</b>	<b>1st Server</b>	<b>2nd Server</b>	<b>People's Gift &amp; Alms</b>
1/8	1st after Epiphany	Emily	Mike	Will
1/15	2nd after Epiphany	Mike	Deanna	Amy
1/22	3rd after Epiphany	Deanna	Belle	Emily
1/29	4th after Epiphany	Belle	Will	Deanna

## Worship Leaders

Date	Proper	Service	Eucharistic Minister	Reader	Intercessor
				Psalmist	
1/8	1st after Epiphany	Eucharist	Beth	Ed	Tucker
1/15	2nd after Epiphany	Eucharist	Liz	Bob	Beth
1/22	3rd after Epiphany	Eucharist	Beth	Liz	Bob
				Deanna	
1/29	4th after Epiphany	Eucharist	Liz	Beth	Tucker
				Amy	



**Prayer List Request**

Please add the following to St Stephen's Prayer list:

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Please add \_\_\_\_\_ to St Stephen's  
remembrance of the dead (date of death: MM/DD \_\_\_\_\_)

**Fr. Scott's contact**

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**St. Stephen's contact**

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