



# The Baptism of our Lord

Sunday, January 11, 2026 at 11:15 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church & Richmond, Virginia

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. We are glad you are here. We welcome and include all people without exception and we extend a special greeting to any visitors. Throughout this bulletin, helpful guidance is printed in italics. Visitor guides are found in racks at the entrance doors. When you wish to be known here, please fill out a welcome card (found in each pew or online); you may drop the card into the offering plate as it is passed. Children are very welcome in this service, and child care is also available for infants and children through age four in our nursery on the lower level near the main parking lot entrance; greeters are happy to guide you. The church is open for prayer from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday. We hope to see you again soon!

Voluntary *Vater unser im Himmelreich*

J.S. Bach

## The Word of God

Hymn 616 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

*Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*

*Sung by all, standing as you are able. All hymns are found in The Hymnal 1982, the blue book in your pew rack.*

### Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

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

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

### The Collect for Purity

*Said by all.*

Prayer Book, page 355

**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.**

### Gloria

*Sung by all.*

The Hymnal S-277, David Hurd

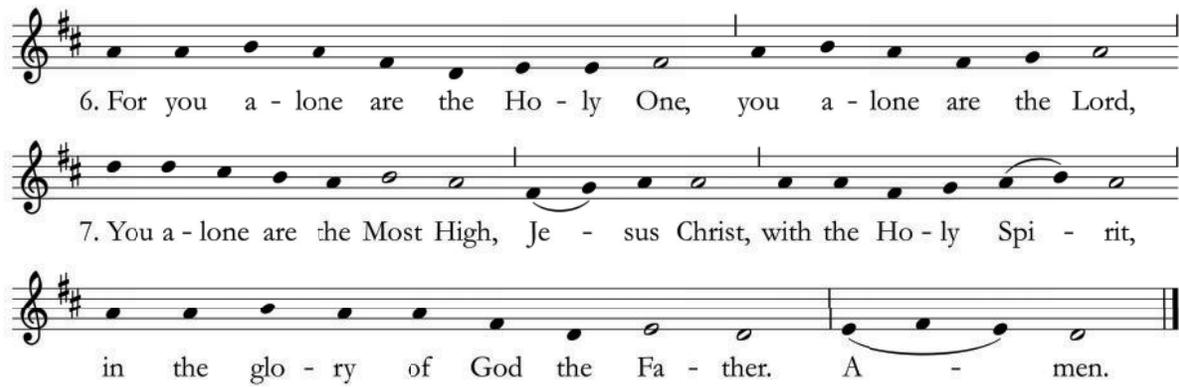
1. Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

2. Lord God, hea-ven - ly King, al-might - y God and Fa - ther, we\_\_\_ wor-ship you, we give\_\_\_ you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,

on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb\_\_\_ of God,

4. you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



**The Collect of the Day**

Prayer Book, page 214

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray. *A period of silence is kept.*

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.**

**The Lesson** Isaiah 42:1-9 *Please sit.*

*Reader* A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.** *A period of silence is kept.*

**Psalm 29** *Said responsively by whole verse, seated.*

Prayer Book, page 806

- 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.**
- 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.**
- 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.**

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.

**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!"

**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.

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Hymn 121** Christ, when for us you were baptized *Sung by all, standing.* *Caithness*

**The Gospel** Matthew 3:13-17 *Please remain standing and face the reader of the Gospel.*

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon** The Rev. John D. Rohrs

**The Baptismal Covenant** *Please stand.* Prayer Book, page 304

*Celebrant* In communion with those who were be baptized at the 9:00 service this morning, let us renew our own Baptismal Covenant.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

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

*Celebrant* 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.

*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 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, Form IV**

Prayer Book, page 388

*Celebrant* Let us pray for the church and the world.

*You may stand or kneel.*

*In the course of the pause after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

*Leader* 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.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* 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.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* 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.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* 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.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, remembering especially those who suffer in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and all places of conflict; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We commend to your mercy all who have died, [especially \_\_\_\_\_] that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant* Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept.*

*All* **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.**

*Celebrant*

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**

Prayer Book, page 360

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

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

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord. After exchanging the Peace, please be seated.*

**Welcome and Announcements**

## The Holy Communion

*All comes from God, so from what God has given, we offer gifts as we participate in God's work in the world. You may offer your gift in an offering plate as they come by or make a gift online by scanning the QR code or texting STSTEPHENSRVA to 73256.*



**At the Offertory** Listen, sweet dove  
Listen sweet dove unto my song  
And spread thy golden wings in me;  
Hatching my tender heart so long  
Till it get wing and flie away with thee.

*Sung by the choir.*

text: George Herbert; music: Grayston Ives

Such glorious gifts thou didst bestow  
That the earth did like a heaven appear,  
The starres were coming down to know  
If they might mend their wages and serve here.

The sunne which once did shine alone,  
Hung down his head and wisht for night  
When he beheld twelve sunnes for one  
Going about the world and giving light.

Lord though we change thou art the same,  
The same sweet God of love and light;  
Restore this day for thy great name,  
Unto his ancient and miraculous right.

**At the Presentation**

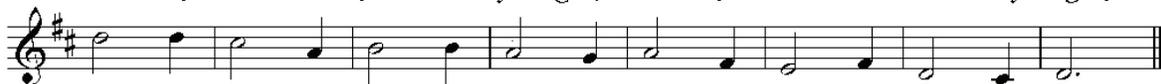
*Sung by all, standing.*

*Puer nobis*

*The fruits of our labor are presented to God, along with gifts for our food ministry.*



To God, Cre- a - tor, heav'n - ly Light, to Christ, re- vealed in earth- ly night, to



God the Spi - rit we now raise our song of thank - ful - ness and praise.

**The Great Thanksgiving** Eucharistic Prayer B, *Alternate Form*

*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 our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. *Here a proper preface is said.*

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**

*Sung by all.*

James Macmillan

4  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high-  
est. Bless-ed is he, O 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.

*You may stand or kneel.*

*Celebrant*

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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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 Christ's death,**

**We proclaim Christ's resurrection,**

**We await Christ's coming in glory;**

*Celebrant*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 Blessed Stephen; Blessed Mary, Mother of God; and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

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

**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 Breaking of the Bread**

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

James Macmillan

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

*Celebrant*

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

**At the Communion of the People**

*All are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the high altar and in both side chapels. The altar also extends to your pew if you need us to bring the sacrament to you; just let an usher know. To receive Communion, cross one hand over the other, palms up. You may consume the bread and then drink from the wine in the larger chalice. If you prefer to "intinct" or touch the edge of your bread to the wine, please use one of the smaller cups, available at all stations. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms against your chest.*

## Music at Communion

**Anthem** Send Forth Thy Light *Sung by the choir.* Text: Psalm 43:3; music: Mily Balakirev  
Send forth thy light, send forth thy truth,  
and let them lead me to thy holy hill,  
even unto thy holy hill.  
My soul shall praise the Lord in heaven,  
whose glory yet I will sing,  
who is the hope of my salvation, and my God.  
Send forth thy light, send forth thy truth,  
and let them lead me to thy holy hill.

**Hymn 339** Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness *Sung by all, seated.* *Schmücke dich*

## Sending Forth Eucharistic Visitors

*When a Lay Eucharistic Visitor is scheduled to visit a parishioner, the following is said.*

*Deacon* N., we send you out to share Communion with N.

*People* **Carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's presence.**

*Deacon* We who are many are one body because we share one bread and one cup. **Amen.**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray. *You may stand or kneel.*

*All* **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.**

Prayer Book, page 365

**The Blessing** *The Celebrant pronounces God's blessing.*

**Hymn 448** O love, how deep, how broad, how high *Sung by all, standing.* *Deus tuorum militum*

## Dismissal

*Deacon* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer Book, page 366

**Voluntary** Fanfare on *Hymn to Joy* Paul Fey



## Participants

**CELEBRANT:** The Rev. William S. Stanley; **DEACON:** The Rev. Judy Webb Davis; **SUBDEACON:** Pat Githens; **READER/INTERCESSOR:** Daniel Mullery; **PREACHER:** The Rev. John D. Rohrs; **ASSISTING PRIEST:** The Rev. Cate Anthony; **CHALICE BEARERS:** Barbara Massey, Mim Oman, Stephanie Peramas, Elizabeth Spell; **ACOLYTES:** Wyatt Hobbs, Tabby Johnson, Ada Mathews, Dalton Mika, Amy Phillips, Lucy Phillips; **MUSICIANS:** Members of St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards, *director*; Donald Anderson, *organ*; **VERGER:** Penn Rogers

**Prayer List:** Copies of the parish prayer list are available at Information Central (the large table outside the parish office) and in the narthex (the vestibule inside the Three Chopt Road entrance to the church).

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