

Baptism of Our Lord
[Proper 1]
January 10th, 2020



St. Stephen's Anglican Church
Maple, ON

The Rev. Daniel F. Graves – Priest-in-Charge

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious measure, sung by flaming tongues above;
O the vast, the boundless treasure of my God's unchanging love.

Here I make faith's affirmation; thus far by thy help I've come,
and I hope, by thy compassion, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it prone, to leave the God I love;
take my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

GREETING

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

Response **And also with you.**

GLORIA

Glory to God on high, and peace to all on earth.
We worship you, we give you thanks, our heavenly King.
We give you praise,
almighty God and Father blessed in glory bright.

Our Saviour Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
the sacrificial Lamb, who saves the world from sin,
have mercy Lord.
Beside the Father's hand enthroned, now hear our prayer.

You only are the Lord. You only are most high.
You only are the holy one, Lord Jesus Christ.
And now you reign
with Father and with Spirit one in glorious light.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant 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.

Response **Amen.**

FIRST READING *(Stanley)*

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.

The word of the Lord.

CHRIS **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 29

Sung by Tieg and Nadra



1 Ascribe to the | Lord, you gods, *
ascribe to the Lord glo- | ry and strength.

2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory | due the divine name; *
worship the Lord in the beau- | ty 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 pow- | erful voice; *
the voice of the Lord is a | voice of splendour.

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the | cedar trees; *
the Lord breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon,

6 and 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;

8 the voice of the Lord | shakes the wilderness; *
the Lord shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.

9 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!"

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

11 The Lord shall give strength | to this people; *
the Lord shall give this people the blessing of peace.

SECOND READING (AARON)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland 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.

AARON The word of the Lord.

RESPONSE **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL CELEBRANT

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.

RESPONSE **And also with you.**

CELEBRANT The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

RESPONSE **Glory to you, Lord Jesus t.**

CELEBRANT *continues*

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.'

CELEBRANT This is the Gospel of Christ.

RESPONSE Praise to you, Lord Jesus t.

HOMILY **CELEBRANT**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Celebrant
RESPONSE Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,
**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**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.**

**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. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Having affirmed our faith,
let us prepare to offer our prayers to God.

CATHY

As the gathered people of God,
we join together as one to pray for ourselves,
for our community, and for the world.

Loving God,
we pray for the work and witness of your church throughout the world.
We remember before you Linda, our Primate,
Anne, our Metropolitan, Andrew, our Bishop,
and Dan and Mary, our priests...

RESPONSE

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Cathy

Loving God,
may justice and righteousness flourish in our neighbourhoods,
this country, this world.

Bless those who work to right what is wrong
and mediate where there is conflict.

Raise up leaders who are happy to serve
and protect them from power's corruption.

Lord, in your mercy,

RESPONSE

hear our prayer.

Cathy

Loving God,
we thank you for the nurturing we have received,
and pray for our children and young people as they grow.
Protect them from evil and strengthen them in faith;
may they continue to be yours for ever.

Lord, in your mercy,

RESPONSE

hear our prayer.

Cathy

Loving God,
we pray for all those in any kind of need or trouble,
and those struggling in body, mind or spirit, especially:

... as well as those we name before you in the silence of our hearts.
Lay your healing hand upon them.
Comfort and sustain them and help them know your peace.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

RESPONSE

Cathy

Loving God, we pray for our world.
We remember those who are hungry, lonely, persecuted,
or affected by war, famine, or disaster.
We pray especially for:

“those people and places that weigh on our hearts this night.”

May we always be prepared to follow you
into the broken places of this world,
seeking to bear witness to your love in action.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

RESPONSE

Cathy

Loving God, we remember in your presence
all those who have died,
and particularly those we have known and loved.

We remember especially . . .

Thank you for them,
and thank you for your promise
of eternal life and peace.
May we comfort one another through your love.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

RESPONSE

Cathy

Loving God,
we thank you for all the blessings of this life.
We pause to dwell on the goodness in our lives,
And to cherish the good gifts you give us.

**CATHY
RESPONSE**

Merciful God,
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence for reflection is observed.

Celebrant
RESPONSE 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 neighbours 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 upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
RESPONSE **Amen.**

PEACE

Celebrant
RESPONSE The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Celebrant Let us pray . . .
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.

RESPONSE **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

RESPONSE **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

RESPONSE **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
by water and the Holy Spirit
you have made us a holy people
in Jesus Christ our Lord;
you renew that mystery in bread and wine and nourish us,
to show forth your glory in all the world.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the holy people
who have served you in every age,
we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, —

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, —

heav - en and earth are full, — full - of your glo -

ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na

in the high - est. 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.

Celebrant

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
 for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation;
 in calling 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 Saviour 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.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,
 a death he freely accepted, 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.”

RESPONSE

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, 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, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all 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 whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

RESPONSE

Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

**Dan
RESPONSE**

And now, as our Saviour 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, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant

life, and that life is the light of the world.

We break the bread of

RESPONSE

God here among us,
I light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Celebrant

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God.

RESPONSE

Thanks be to God.

INVITATION TO SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My dear friends, as we gather around this table
and meditate on these holy mysteries,
let us receive Christ in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Celebrant

We receive you Lord Jesus Christ,

RESPONSE

**we welcome your presence in us,
and together proclaim our love for you;
with our hearts, minds, our souls and our strength,
with the saints we worship you,
with the angels we adore you,
with your whole Church we proclaim your reign.
Come to us, though many,
and make us one in you. Amen.**

During the musical interlude, this may be prayed silently.

Holy Jesus we receive you in this moment
giving you thanks and praise that you make yourself present
to all your people in the bread and wine of the Eucharist.
Transform our hearts that we may shine as your light in dark places;
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.
And this all, in love for you. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant

Let us pray.
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.

RESPONSE

Amen.

DOXOLOGY

RESPONSE 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

Celebrant The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen
Response Amen.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
RESPONSE Thanks be to God.

GREETINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN On Jordan's Banks, the Baptist's Cry

On Jordan's banks, the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within.
Prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent doth thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost forevermore.

STORY TIME

You're Invited: Family Storytime #2 at St.Stephen's!

Yes, we're back! Offering you another enjoyable hour to relax at the end of your week, get comfy, and listen to the wonderful storytellers from St.Stephen's, as they read to you from the enchanting world of The Snow Angel, by Debbie Boone. And we learn a little something about kindness, from Martin the Cobbler, by Leo Tolstoy.

Friday January 15th, 7:30 pm. Please come!

If you would like to join us for this family-friendly event, let us know here

karen@ststephensmaple.ca

Or call the church at 289-845-9270

COMMUNITY PANTRY

The St. Stephen's Community Pantry needs, at this point, remain pretty constant - mostly canned fruit, applesauce, etc., canned vegetables, and canned fish and meat, such as Tuna, Chicken and Ham. Pasta sauce is always appreciated as well, as are canned stews and chunky soups! Your kind support is so appreciated, and enables our Pantry to better meet the needs of those who come to us when experiencing difficult times. At present time, please leave any donations in the plastic bin, located in the mud room. Thank you!

PATHWAYS OF PRAYER

Pathways of Prayer will be starting up again, on Thursday January 14th, 2021! For the time being, we continue to meet virtually, at 7:00 pm, for an hour or so, every other Thursday. These meetings offer a time to step back from a busy week, and spend time in readings and quiet reflection; looking at differing paths of prayer, its place in our lives, and how it deepens our relationship with God. It's relaxed, fun, and easy going...you can participate as much or as little as you choose. Please consider trying us out! Contact Mary or Karen for more information: Mary@ststephensmaple.ca or Karen@ststephensmaple.ca. Or phone the church office: 289-845-9270.

The Dead Sea Scrolls - WINTER COURSE 2021

In 1947, in caves near the shore of the Dead Sea, a trove of ancient Jewish writings was discovered. Many of these texts, previously unknown, offer new insight into Judaism of the Second Temple period and important context for the study of the New Testament and Christian origins. Join Fr. Dan Graves for this eight-week course, in which we will read a selection of the most important non-biblical scrolls and fragments in order to deepen our understanding of the roots of both modern Judaism and Christianity. In addition to exploring the theology and religious thought of the Scrolls, will review their discovery and subsequent controversial publication, who might have written and collected them, and their relationship to the archaeological remains at Khirbet Qumran.

The course will be conducted over Zoom in three timeslots to allow maximum participation. Weekly readings will be found in Geza Vermes, *The Complete Dead Seas Scrolls in English*. Additional background materials will be posted in advance on Fr. Dan's blog: www.danielgraves.blogspot.com (click on Dead Sea Scrolls Course tab)

To register email Fr. Dan Graves: associate@trinityaurora.ca

Time Slots: Wednesdays 11 am; Thursdays 10 am; Thursdays 7:30 pm (Week of Jan. 10 through Week of Mar. 7 – No class during the Week of Feb. 14)

ZOOM ASSISTANCE

Zoom has become an important part of our weekly Sunday ministry. As the pandemic continues, it looks like we will continue to offer worship via Zoom for the near future. We are looking for a few tech-savvy individuals who might be able to help us on a rotating basis as a “Zoom Manager” for Sunday services (admitting those attending, muting and unmuting, spotlighting the preacher, coordinating break-out rooms, sharing worship screens), or “Production Assistant” (setting up a/v equipment and monitoring the broadcast from the rectory chapel). If you have any interest in this ministry please contact Fr. Dan at fr.daniel.graves@gmail.com