

The Baptism of the Lord

Jan 12, 2025



St. Helen's
Anglican Church of Canada
Diocese of New Westminster

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

All stand

OPENING HYMN When Christ's Appearing Was Made Known CP 163

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

And also with you.

As we gather, we acknowledge with respect and gratitude
our presence on the traditional, ancestral and unceded lands
of the Musqueam People.

CONFESSION

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

The kingdom is yours, but we turn away from your just rule:

Holy God, holy and mighty, CP 707
holy immortal one, have mercy on us.

The power is yours, but we trust in our own power and strength:

Holy God, holy and mighty, CP 707
holy immortal one, have mercy on us.

The glory is yours, but we fall short of the glory of God:

Holy God, holy and mighty,

CP 707

holy immortal one, have mercy on us.

THE ABSOLUTION

May almighty God have mercy on you,

forgive you your sins,

and bring you to everlasting life.

Amen.



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est heav - en, Peace to your peo - ple here on earth.




Al - might - y God, we wor - ship you, We give you thanks and praise your birth.


Refrain



Glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o! De - o!




2. Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God, Have mer - cy on us and re - ceive our prayer.

repeat Refrain



3. For You a - lone are the One most Ho - ly, You a - lone are the Lord most high



Je - sus Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit In the glo - ry of God. A - men.

repeat Refrain

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit,
keep your children, born of water and the Spirit,
faithful to their calling;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING ISAIAH 43:1-7

A READING FROM THE FIRST BOOK OF ISAIAH

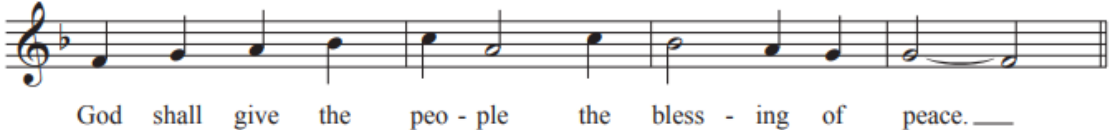
But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. 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. 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. Do not fear, for I am

with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; 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 - everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29



Ascribe to the Holy One, you gods:
Ascribe to the Holy One glory and strength.
Ascribe to God all glory, bless God's name;
worship God in the beauty of ho-liness. **R.**

The voice of the Holy One is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders:
God is upon the mighty waters.
The voice of God is a powerful voice;
the voice of God is a voice of splendour. **R.**

The voice of the Holy One breaks the cedar trees;
God breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
God makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. **R.**

The voice of the Holy One splits the flames of fire;
the voice of God shakes the wilderness;
God shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
The voice of the Holy One
makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the Holy One all are crying, "Glory!" **R.**

God sits enthroned above the flood;
the Holy One sits enthroned, reigning for evermore.
The Holy One shall give strength to all people;
God shall give the people the blessing of peace. **R.**

SECOND READING ACTS 8:14-17

A reading from the book of Acts

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

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

All stand for the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.

Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.

Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!

Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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." 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."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!**

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Jeffrey Preiss

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(All stand)*

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**We believe in God, the Source of Life,
by whom every being in heaven and earth
is created, named, and sustained.
We believe in God, the Living Word,
who restores us to relationship
and speaks to us through faith.
We believe in God, the Holy Spirit,
who comforts, guides, and strengthens us
to share the good news of grace.
We believe in God,
one, holy, undivided Trinity:
Source of Life, Living Word, Comforter:
Mystery. Amen.**

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom for prayer.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After the prayers, those who wish may gather in a circle around the altar.

THE PEACE

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The people greet one another with signs of God's peace (a handshake, an embrace, or a nod and wave are all appropriate signs). Please remain standing.

THE OFFERTORY

As the altar is prepared for Holy Communion, the congregation is invited to make an offering as an expression of gratitude for God's generosity.

OFFERTORY HYMN Down Galilee's Slow Roadways

CP 45

Please remain standing until communion.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of life and freedom,
we celebrate the revelation of Jesus
as the Christ who makes all creation new.
Accept all we offer you this day
and make us new in him,
who is Lord for ever and ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

May God be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to God

Let us give thanks to God our Creator

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right in all times and in all places
to thank and praise you Creator of all.

We praise you here where the Fraser River meets the Salish Sea,
where city and farm, wilderness and industry are side by side.

We praise you at a time when the body of earth
is broken again and again.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation.

Our ancestors journeyed with you
in creation and migration.

They depended on the land,
were displaced from the land and

displaced others from their lands.

They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells,
in families and in dreams,
and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars
and listened to ravens.

Together with angels and ancestors,
orca and salmon, bear and raven, salal and cedar
we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honour song:

Introduction Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, Ho - ly God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo - ry to You, O Lord most high.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

We give thanks to you for Jesus,
whose first bed was a feed trough.

He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness,
he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and
seeds, labour and wages, yeast and bread.
On the night before he died, Jesus took bread,
food of the poor, the work of field and hearth,
he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying:

Take and eat, this is my body, given for you,
do this to remember me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine,
fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying:
This is my blood, which is shed for you.
When you do this, do it in memory of me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land,
gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying:
This is my blood, which is shed for you.
When you do this, do it in memory of me.

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection
and awaiting his coming kingdom,
we offer you this bread and this cup.

Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts
so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together
with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and
community.

Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus,
that we may strive for justice and peace,
Respect the dignity of every human being,
and safeguard the integrity of creation.

Bring us with St. Helen and all your saints to your commonwealth of
sparrow and lily,
child and beggar which is both now and yet to come.

All honour and glory are yours,
Creator, Christ and Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.**

Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

God here among us, light in the midst of us,

Bring us to light and life.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

These are the gifts of God for all God's people.

Thanks be to God

Lamb of God

mf
O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin — of the world;
Have mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

mf All
O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin — of the world;
Lul - lay, lul - la, thou lit - tle tin - y child; Grant — us your peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering CP 165

What King Would Wade CP 164

All stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Gracious God, lover of all,
by this sacrament
you make us one family in Christ your Son,
one in the sharing of his body and blood,
one in the communion of his Spirit.
Help us to grow in love for one another
and come to the full maturity of the Body of Christ.
We ask this in his name.
Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Glory to God,
**whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.**
**Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.**
Amen.

BLESSING

Life is short,
and we do not have much time
to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us.
So be swift to love,
make haste to be kind,
and may the blessing of God Almighty
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you
and those you love, now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove CP 644

*Please be seated for the postlude. The community disperses in silence.
In respect of those who may linger in contemplation, conversation is
reserved for the narthex.*

How to Contribute to St. Helen's Financially

If you'd like to contribute financially to our shared congregational life and mission here at St. Helen's, you can:



- Use one of the envelopes available at the back of the church by the offering plate for cheques or cash
- Scan the QR code at left to contribute via credit card or Apple Pay
- Visit our website (pointgreyanglican.com/pages/give) to contribute via credit card or PayPal
- Set up a Pre-Authorized Donation (PAD). To do this, please reach out to our Envelope Secretary, Monica O'Brien via our office (sthelenswpg@gmail.com).