**Nativity Worships**

**Baptism of our Lord**

**January 8, 2023**

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| Prelude | Prelude in c minor | JS Bach |
| Opening Hymn | On Jordan’s bank, the Baptist’s cry | H 76 |
| Offertory Hymn | I bind unto myself today | H 370 |
| Communion | Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit | WLP 767 |
| Post Communion  | O love, how deep, how broad, how high | H 448 |
| Postlude    | Fugue in c Minor | JS Bach |

**The Collect**

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.*

**Old Testament: Isaiah 42:1-9**

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.

**The Psalm: 29 *Afferte Domino***

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.

**The New Testament: Acts 10:34-43**

Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

**The Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17**

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.”

**Prayers of the People**

We pray for our parish members: Jamie, Nancy, Marge, Donna, Dan, Nina A., Marian, Steve, and Norma; and our family and friends: John, Miles, Deidre, Mary Lou, Seanna, Lauren, Kevin, Nancy Jane, Walter, Carleen, Les, and Jeannie.

We pray for those who have died and those who mourn remembering especially those who have died in the war in Ukraine.

**Announcements**

Bible Study resumes on Thursday the 12th at 10:30. We’ll be reading Richard Rohr’s *What Do We Do with Evil?* [Join by zoomlink here.](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83935221288?pwd=NnF0bHR4T1JhQXJrTjVQMWU4aVBSUT09)Contact Rev. Rebecca if you would like a copy of the reading.

Soliciting Vestry Members: Do you feel called to lead? We need spiritual leaders, people who love the church and care about all aspects of our community life. Each vestry member commits to a monthly meeting and participation in at least project/event each year of their three-year term. Please reach out to Rev. Kirsten or our current Senior Warden, Susan Pick if you would like to consider this opportunity.

Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 22nd, immediately after the 10 a.m. service. Join us for a special coffee hour and vote on the Vestry and the annual budget. Hear about our 2022 wrap up and celebrate the plans for Nativity in 2023.

Committee Reports (for the annual report) are due on January 15th. Send them to nativityonthehill@gmail.com. Thanks to all who help put together our annual report and prepare for the annual meeting.

We will with thanksgiving receive offerings of Nativity pledges and plate today. You can contribute by sending a check to the church or by using the “Give” button on our website,[www.nativityonthehill.org](http://www.nativityonthehill.org).

All who participate in this Holy Eucharist virtually receive the full benefits of the sacrament by coming with the intention of being united with Christ and one another. (BCP 457).