



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THE FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 12, 2025

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

PARISH OF LANCASTER
Diocese of Fredericton
Anglican Church of
Canada

Bishop
Interim Priest-in-charge
Church Wardens
Parish Administrator
Organist & Choir Director
Sexton

Archbishop David Edwards
Fr. Keith Joyce
Susan Jack, Terry Ricketts
Lori Maker
David Mitchell
Larry Totton

668 Manawagonish Rd, Saint John, NB E2M 3W5
telephone (506) 635-8145 e-mail goodshep@nb.sympatico.ca
web site www.goodshepherdsj.ca



We acknowledge that the land on which
we gather is the traditional unceded
territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet)
and Mi'kmaq Peoples.

The liturgy is according to the *Book of Common Prayer*.

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO WORSHIP**Prelude****Scripture Sentence and Welcome****Opening Hymn “Sing of God Made Manifest” CP 162****Collect for Purity** *page 67***Summary of the Law** *page 69***The Kyrie** *page 70***Mutual Salutation** *page 70***Collect of the Day** *as given by the presider***THE WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED****First Reading** Isaiah 43:1-7 *Pew Bible p. 585*

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

³ For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.

I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴ Because you are precious in my sight,
and honoured, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

⁶ I will say to the north, ‘Give them up’,
and to the south, ‘Do not withhold’;

bring my sons from far away

and my daughters from the end of the earth—
7 everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.’ [NRSV-A]

Hear God’s word for God’s people.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29:1-4, 10-11

- 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 splendour.**
- 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.**

Second Reading Acts 8:14-17 *Pew Bible p. 892*

A reading from Acts.

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. [NRSV-A]

Hear God’s word for God’s people.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn “*Down Galilee’s Slow Roadways*” **CP 45**

- 1 Down Galilee’s slow roadways

a stranger travelled on,
from Nazareth to Jordan
to be baptized by John.
he went down to the waters
with soldier, scribe and slave,
but there within the river
the sign was birth and grave.

2 Arising from the river,
he saw the heavens torn;
it seemed the sky was open
to show the Spirit's form.
The holy dove descended;
he heard a glorious voice:
"you are my own beloved –
my child, my heart, my choice!"

3 We too have found a roadway,
it led us to this place.
we all have had to travel
in search of hope and grace.
But now beside this water
again a voice is heard:
"you are my own, my chosen,
beloved of your Lord."

Text Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993)

Tune WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN, Johann Steurlein (1546-1613)
harm Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Gospel Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 *Pew Bible p. 834*

Hear the Holy Gospel written in the third chapter
of the Gospel according to Saint Luke
beginning at the fifteenth verse.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' [NRSV-A]

The Gospel of Christ.
Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon Fr. Keith Joyce
Brief quiet time held for reflection
The Nicene Creed

page 71

THE EUCHARIST IS CELEBRATED

Offertory Sentence *for Epiphany*
Offertory Hymn "Worship the Lord" CP 385
Prayer over the Gifts
Prayers of the People *as follows*

page 73

page 74

Jesus calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. In the power of the events at Christ's baptism, we kneel or sit to pray.

Let us pray that we may live the life to which he has called us.

Lord Jesus, eternal Word, baptised in the River Jordan, and proclaimed as the Christ by John the forerunner, hear us as we pray for all who proclaim your word, remembering our bishop David, and Keith, our interim priest.

Lord of truth,
hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, baptizing with the Spirit and with fire, strengthen us to withstand all the trials of our faith. Fill us with hope in you.

Lord of truth,
hear our prayer

Lord Jesus, bringing forgiveness to all who repent, teach your Church dependence on your grace, that when we sin against one another we would seek and know your healing.

Lord of truth,
hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, fulfilment of the promises of old, give hope to all who suffer or are ignored, and who are ill, remembering, and mentioning, silently or aloud, others we would pray for.....

Lord of truth,
hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, beloved Son of the Father, anoint us with the gifts of your Holy Spirit that we may serve you, your Church, and your world, fully resting in your power and purposes.

Lord of truth,
hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, bringer of hope, share with all the faithful the riches of eternal life, as we remember those who have gone before us. We mention them now, silently or aloud

Lord of truth,
hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, Saviour of the world, bring your healing to the nations, to refugees, victims of wars and of random violence, to those who suffer the lack of food and shelter. Guide our leaders to lead boldly for the sake of the common good, regardless of the obstacles they may face.

Lord of truth,
hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, in you the Father makes us and all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory. This we pray in thanksgiving for your baptism and in the power of your holy name. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution	<i>page 76</i>
“Comfortable Words”	<i>page 77</i>
THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION	<i>page 78</i>
<i>(with Proper Preface for Epiphany, page 79)</i>	
The Peace	<i>page 83</i>
Prayer of Humble Access	<i>page 83</i>

The Communion

While the church receives communion, in silence, take the time to reflect or pray or sit quietly and to enable others to do so, and/or at any time to join in the singing of the following music:

“O Lamb of God”

page 84, CP 685

“Spirit of the living God”

- 1 Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me:
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me:
Break me, melt me, mould me, fill me!
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me!

- 2 Soul of heaven, Heart of God,
Wash over me.
Soul of heaven, Heart of God,
Wash over me.
Cleanse me, teach me, hold me, reach me!
Soul of heaven, Heart of God,
Wash over me.

- 3 Holy presence, Love divine,
Cast out my fear.
Holy presence, Love divine,
Cast out my fear.
Shield me, free me, call me, lead me!
Holy presence, Love divine,
Cast out my fear.

*Words and Music Daniel Iverson | Michael Alfred Baughen | Lowell Alexander
© Words 1982 Birdwing Music Michael Baughen - The Jubilate Group (Admin. by Jubilate
Hymns Ltd, sub to Hope Publishing for various regions);
Music 1935 Renewed 1963 Birdwing Music CCLI Licence # 2319023*

“Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place”

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.
I can hear the brush of angel’s wings,
I see glory on each face;
surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

The Lord’s Prayer

page 85

Prayer of Thanksgiving	<i>page 85</i>
“Glory be to God” (“Gloria in Excelsis”)	<i>page 86</i>
The Blessing	<i>page 86</i>

THE CHURCH DEPARTS TO WITNESS AND TO SERVE

Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn “*Filled with the Spirit’s Power*” **CP 658**
Postlude

Those serving today’s worship and learning:

<i>Bulletin preparation</i>	Lori Maker (Parish Office)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Bev Doiron & Sharon Titus
<i>Sunday School</i>	Laura Janes
<i>Sound system</i>	Chris Titus
<i>Greeter</i>	Patti Vaughan & Pam Boucher
<i>Layreader & First Reader</i>	Brenda Clayton
<i>Second Reader</i>	Ngaire Nelson
<i>Prayer Leader</i>	Layreader
<i>Organist & Choir Director</i>	David Mitchell
<i>Presider & preacher</i>	Keith Joyce
<i>Counters</i>	Terry Ricketts & Janet Brown
<i>Building care</i>	Susan Jack

Those serving in our outreach this week:

Sun, Jan 12, 11:45 am	Susan Jack
HVHS Lunch Programme preparation (Large Hall kitchen)	Deanna Morrison Lina Toole Judy Mae Gallant
Mon, Jan 13, 11:30 am	Janet Brown
HVHS Lunch Programme delivery (from Large Hall)	David Brown

Who’s serving next week is on the Narthex bulletin board.

THIS WEEK

- Wed, Jan 15, 10:00 am** Saint John and District Senior's Shuffleboard (Large Hall) For more info contact Pauline Wilson at 506 738-8677
- Wed, Jan 15, 7:00 pm** Choir practice (Small Hall) For more info contact David Mitchell at 506 738-2798
- Sat, Jan 18, 9:00 am** Vestry (Small Hall) For more info contact Terry Ricketts at 506 672-4696 or Susan Jack at 506 333-9931

LOOKING AHEAD

- Sun, Jan 19, noon** Parish Luncheon (Chili)
- Fri, Jan 24** Annual reports from committees and groups due into Lori at the church office
- Sun, Feb 23, noon** "Bagged lunch" after church and AGM

FOR OUR WORSHIP AND LEARNING

Notes on Today's Scripture Readings

Isaiah 43:1-7 Judah has complained that God has deserted them, his people, in the destruction of Jerusalem and in their exile. God asks, through the prophet, "Who among you ... will attend and listen for the time to come?"

Acts 8:14-17 Philip, one of the seven chosen to ensure the welfare of widows, has proclaimed the good news in Samaria. Many have listened to what he has to say; some have been healed. Many have been baptised.

Luke 3:15-17,21-22 People flock to John the Baptist, responding to his urging to start new, ethical lives – as a way of preparing for Jesus. John has condemned those who seek his baptism with no intention of reforming their ways. Failure to

respond to his call to repentance can lead to condemnation at the end of time.

© 1996-2024 Chris Haslam

Next Sunday – January 19 *Second Sunday after The Epiphany* Scripture readings Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

NOTICES

Seafarer's Mission

We will be collecting items for the Seafarer's Mission during the month of January. Suggested items are hats, scarves, gloves or mitts, socks, wrapped hard candy (no chocolate), soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, shaving foam, razors, deodorant, lip balm, playing cards, puzzle, books, pens, writing paper , postcards.

Happy Birthday this Week to:

January 12 – Jim Hyde & Ashley Ricketts

January 13 – Freda Arnold

January 15 – Suzanne Hartlen

January 17 – Doug Simpson, Ngaire Nelson

January 18 – Christopher Titus



PRAYER

Prayer for folks in nursing or special care homes

Ginny Abbott, Lillian Atkins, Diane Cormier, Frances Finley, Ruth Northeast, Elsie Rusling.

Prayer for those in hospital or sick at home

Andrew Aalund, Paula Baldwin, Diane Basque, Margaret Boyer, Edith Chilton, Shelly Clark Collins, Bea Conley, Linda Cunningham, Jo-Ann Diamond, Bonnie Dean, Wendy DeWitt, Ernest Ellingwood, Barb Ellis, Debbie Green, Ann Hoben, David Maxwell, Pam Melanson, Gordon Morrell, Michael Penchoff, Susan Penchoff, Carol Price, Margaret Ann Reid, Lois Shaw, Bob Sherwood, Mykayla Spinney, Norm Toole, Joe Totton, Robbie Wong.

Parish Cycle of Prayer for Week of *January 12-18, 2025*

- Mon:** Mary Ann Smyrl and Family
Tue: Gordon and Kim Spinney, and Mykayla
Wed: Ann Stone
Thur: Bev Sullivan
Fri: Our Interim Priest-in-charge, Fr. Keith

Please pray for these parishioners and ministry this week.

Prayer Shawls - if you know someone in our parish who is in great need for prayer and would find comfort in a shawl made with love and care. Contact Ngaire Nelson at 506-672-8666 or the church office at 506-635-8145.

Saint John Mission to Seafarers Prayer Cycle

In January, we pray for all seafarers at the start of the New Year, that they may look forward to a satisfying job ahead and in our prayers we remember their loved ones left behind.

OUR PARISH PRAYER TREE

A team of volunteers is available upon request, to pray for you or your loved one (with their permission) daily, for two weeks. These prayers will be treated with the strictest confidence. Prayer-requests should be short and to the point, and will be passed on verbatim. The Lord knows what we need best! A follow-up of thanks or an update encourages our intercessors in their ministry.

To initiate the prayer-tree ministry please call your request to our “Captain”, Ngaire Nelson 672-8666

The Baptism of the Lord

Today, on this Sunday which follows the celebrating of the Principal Feast of The Epiphany of the Lord, we mark Christ's baptism by John the Baptist. The Baptism of Jesus Christ, when hearing from all the Gospels, inaugurates his public ministry as an adult; he comes to the Jordan River and is baptised by John the Baptist. John humbly objects to baptizing Jesus, insisting instead that Jesus baptize him. John's concern seemed to be twofold: (1) John baptized others for repentance and forgiveness of sins, something the sinless Jesus did not need; (2) John's ministry included preparing for the coming of a "mightier" One who would bring a powerful baptism—a baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire. Jesus persisted and John agreed to baptise Jesus. In accepting John's baptism, Jesus is seen as identifying with sinful humankind and expressing his full solidarity with us.

Jesus inaugurated his public ministry by stepping into association with sinners by receiving the same baptism as they would for the forgiveness of sin. His baptism by John marked his acceptance of death for the sins of humankind; his coming up out of the water depicted his resurrection.

In what may be termed an adult epiphany, after Jesus' baptism by John we see images of the heavens opening and the dove-like descent of the Holy Spirit. A voice speaks in the third person singular (in Matthew), "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." The voice combines key phrases from the Old Testament: "My Son" (the Davidic king as God's adopted son in Psalms 2 and 10, "beloved" (Isaac in Genesis 22), and "with whom I am well pleased" (the servant of God in Isaiah 42:1).

Originally the baptism of Christ was celebrated on Epiphany, along with commemorating the coming of the Magi, and of Christ's turning water into wine at the wedding at Cana. Over time in the West, however, the celebration of the baptism of the Lord came to be commemorated as a distinct feast from the Epiphany.

What's important in this event is the affirmation of the Father and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of the Son's life and purpose here on earth.