

*The First Sunday after the Epiphany  
The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ*



*You are my Son, the Beloved;  
With You I am well pleased.*

**Holy Eucharist II**

January 12, 2025  
10:30 a.m.

**Saint Alban's Episcopal Church Welcomes You**  
130 39<sup>th</sup> Ave. Pl. NW, Hickory, NC 28601  
(828) 324-1351

*Welcome to St. Alban's. We are grateful for your presence.  
Cloth pew bags are available for our younger worshipers.  
Please return to the basket as you depart.*

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Processional Hymn

*Christ, when for us you were baptized*

Hymnal 121

## Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 299

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

## Gloria

Hymnal S-280

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 for Purity

BCP p. 355

*(The Celebrant and People continue)*

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. Amen.

## The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 357

*Celebrant* The Lord 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.*

## First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

*(The people sit.)*

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>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.

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

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

<sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honored, and I love you,

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

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

<sup>6</sup>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—

<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made."

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

**Psalm:** Psalm 29       *(Sung in unison)*

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, \*  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; \*  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; \*  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup>He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

<sup>7</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe \*  
and strips the forests bare.

<sup>9</sup>And in the temple of the LORD \*  
all are crying, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the LORD sits enthroned as King forevermore.

<sup>11</sup>The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.



*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.

*Celebrant*

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.

*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 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.

**The Prayers of the People**                    *(Stand or kneel)*

The Lord shall give us the blessings of strength and peace. Beloved of God, let us pray, “Walk with us through the waters, O God.”

Deliver your Church, O God, from fear. Strengthen those you have redeemed by your presence. Give us all the courage to keep our baptismal promises.

**People**                    *Walk with us through the water, O God;*

O God, you have blessed us as members of your household. Strengthen the unity of the Church-those serving you in the east, west, north, and south.

**People**                    *Walk with us through the water, O God;*

Your power, O God, is evident in the mysteries of our universe. By water and your Holy Spirit, you have made us a new people. We give you thanks and praise.

**People**                    *Walk with us through the water, O God;*

Break down the walls of division in our city and our nation. Bring us together as one human family, formed and made by your great hands.

**People**                    *Walk with us through the water, O God;*

Heal and comfort your beloved children, O God, especially all those on our parish prayer list, and those affected by the wildfires of California and recovery from Helene’s aftermath. May they know that they are precious in your sight.

**People**                    *Walk with us through the water, O God;*

Source and Parent of all, you have accepted us as your children. You have made us heirs with Christ. In your great mercy, receive us, and all who have died, into glory everlasting.

**People**                    *Walk with us through the water, O God;*

*Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named, grant you to be strengthened with might by his Holy Spirit, that, Christ dwelling in your hearts by faith, you may be filled with all the fullness of God. *Amen.*

**The Peace**

BCP p. 360

*The Peace is now exchanged.*

*Celebrant*                    The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*                    And also with you.

# The Holy Communion

**Anthem**

*Take Me to the Water*

arr. Cherwin

*The loose plate offering this morning is designated for Episcopal Relief and Development's response to the devastation of the wildfires of southern California.*

**Doxology**

*(People stand as offering is presented)*

Hymn 380, verse 3

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all the creatures here below; praise him above the heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.***

**The Great Thanksgiving**

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

*The people remain standing.*

***Celebrant*** The Lord be with you.

***People*** And also with you.

***Celebrant*** Lift up your hearts.

***People*** We lift them to the Lord.

***Celebrant*** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People*** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus**

S129

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God of might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Alban and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

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,  
    forever and ever. Amen.

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;*

Therefore let us keep the feast.



*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*Gluten free waters are available upon request at the altar rail.*

*Two chalices are offered at the altar rail. The first one is offered to those who prefer to drink from the cup.*

*The second chalice follow for those who prefer to intinct (dip) the wafer in the wine before consuming.*

*Please hold the wafer in your open palm to indicate your preference to the server.*

### **The Communion of the People**

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words.*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

Wade in the wa - ter, wade in the wa - ter, chil - dren,

**Fine**

Wade in the wa - ter, God's a-gon-na trou-ble the wa - ter.

1. See that host all dressed in white,  
 2. See that band all dressed in red,  
 3. Look o - ver yon - der, what do I see?  
 4. If you don't be-lieve I've been re - deemed,

God's a-gon-na trou-ble the

wa - ter.

1. The lead - er looks like the Is - ra - elite,  
 2. Looks like the band that Mo - ses led,  
 3. The Ho - ly Ghost a - com-ing on me,  
 4. Just fol - low me down to Jor - dan's stream,

**D.C.**

God's a - gon - na trou - ble the wa - ter.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**The Blessing**

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

**Post-Communion Hymn**

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

Hymnal 616

**Dismissal**

BCP p. 366

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*

Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**

*Postlude in G*

Antoine Louis Raffy

***We gather for refreshments in the Commons Room immediately following the service.  
All are welcome to participate  
and check out the kiosk for more ways to Walk in Love***

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## ***Announcements***

***Epiphany means manifestation or revelation.***

***The scriptures throughout this season reveal the witness of God's people  
to the nations as the Magi visit from afar.***

***The manifestation continues with the voice at His baptism, proclaiming this is  
"My Son, My Beloved," at the Presentation in the Temple when the aged Simeon  
and Anna recognize the promise of God revealed in the child, Jesus, and finally  
the revelation on the mountaintop at the Transfiguration.***

***Ponder all they ways God manifests his Light and Love to you in this season.***