

Church of the Ascension

January 10, 2020

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The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ

Episcopal Church of the Ascension

Follow Christ + Develop and Deepen Faith + Love and Serve

Church of the Ascension Seattle rests on the traditional homelands of the Duwamish people. We acknowledge the ancestors of this place and understand that we are here because of the sacrifices forced upon them. By recognizing these communities, we honor their legacy, their lives, and their descendants.

Prelude

In Thee Is Gladness - arr. Dale Wood

In Thee is gladness amid all sadness, Jesus, sunshine of my heart! By Thee are given the gifts of heaven, Thou the true redeemer art!.....We shout for gladness, triumph o'er sadness, love thee and praise thee, and still shall raise thee glad hymns forever: Hallelujah!

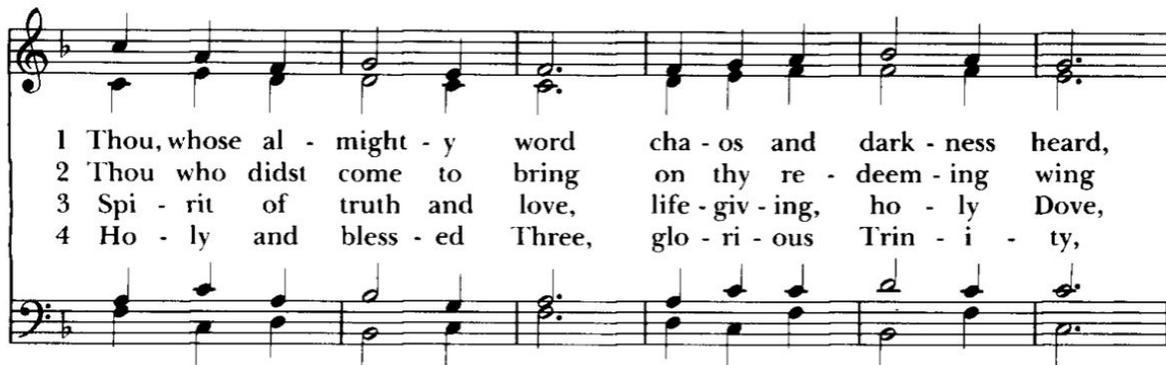
Welcome to Ascension!

Please stand when the bell is rung, signaling the beginning of worship.

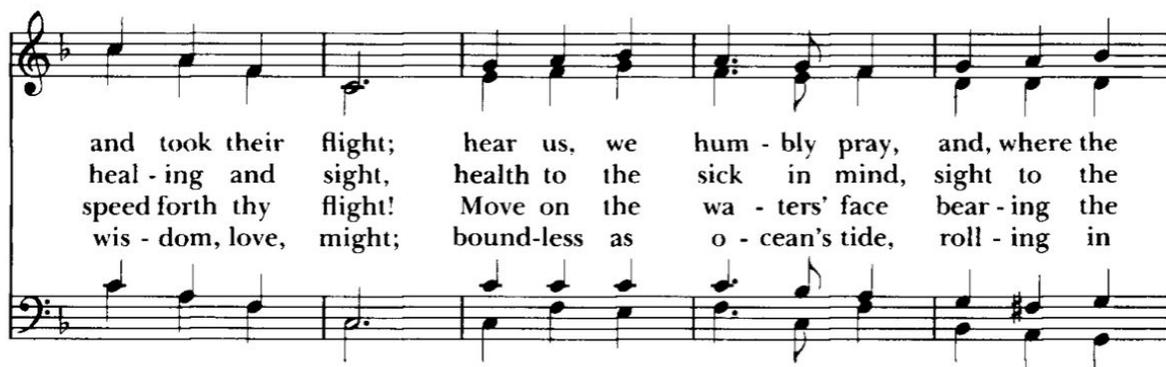
Opening Acclamation

Presider *Blessed be God: holy, glorious and undivided Trinity*
People *And blessed be God's reign, now and forever. Amen.*

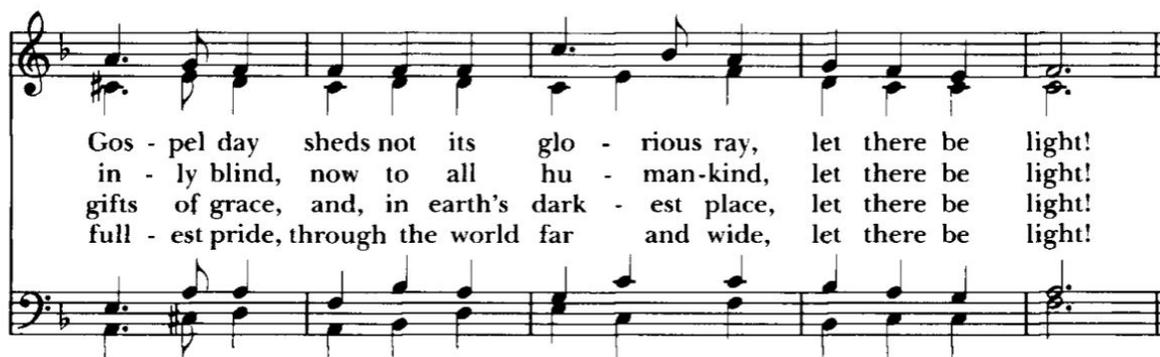
Opening Hymn #371, Thou, Whose Almighty Word, vv. 1, 3



1 Thou, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard,
2 Thou who didst come to bring on thy re - deem - ing wing
3 Spi - rit of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly Dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed Three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight; hear us, we hum - bly pray, and, where the
heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the
speed forth thy flight! Move on the wa - ters' face bear - ing the
wis - dom, love, might; bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider 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.*

The Liturgy of the Word

All are seated for the reading.

First Reading:

Acts 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm is read responsively.

Psalm 29

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; *
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

**The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

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.

**The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.**

And in the temple of the Lord *
all are crying, "Glory!"

**The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.**

The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the
beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

All stand for the Gospel reading.

Gospel Acclamation

arr. Thomas Pavlechko

The Holy Gospel:

Mark 1:4-11

Officiant 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."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord

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

Gospel Acclamation

arr. Thomas Pavlechko

Descant

The musical score is for a three-part setting of 'Alleluia'. It is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The score consists of three staves: a vocal line (soprano), a piano accompaniment (right hand), and a piano accompaniment (left hand). The vocal line begins with a 'Descant' and features the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.' The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

All are seated for the preaching.

Sermon

The Rev. Heather Wenrick, Rector

Silence and stillness follow.

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Celebrant Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

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.**

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

My sisters and brothers in the peace of God, all the gifts we shall receive in these days, are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's love made flesh in this season after Epiphany. From grateful hearts let us intercede for all who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift, saying: **God, hear our prayer.**

That we might become more responsive to the abandoned, the despairing, and those who mourn. Enliven us to help those who are struck down with COVID and any illness, saying: **God, hear our prayer.**

God, look now with compassion on the entire human family; and particularly this part of the family, in the United States, and those in our nation's capital; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; saying: **God, hear our prayer.**

For what else, or who else, should we pray for?

The people offer their particular concerns and thanksgivings, aloud or in silence.

Healing prayers for Barb Thompson, Carol Jean Gaffeney, Dick Willson, Dave Stockert, baby Amos Frederick, Penny Free

We pray for the repose of the soul of Bob, Dave S. father and Casey, Joy Goodenough's friend that they are comforted by God's almighty arms of love.

Thanksgiving for our own baptism, our godparents and we remember the people living along the river Jordan. I give thanks for improved drainage systems at the rectory and dry basements, Ascension's Phone Tree callers, the birthday of Carol Anderson and Christopher Anderson.

Let us pray for those with a Birthday: **Watch over thy child(ren), O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

God of freedom, your beloved meets us where we are, immersed in this divided and challenging time with us: by his humility and solidarity raise us from fear and guilt and revenge; and transform us into a people of peace; through Jesus Christ, the Son of Righteousness. **Amen.**

The Peace

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Sentence

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all.

(1 Chronicles 20:11)

Offertory Anthem

The Sinless One to Jordan Came

The sinless one to Jordan came, and in the river shared our stain; God's righteousness he thus fulfilled, and chose the path his Father willed.

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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.**

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

**We are the gathered body of Christ walking in this world in Love.
We are the miracle of Love made Flesh.**

Blessing

And now, may the peace of God which passeth all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the love of God and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. The blessing of God Almighty the One, Holy and Undivided Trinity be with you, on this nation, on the entire human family and all of creation this moment and forevermore.

Dismissal

Response **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Trumpet Tune - John Stanley

Coffee Hour follows this Prayer Service on Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83946950580>

Music Permissions:

In Thee Is Gladness, arr. Dale Wood, c. 1998, The Sacred Music Press

The Sinless One to Jordan Came, text: G. B. Timms; tune from "Graduale", 1685

Trumpet Tune, John Stanley (public domain)

Thou, Whose Almighty Word



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