
Holy Trinity Geneva



First Sunday of Epiphany The baptism of Christ Eucharist with Spiritual Communion



Fresco in Rochester Cathedral, Kent, painted in 2004 by Sergei Fyodorov, depicting the baptism of Christ, the baptism of King Ethelbert by St Augustine in 597, and the inhabitants of Rochester emerging from baptism in the River Medway to be given Communion by St Justus.

Music before the service

Max Reger: *O Lamm Gottes unschuldig* (op.67) "O lamb of God, innocent"

THE GATHERING

The President offers a word of welcome

Preparation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognise him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Hymn

The sinless one to Jordan came
to share our fallen nature's blame;
God's righteousness he thus fulfilled
and chose the path his Father willed.

Uprising from the waters there,
the voice from heaven did witness bear
that he, the Son of God, had come
to lead his scattered people home.

Above him see the heavenly dove,
the sign of God the Father's love,
now by the Holy Spirit shed
upon the Son's anointed head.

How blessed that mission then begun
to heal and save a race undone;
straight to the wilderness he goes
to wrestle with his people's foes.

Dear Lord, let those baptised from sin
go forth with you, a world to win;
and send the Holy Spirit's power
to shield them in temptation's hour.

On you shall all your people feed
and know you are the bread indeed,

who gives eternal life to those-
that with you died, and with you rose.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: 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.

Invitation to Confession

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us confess our sins.

Kyries

Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness in our hearts:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

GLORIA

Aston: Sung by Claire Charles, with Mark Charles

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, **Amen.**

COLLECT

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit; grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A prayer at the time of a vacancy

God of grace, God of glory,

Holy Trinity, diversity in unity,

we thank you that you have set us in this place,

blessed by the beauty of your creation,

where history witnesses to longing for freedom, justice and peace.

We thank you for our church and community,

where we have found a welcome,

have worshipped and learned, cared, loved and grown.

In this time of change may we support one another,

cherishing the gifts of the past while building together a new tomorrow.

As we journey onwards with a song of hope on our lips,

may our vision be inspired by the heights which surround us,

encouraging us to step out joyfully on the paths that lie ahead,

seeking your wisdom and your will,

to move with generosity into the future you would have us form.

In the name of Christ we pray. Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 1. 1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the 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. ³Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

Sung by Anna and Claire Charles, with Mark Charles

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven, ♦
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to 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 mighty in operation; ♦
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
- 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 Sirion like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning;
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; ♦
in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'
- 9 The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood; ♦
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.
- 10 The Lord shall give strength to his people; ♦
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

New Testament Lesson

Acts 19. 1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He 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.' ³Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' ⁴Paul 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.' ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— ⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Truly, this is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 1. 4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.⁵ 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.⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.⁷ 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.'⁸ I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.¹⁰ 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.¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon:

Preacher: Canon Alan Amos

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing.

Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness.

He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross.

Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.



Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Conclusion

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Peace and the Offertory

We now come to that moment in our service when we share the peace with one another online, the best we may. It is also the time when usually the gifts of bread and wine and offerings from the congregation are brought to the altar. In these very different circumstances, as we share the peace with one another, and unite in heart and mind with the offering of the eucharist, may we at the same time be mindful to do what we can to be generous in sustaining our church's ministry.

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with your spirit

ANTHEM

William Harris: Come down, O love divine

Sung by the virtual choir of Holy Trinity, Mark Charles organ.

Come down, O love divine, seek thou this soul of mine, and visit it with thine own ardor glowing; O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear, and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn to dust and ashes in its heat consuming; and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity mine outward vesture be, and lowliness become mine inner clothing; true lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part, and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long, shall far out-pass the power of human telling; for none can guess its grace, 'till Love create a place wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434)

The table is prepared.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks because, by water and the Holy Spirit, you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord; you renew that mystery in bread and wine to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of the Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who in the same night that he was betrayed took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them saying: 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and

thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer and Agnus Dei

Gathering our prayers and praise into one, let us pray as our Saviour 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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Let us now prepare ourselves to make our spiritual communion.

We offer and present to you, Lord our heavenly Father, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a holy and living sacrifice; grant that being present together in heart and mind at this holy communion we may now be filled with your heavenly blessing through the redeeming grace of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ... [short pause]

Lord Jesus Christ, in outward signs of bread and wine you have made known your presence among us; as we unite with one another from the places where we are, may your communion be fulfilled in us now through the work of the life-giving Holy Spirit. Amen.



Hymn

God is working his purpose out as year succeeds to year,
God is working his purpose out, and the time is drawing near;
nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west wherever feet have trod,
by the mouth of many messengers goes forth the voice of God,
'Give ear to me, ye continents, ye isles, give ear to me,
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.'

What can we do to work God's work, to prosper and increase
the love of God in all mankind, the reign of the Prince of Peace?
What can we do to hasten the time, the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea?

All we can do is nothing worth unless God blesses the deed;
vainly we hope for the harvest-time till God gives life to the seed;
yet nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

THE CONCLUSION

Prayer

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as
Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit

complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Notices

Blessing

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Music after the service

Prelude and Fugue in F major (formerly attributed to JS Bach, BWV 556)
Played by Max Bauer (organ scholar)

The zoom conference will continue for 10 minutes after the music and all attendees will be unmuted and free to exchange greetings. We look forward to hearing you all.

Prayer Requests

For the sick and those caring for them, especially Rayburn Vanderwall, Robin Offord, Chakravarthi Raghavan, José Martinez, François Dériaz, Marianne Wheatley, Silvio Morson, Anna Porraccin, John Taylor, Judy Cianci, Valerie Slessor, Frances Boo, Rémy Boo, Jenny Syrathev, Adrian and George Thomasz, Emmanuel Palmer, David Robinson, Lorensz Ranasinghe.

RIP Marian Ellen Roth and Clarissa Starey - we pray also for those who mourn them

*Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from
your hand.*

(1 Chronicles 29:14)

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