

# Order of Service: The First Sunday after the Epiphany

## The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

### January 10, 2021

**Prelude** *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

Mark Hayes  
Dr. Gukhui Han, Piano

#### Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*People* **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

*Celebrant* There is one Body and one Spirit;

*People* **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

*Celebrant* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

*People* **One God and Father of all.**

#### Hymn *Shall We Gather at the River*

Robert Lowry

*(Mute your device and sing loudly and joyfully)*



1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, Where bright an - gel feet have trod; —
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, Wash - ing up its sil - ver spray, —
3. Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, Lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down; —
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, Soon our pil - grim - age will cease, —



1. With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?
2. We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, All the hap - py gold - en day.
3. Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, And pro - vide a robe and crown.
4. Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er With the mel - o - dy of peace.



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

**Collect of the Day** *(people muted)*

*Celebrant* God 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 Reading** *Genesis 1:1-5 (people muted)*

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

**A Reading from the Saints**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship

"Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock. Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it cost God the life of his Son: 'Ye were bought at a price', and what has cost God much cannot be cheap for us. Above all, it is grace because God did not reckon his Son too dear a price to pay for our life, but delivered him up for us. Costly grace is the Incarnation of God."

**Anthem** *O Love, How Deep*

Everett Titcomb

O love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
How passing thought and fantasy,  
That God, the Son of God,  
Should take Our mortal form for mortals' sake.

All glory to our Lord and God  
For love so deep, so high, so broad;  
The Trinity whom we adore  
Forever and forever more. Amen.

For us he prayed, for us he taught,  
For us his daily works he wrought,  
By words and signs and actions,  
Thus, still seeking not himself, but us.

**Discipleship Story**

Angel Ramos

**Anthem** *I Will Follow*

Chris Tomlin  
Malek Sammour, Soloist

Where You go, I'll go  
Where You stay, I'll stay  
When You move, I'll move  
I will follow

All Your ways are good  
All Your ways are sure  
I will trust in You alone  
Higher than my side  
High above my life  
I will trust in You alone

**Chorus:** Where You go, I'll go  
Where You stay, I'll stay  
When You move, I'll move  
I will follow You  
Who You love, I'll love  
How You serve I'll serve  
If this life I lose, I will follow You  
I will follow You

Light unto the world  
Light unto my life  
I will live for You alone  
You're the one I seek  
Knowing I will find  
All I need in You alone, in You alone

**(Chorus)**  
In You there's life everlasting  
In You there's freedom for my soul  
In You there's joy, unending joy  
And I will follow

**(Chorus)**

**The Gospel** *Mark 1:4-11 (people muted)*

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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."

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

**The Sermon** *(people muted)*

The Rev. Nancy Frausto

*Silence follows the sermon.*

**Music** *Arioso from Cantata No.156*

Johann Sebastian Bach arr. Merle J. Isaac  
George Bullock, Cello & Dr. Gukhui Han, Piano

**Affirmation of Faith: Baptismal Covenant** *(Please remain muted and join in praying together)*  
*(All Saints Episcopal Church, Pasadena, CA)*

Let us together affirm our faith in God.

*Celebrant* What is your faith?

*People* **I believe and trust in God the Source of all being, creator and sustainer of all things; and in God the Eternal Word, my Savior Jesus Christ; and in God the Holy Spirit, the giver of life and truth. This is my faith.**

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

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

*Celebrant* 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.**

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

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

*Celebrant* Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?

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

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

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

*Celebrant* 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.**

**Anthem** *Jesus, So Lowly*

Harold Friedell

Jesus, so lowly,  
Child of the earth:  
Christen me wholly,  
Bring me new birth.

Jesus, so broken,  
Silent and pale;  
Be this the token  
Love will not fail.

Jesus, so lonely,  
Weary and sad;  
Teach me that only  
Love maketh glad.

Jesus, victorious,  
Mighty and free;  
Teach me how glorious  
Death is to be.

## **The Prayers of the People – Form IV** *(Please remain muted and join in praying together)*

*Leader:* 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.**

*Celebrant:* O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins to God.

*People* **Forgive me for the things I have done and not done. Forgive me for the things I have said and not said. Forgive me for the life I have lived and not lived. That I might reflect the image of the one I profess to follow, in thought, word and deed, and in discovering my true self draw others into that light. Amen.** *(John Birch, 2016)*

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## Offertory

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to God.

## Offertory Anthem *No Turning Back*

**Video** – *I am with you*

Work of the People

## Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Gracious God, in epiphanies large and small, you make your love and light visible to us. During these days of disease, distancing, discord, and death so much gets in the way of us seeing your light and feeling your love. We long to come together in community to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion knowing that you are present there. Help us to remember that even when we are separated from each other, the sacraments, and our sacred space-- you are present in us, among us, beside us, near us, upon us, by us, including us, accompanying us. Always and forever in love and light – God with us.

And so, let us pray together our Prayer for Spiritual Communion.

## Prayer for Spiritual Communion *(Please remain muted and join in praying together)*

*(Source: Bishop Guy Erwin, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America)*

*People*        **Lord Jesus Christ, you instituted for us a great sacrament in your promise of life and love... Feed us in our hearts with faith and trust, draw us closer to you and to each other, and strengthen us for service to our neighbor. We come before you now, with hearts you have fed all our lives with the promise that you have given yourself for us. Keep us strong in that faith until we can meet again at your table. Amen.**

**Anthem** *Wash, O God, Our Sons & Daughters*        Ruth Duck and Beach Spring arr. Phil Kadidlo  
Malek Sammour, Soloist

Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.  
Number them among your people, bless as Christ blessed long ago.  
Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.  
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.  
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.  
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,  
One with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.

Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!  
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!  
We your people stand before you, water washed and Spirit-born.  
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

**Lord's Prayer** *(Please unmute and join in praying together)*

**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**

And so my friends, let us remember: "We were made to enjoy music, to enjoy beautiful sunsets, to enjoy looking at the billows of the sea and to be thrilled with a rose that is bedecked with dew... Human beings are actually created for the transcendent, for the sublime, for the beautiful, for the truthful... and all of us are given the task of trying to make this world a little more hospitable to these beautiful things." *(The Most Rev. Desmond Tutu)*

And may the blessing of the God who created us, came to live among us as Jesus, and renews us through the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you this night and always.

### **Announcements**

#### **The Peace**

*Celebrant*      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
*People*          **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** *This Is My Father's World*

Mark Hayes  
Dr. Gukhui Han, Piano