

St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

(Congregation established 1913)

January 13th, 2019

Baptism of the Lord

O HEAVENLY Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ did take our nature upon him, and was baptized for our sakes in the river Jordan: Mercifully grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may also be partakers of thy Holy Spirit; through him whom thou didst send to be our Saviour and Redeemer, even the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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The First Sunday of Epiphany:

Jesus Baptism.

Beginning here we glimpse the Three-in-one;

The river runs, the clouds are torn apart,

The Father speaks, the Spirit and the Son

Reveal to us the single loving heart

That beats behind the being of all things

And calls and keeps and kindles us to light.

The dove descends, the spirit soars and sings

‘You are beloved, you are my delight!’

In that quick light and life, as water spills

And streams around the Man like quickening rain,

The voice that made the universe reveals

The God in Man who makes it new again.

He calls us too, to step into that river

To die and rise and live and love forever.

- Malcolm Guite

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MORNING PRAYER AT TEN
Prayer Book, pp.6-5, Psalm146, 147; Isaiah 40:1-11; Hebrew 1:1-12
HOLY COMMUNION and BLESSING OF THE WATERS
AT HALF-PAST TEN

Opening Hymn: # **156 The People That in Darkness Sat**

The Lord's Prayer

Collect for Purity

(Prayer Book p. 67)

Summary of the Law, Lord. Have Mercy

(Prayer Book p. 69, 70)

Collect for the Day

Prayer with the children

Epistle: Acts 8:14-17

R/ **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 29 page: 362

Gradual: # **527 How Firm a Foundation**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (Chap 3, verses 15-22)

R: Glory be to thee, O Lord

R: Praise be to Thee, O Christ

Sermon

Nicene Creed

(Prayer Book p. 71)

Intercessions

Offertory Hymn: **Songs of Thankfulness and Praise**

The people of St. Mary's have the privilege of being part of and supporting the ministry of Jesus Christ and His Church through weekly financial offerings. If you are visiting here today, you are welcome to make a contribution, but please do not feel under any obligation to do so.

**Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
Manifested by the star
To the sages from afar,
Branch of royal David's stem,
In Thy birth at Bethlehem.
Anthems be to Thee addressed
God in man made manifest.**

**Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme,
And at Cana, Wedding-guest,
In Thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in power divine,
Changing water into wine.
Anthems be to Thee addressed
God in man made manifest.**

**Manifest in making whole
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight,
Quelling all the devil's might;
Manifest in gracious will,
Ever bringing good from ill.
Anthems be to Thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.**

**Sun and moon shall darkened be,
Stars shall fall, the heavens shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning shine,
All will see His glorious sign;
All will then the trumpet hear,
All will see the Judge appear;
Thou by all wilt be confessed,
God in man made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,
Mirrored in Thy holy Word;
May we imitate Thee now
And be pure as pure art Thou
That we like to Thee may be
At Thy great Epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.**

Blessed be thou, Lord of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. All Things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.

Invitation, Confession and Absolution

(Prayer Book p. 76, 77)

Great Thanksgiving, Peace, Prayer of Humble Access

The Communion

+ *All baptized Christians who have prepared themselves are invited to come forward with faith and love to receive Holy Communion.*

+ *If you prefer to receive a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.*

+ *For health reasons, dipping the bread in the wine is not permitted. If you require gluten-free wafer, please indicate this at the time of receiving.*

Hymn after Communion: # 69 We Who Live by Sound and Symbol

Lord's Prayer

Thanksgiving after Communion

(Prayer Book p. 85, 86)

Gloria

Liturgy for the Blessing of the Waters

The voice of the Lord upon the waters cries out, saying, 'Come all of you, receive the Spirit of wisdom, the Spirit of understanding, the Spirit of the fear of God, of Christ who has appeared'. Today the nature of the waters is made holy, and Jordan is parted and holds back the flow of its waters as it sees the Master washing himself.

As man, Christ the King, you came to the river, and in your goodness you hasten to accept the baptism of a servant at the hands of the Forerunner, on account of our sins, O Lover of mankind.

At the voice of the one crying in the desert, 'Prepare the way of the Lord', you came, Lord, having taken the form of a servant, asking for Baptism, though you did not know sin. The waters saw you and were afraid. The Forerunner trembled and cried out, saying, 'How will the lamp enlighten the Light? The servant place his hand on the Master, Saviour, who takes away the sin of the world, make me and the waters holy'.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Readings

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. (Isaiah 35:1-10.)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. (Isaiah 55:1-13.)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. (Isaiah 12:3-6.)

A reading from the 1st Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians. (1 Corinthians 10:1-4)

.The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. (Mark 1:9-11)

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel of Christ. ***Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.***

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, almighty God and Father, for by the gift of water you nourish and sustain all living things.

Blessed be God for ever.

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea, you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.

Blessed be God for ever.

We give you thanks for sending your Son Jesus. For he was baptized by John in the river Jordan. For us he was anointed as Christ by your Holy Spirit. For us he suffered the baptism of his own death and resurrection, setting us free from the bondage of sin and death, and opening to us the joy and freedom of everlasting life.

Blessed be God for ever.

We give you thanks for your Holy Spirit who teaches us and leads us into all truth, filling us with his gifts so that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations and serve you as a royal priesthood.

Blessed be God for ever.

The water is blessed, three times, with the sign of the Cross or with a Cross dipped in the water; each time the following is said:

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, and grant to all, whether they touch it or are anointed by or partake of it, sanctification, blessing, cleansing, health. **Amen.**

Almighty and Merciful God, in the Baptism of your Son, you have restored Creation and fulfilled it as a means of salvation. Show this water to be the water of redemption

and the purification of flesh and spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Great are You, O Lord, and marvelous are Your works, and no word will suffice to praise Your wonders.

Great are You, O Lord, and marvelous are Your works, and no word will suffice to praise Your wonders.

Great are You, O Lord, and marvelous are Your works, and no word will suffice to praise Your wonders.

Today the grace of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove dwelt upon the waters.

Today the Sun that never sets has dawned and the world is made radiant with the light of the Lord.

Today the Moon with its radiant beams sheds light on the world. Today the stars formed of light make the inhabited world lovely with the brightness of their splendour. Today the clouds rain down from heaven the shower of justice for mankind. Today the Uncreated by his own will accepts the laying on of hands by his own creature.

Today the Prophet and Forerunner draws near, but stands by with fear seeing God's condescension towards us. Today the streams of Jordan are changed into healing by the presence of the Lord.

Today all creation is watered by mystical streams.

Today the failings of mankind are being washed away by the waters of Jordan.

Today Paradise is opened for mortals and the Sun of justice shines down on us. Today the bitter water as once for Moses' people is changed to sweetness by the presence of the Lord.

Today we have been delivered from the ancient grief, and saved as the new Israel.

Today we have been redeemed from darkness and are filled with radiance by the light of the knowledge of God.

Today the gloomy fog of the world is cleansed by the manifestation of our God. Today all creation shines with light from on high.

Today error has been destroyed and the coming of the Master makes for us a way of salvation. Today things on high keep festival with those below, and those below commune with those on high.

Today the sacred and triumphant festal assembly of the Church exults.

Today the Master hastens towards baptism, that he may lead humanity to the heights. Today the One who does not bow, bows down to his own servant, that he may free us from servitude.

Today we have purchased the Kingdom of heaven, for the Kingdom of the Lord will have no end. Today earth and sea share the joy of the world, and the world has been filled with gladness.

The Hymn: Joyful, Joyful

**Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!**

**All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.**

**Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other
Lift us to the joy divine.**

Blessing

Dismissal: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

PARISH LIFE NOTES

Vestry meeting takes place today after the service at the home of Alan and Jacky S.

Organ Concert. Valerie is playing an organ recital in Moose Jaw tonight and would be delighted to see you, if anyone feels like driving out. The program starts at 7 pm, is about an hour and a half long (including intermission), with a reception afterwards. Zion United is a large, beautifully-maintained, Methodist-style building right on the Main St.

Musician- in- Residence. Next Sunday we will be welcoming our Jeremy Geddert to St. Mary's as our Musician in Residence. Jeremy is on sabbatical from his University teaching post in the United States, and is using part of this time to develop his skills as a church musician. Jeremy will be taking organ lessons with Valerie Hall, writing hymns and music for the church, and augmenting the music and worship life of our parish through offerings on guitar and piano.

Join us for Intercessory Prayer to pray for our parish needs, Wednesday, January 16 at 2:00 in the Lounge. "...we have not stopped praying for you...we ask God to give you complete knowledge of His will and to give you spiritual knowledge and understanding." Colossians 1:9

The Wardens, Incumbents and Interims met for the 12th time on January 9, 2019. Key discussion included:

- * a review and conversation on the assessments that were done on the seven Regina parish buildings;
- * scheduling dates for congregational meetings to be held in January and February;
- * presentations and conversation on four high level scenarios;
- * development of a Steering Committee to provide leadership and support for the work of the Wardens' Group;
- * planning for a St. Cuthbert Archdeaconry visioning day that will inform moving forward on possible scenarios;
- * information from the incumbents and interims on a time of prayer that will rotate weekly throughout Epiphany at each of the Regina parishes; and,
- * the next meetings being February 13, March 13, March 27, May 1, and tentatively, April 10.

Diocesan Youth and Children's Winter Retreats! Growing Faith: Children's Overnight for ages 6-12: Jan. 19-20. Confirming Faith: Youth Retreat for ages 13-17: Feb. 1-3. To register go to: www.qcamps.ca

Epiphanytide House Blessings. The Rector's annual pilgrimage of prayer to the homes of St. Mary's parishioners begins this week. Please sign your name on the list at the welcome table in the narthex, and Claude will be in touch about coming to pray God's blessing, protection, and provision on the church that is your home!

Holy Day Celebration. On Friday, January 25 we celebrate the Conversion of St. Paul at 6:00 p.m. with a service of evening prayer, a Middle Eastern meal, (comprising Jewish and Greek elements!), and a screening of the 2018 film, "Paul" Apostle of Christ." Donation will be taken up to cover the cost of the meal. Please sign up on the welcome table so we know how much food to prepare.

Praying together in Epiphanytide. Join in prayer with brothers and sisters in Regina Anglican parishes throughout the Season of Epiphany this Wednesday, January 16th at All Saints Anglican Church, 142 Massey Rd.

TODAY AT ST. MARY'S

We wish a warm welcome especially to those who are praying with us for the first time; your presence is a blessing! If you would like to identify yourself, or would like know more about our ministry and mission, please speak to one of the greeters and ask for a welcome card which you may complete and place in the offering plate.

Nursery for infants & toddlers is available in the Good Shepherd Nursery.

Godly Play in the Children's Worship Centre for children 3 - 6 years. “Today’s story is ‘Anna and Simeon’ Luke 2: 25-38. Leaders: Sandra D, Myka D.

Faith Quest (ages 7-13) continue their Exodus III - Red Sea to Sinai rotation. Kate B will lead and Sally and Ernie K will shepherd this sand art workshop. Memory verse: Exodus 16: 6-7a “So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you will know that it was the Lord who brought you out of Egypt, and in the morning you will see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against him.”

Coffee and Tea Following the service, please join us for a cup of tea or coffee in the upper hall. Coffee Hosts: Mike D

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

Tuesday	10:30 am Forever in Motion Senior Exercise
Wednesday	8:30 am Morning Prayer; Men's Breakfast 10:30am Parent and Tots Group
Thursday	9:30 am Woman's Time Out Bible Study
Next Sunday	10:00 am Morning Prayer 10:30 am Holy Communion

THE WORD OF THE LORD: TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

READING:

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samar'ia had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit; for it had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL:

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 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. 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." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, added to them all by shutting up John in prison. Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 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."