

*First Sunday after Epiphany  
The Baptism of Our Lord*



*“You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased” Mark 1:4-11*

*Church of Our Saviour*

*“Our Mission: to live out the gospel by transforming lives and neighborhoods in partnership,  
with innovation, and with compassion.”*

**January 10, 2021  
10:30 a.m.**

The Rev. Debra Q. Bennett, Rector  
Peter Wright, Choir Director  
Michael McGroarty, Musician

# Church of Our Saviour Episcopal

471 Crosby Street  
Akron, Ohio, 44302  
330-535-9174

We invite you to experience God's love and ours. We are a part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. We are bound together by our common liturgy, not a rigid set of doctrines. So how we sing and pray and relate to one another is very important to us. Wherever you are on your journey, we have a place for you and invite you to make your place with us. Come share our joys and sorrows as we share in yours. God is alive for everyone here regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation or life history. Join singles, couples, partners and families of every description that make up our community of faith. Rejoice with us in our diversity.

## Parish Prayer

Good and gracious God, we pray for all who have yet to know of your love and mercy. May the Church of Our Saviour be so inspired by your Holy Spirit that it may serve as a beacon of hope and a witness to the gospel for all people. Grant that we may continually grow in our own knowledge and love of you as we strive to use all that we have and all that we are to follow and imitate your beloved son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

## Welcome, Guests

If you are joining us online for the first time this morning, we hope you will consider making Church of Our Saviour your church home during this period of suspended in-person worship.

# Liturgy of the Word

## First Sunday after Epiphany

### ♪ Prelude

### Ringing of the “Welcome” Bell

### ♪ Opening Hymn

Hymnal #448 O, love, how deep, how broad, how high

*Deus tourum militum*



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing  
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his  
4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in  
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he  
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of  
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions  
3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and  
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful  
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his  
6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.  
2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.  
3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.  
4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.  
5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.  
6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

### Opening Acclamation

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

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

## Collect for Purity

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.

Response: **Amen**

**Hymn of Praise**    Hallelujah! We sing your praises!

**WLP #784**

Hal - le - lu - jah!    We sing your    prais - es!    All our  
Ha - le - lu - ya!    Pe - lo tsa    ro - na,    di tha -

hearts are filled with glad - ness!    Hal - le - lu - jah!    We sing your  
bi - le ka - o - fe - la.    Ha - le - lu - ya!    Pe - lo tsa

prai - ses!    All our hearts are filled with glad - ness!  
ro - na,    di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.

**Fine**

(Continued on next page)

Christ the Lord to us said: "I am wine, I am bread, I am  
 Je - sus says to us still: "All who do the Lord's will, all who  
 wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger!"  
 do the Lord's will are my sis - ters and my bro - thers." *D.C.*

Presider: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you**

Presider: Let us pray

**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.

Response: **Amen**

**First Reading**          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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

Response: **Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 29



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### *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. *Refrain*
- 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. *Refrain*
- 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. *Refrain*
- 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. *Refrain*
- 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!" *Refrain*
- 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. *Refrain*

**Second Reading**

Acts 19:1-7

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

Lector: The Word of the Lord

Response: **Thanks be to God**

**Sequence Hymn**

Hymnal #121 Christ, when for us you were baptized

*Caithness*

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spi - rit on you came,  
2 God called you his be - lov - ed Son, called you his ser - vant true,  
3 Straight - way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed his call  
4 Bap - tize us with your Spi - rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,

as peace - ful as a dove and yet as ur - gent as a flame.  
sent you his king - dom to pro - claim, his ho - ly will to do.  
free - ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.  
that, like - wise in God's ser - vice we may per - fect free - dom find.

## **Holy Gospel** – The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark

Mark 1:4-11

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

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

People's Response before the Gospel Proclamation: **Glory to You, Lord Christ**

People's Response following the Gospel Proclamation: **Praise to You, Lord Christ**

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Debra Q. Bennett

**The Baptismal Covenant**

Presider: Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Presider: Do you believe in God the Father?

*People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

Presider: 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.*

Presider: 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.*

Presider: 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.*

Presider: 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.*

Presider: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People: I will, with God's help.*

Presider: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People: I will, with God's help.*

Presider: 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.*

Presider: 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**

Intercessor: Central to every gathering of Christians for worship is intercessory prayer. Our prayer is always for the church and the world. Remembering the saints who have gone before us and giving thanks for God's blessings, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Intercessor: For your whole church that it will continue to joyfully proclaim your love to the world. Bless and strengthen our Presiding Bishop Michael, our bishops Mark, William, and Arthur and our priest Debra in their proclamation of the gospel. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: For our care of creation that we resist the temptation to use it wastefully and seek more opportunities for restoration and wise use. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: For all nations of the world, that they will come to the knowledge that your peace brings plenty and your wisdom brings justice. We pray especially for the President and his advisors, President-elect Biden, and members of all branches of the U.S. government and our state and local government. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: For our brothers and sisters in any need, that we tend to their wound and hurts, bringing healing, hope, and comfort in your name (especially...Christopher, David, Pam, Susan, Christine, Joe,

Chris, Derwood, Ruth, Judy, Glynn, Patricia, Patty, Tom, Danny, Emily, Rob, Jeff, Mikey, Anthony, Norma, Clarence, Dan, Steve, Leslie, Nancy R., Marilyn M., Bill, Marsha, Roger, William, Mitchell, Helen, Richard S., Bob, Kym, Kelly, Stephanie, Joslyn, Mia, Virginia, Michelle, Chris D., Randy and Helen, Raymond, Katie, Robin, Fred, Susan S., Judy, Richard and Joyce Metz, Shirley W., Sandy, Ramon, Jessica, Tim, Dianne, Kylie, Nakiim, The Merton Family, Nancy, Hannah, Mary, Julie, Amy, David, Karly, Christina, Jeff, Richard D., Tammy, David S., Michael D., Scott, Karen; Chuck, Mike, Ebony & the First Energy crew; Aunt Abbie, Eve & Katie, the People of El Salvador, the Penix family, Elvera, Rita, Donna C; Shawn, Betty & the Brady Family; Seti, Jim, Joseph, Judy & Jonathan, Deidre, Dot, Beth, Jim E., Larry, Tim, Chester, Janice, Ron, Eric, Karla, Tana, Carol, Dianna, Bree, Roxy, and Joyce & Jerry), that God's all sufficient grace turn darkness into light, Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: Bring comfort and grace to all those affected by the COVID-19 contagion, especially parents of children home from school, people dependent on food pantries, the homeless, students & teachers, health care workers & first responders, daycare workers and funeral directors, especially Mo and Rita. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: We pray for our seminarians Megan and Jon and all seminarians as they continue their discernment toward ordination. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: We pray for all those who are currently serving in the military, that they will be safe and may know the peace that only you can give. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: For our congregation, that we do everything possible to bring joy and peace into our neighborhoods and communities. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor says: (*You may add other intercessions - silently or aloud*), Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: For the blessed gifts of saintly lives, that they inspire the witness of all believers who live in your promises. We pray for all the faithful departed, let light perpetual shine upon them. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Presider: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.

*People: Amen*

## **Confession of Sin**

*The Presider says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

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

(Continued on next page)

## **The Absolution**

*The priest says*

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**      “The Peace of Christ be always with you”

**Response:** “And also with you”

## **Commemorative Prayers**

*The priest offers prayers for birthdays, anniversaries, and other significant events*

## **Announcements**

## **The Lord’s Prayer**

*People and Presider*

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 Blessing

May God the Father, who by Baptism adopts us as his  
children, grant you grace. *Amen.*  
May God the Son, who sanctified a home at Nazareth, fill  
you with love. *Amen.*  
May God the Holy Spirit, who has made the Church one  
family, keep you in peace. *Amen*

**Response:** Amen

### ♪ Closing Hymn

LEVAS II #121 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit

Eugene Hancock

1. Bap - tized\_ in wa - ter, — sealed by the Spi - rit, — Cleansed by the  
2. Bap - tized\_ in wa - ter, — sealed by the Spi - rit, — Dead in the  
3. Bap - tized\_ in wa - ter, — sealed by the Spi - rit, — Marked with the

(Continued on next page)

1. blood of Christ our King: Heirs of sal - va - tion, —  
 2. tomb with Christ our King: One with his ris - ing, —  
 3. sign of Christ our King: Born of one Fa - ther, —

1. trust - ing his prom - ise, — Faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
 2. freed and for - giv - en, — Thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
 3. we are his child - ren, — Joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

**Dismissal**

Response: **Thanks be to God**

**Postlude**

**Today's Lectors:** Chris M. & Jon C.

**NOTICE: Annual Meeting**—Church of Our Saviour will hold its annual meeting on Sunday January 24<sup>th</sup> immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. More information to come.