



St. John's Episcopal Church
The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi & Holy Baptism
Sunday, October 3rd, 2021

Opening Words

Officiant This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.
People **Glory to God. Amen.**

Entrance Hymn #282 ~ *Christ, the Fair Glory (verses 1-3)*

Christ, the fair glory of the holy angels,
Maker of all things, ruler of all nations,
grant of thy mercy unto to us
thy servants steps up to heaven.

Send thine archangel Michael to our succor;
peacemaker blessèd, may he banish from us
striving and hatred, so that for the peaceful
all things may prosper.

Send thine archangel, Gabriel, the mighty:
herald all of heaven, may he from us mortals,
drive every evil, watching o'er the temples
where thou art worshipped.

Officiant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Opening Sentences

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.

Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Collect for St. Francis

Most high, omnipotent good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy. O God, you have made us and all living things. You are even more wonderful than what you have made. We thank you for giving us these pets who bring us joy. As you take care of us, so also we ask your help that we might take care of those who trust us to look after them. By doing this, we share in your own love for all creation. We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

The Creation Story (Abbreviated from Genesis 1:1-34)

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and a great dimness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. On the first day, God created light and darkness. On the second day, God created the sky above and the waters below. On the third day, God formed the land and called it Earth, and gathered the water and called it Sea. God blessed the earth with vegetation and food. On the fourth day, God separated the day from the night, creating the sun, the moon, and the stars. On the fifth day, God brought forth swarms of living creatures in the air, in the water, and on the land, and God bid them to be fruitful and multiply. On the sixth day, God created humankind in God's image, giving them dominion over the animals. God blessed them and bid them to be fruitful and multiply. On the seventh day, God saw that everything that God had made was very good and God rested and blessed the seventh day and made it sacred.

Prayer of St. Francis

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me bring love
Where there is injury, Your pardon Lord
And where there's doubt, true faith in You

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness ever joy

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
Or to be loved as to love with all my soul

Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
It is in giving to all men that we receive
And in dying that we are born to eternal life

Gospel Hymn

#199 ~ *Come, Ye Faithful Raise the Strain*

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
God hath brought his Israel into joy from sadness:
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,
led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ hath burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen;
all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal:
but today amidst thine own thou didst stand, bestowing
that thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing.

Leader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Matthew 11:25-28

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, God of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, God, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Creator; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal God. 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

Leader The Gospel of the Savior.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Homily

The Rev. John Beach

The Prayers

Leader Let us give thanks to God our Creator for all the gifts so freely bestowed upon us
 and for the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea;

People **We thank you, Lord.**

Leader For all creatures that breathe, and move, and have life;

People **We thank you, Lord.**

Leader For the trust you have shown in giving into our care these, our pets;

People **We thank you, Lord.**

Leader That we may love and honor all your works, O God;

People **We pray to you, Lord.**

The Blessing of the Animals

May you be blessed in the Name God, the Creator, Redeemer and of the Sustainer. May you and your animals enjoy life together and find joy with the God who created you. Amen.

Presentation of the Candidate

Officiant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents *I present Peyton Snyder to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.*

Officiant Will you be responsible for seeing that this child you present is
 brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents *I will, with God's help.*

Officiant Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?
 Parents and Godparents *I will, with God's help.*

Officiant Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?
 Parents and Godparents *I renounce them.*

Officiant Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?
 Parents and Godparents *I renounce them.*

Officiant Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?
 Parents and Godparents *I renounce them.*

Officiant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
 Parents and Godparents *I do.*

Officiant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
 Parents and Godparents *I do.*

Officiant Do you promise to follow and obey as your Lord?
 Parents and Godparents *I do.*

Officiant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Peyton in her life in Christ?
 People ***We will.***

Officiant Let us join with Peyton in committing ourselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Officiant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Officiant 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.**

Officiant 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.**

Officiant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Officiant 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.**

Officiant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Officiant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Officiant 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.**

Officiant Will you cherish the wondrous work of God and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidate

Let us now pray for Peyton, who will receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send her into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Officiant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Creator, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Creator, and of the Christ, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

Officiant Peyton Snyder, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

Heavenly Creator, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Let us welcome this newly baptized child.

People **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

The Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Communion Anthem

The Holy Communion

Prayer over the Gifts

Officiant God of truth, receive all we offer you this day. May we share in the wisdom of your eternal Word, made known at this Eucharistic table. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the incarnate Word.

The Great Thanksgiving

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Officiant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right to do so.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Officiant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

Officiant and People

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Officiant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Officiant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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

The Lord's Prayer

**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 Officiant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Officiant Behold the gifts prepared by the Teacher who ate with sinners: Draw near to the banquet of mercy, partake of the feast of forgiveness.

The Invitation to Holy Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

The Officiant invites the following prayer to be said by all.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Behold the living bread come down from heaven: Those who eat of it will never die.

Anthem during Communion

Prayer after Communion

O God, your Word is the light of our pilgrimage, the end and fulfilment of our knowledge. May we who have known him in the breaking of bread await in love the dawning of his radiance, the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Blessing

*Life is short,
And we do not have much time
to gladden the hearts of those who
make the journey with us.
So be swift to love,
and make haste to be kind.
And the blessing of God,
who made us, who loves us,
and who travels with us
be with you now and forever.
AMEN*

Officiant Eager to proclaim and share God's reconciling love, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn #690 ~ *Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand;
bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through;
strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

Weekly Prayer List

Diane Brophy, Maureen Burke, Barbara Cox, Don DiGiacomo, Oriol Pi-Sunyer, Jim Dockery, Janet Dunton, Beth DuPlessie, Jim & Tim Eldridge, Jim Errico, Joanne Felci, Paul Felci, Ruth Garrett, Peggy Gibbs, Carolyn Hashem, Estelle Heath, Bruce Higgins, Janet Horrigan, Kelly, Jeanne Kelly-Smith, (Baby) Autumn Ladder-Bush, Dennis Lancaster, Janet Lancaster, Lisa Lancaster, Matt, Lori M., Mary & Dante, Harriet Miraglia, Erica Moore, Gisela Moore, Jeanine Morris, Bonnie Muise, Fran Muise, Sara Murray, Gordon Noseworthy, Bill St. Clair, David St. Clair, Nancy Scarry, Terrie Sevier, Bo Shaw, Kelly Shaw, Ray Shaw, Malcolm Silva, Gail Smith, Jerry Smith, Victoria Smith, Meghan Tapley, Addison White, Rob Wilson, Walter, and Rachel.

Announcement



COLOMBIA

Episcopal Relief & Development is working with Trinity Foundation, an agency of the Diocese of Colombia, to implement microfinance programming targeting women living in poverty and other fragile contexts.

Through the program, women learn to form savings groups that serve as a platform for solidarity and economic empowerment. Newly formed groups learn about savings and lending principles and engage in saving and lending with a self-governing body of members. As groups mature, members participate in greater discussions on financial and business management. All savings groups, new and mature, additionally engage in social discussions including the prevention of gender-based violence at the household and community level.

The program gathered momentum in 2012 and has had particular success with expanding its reach to indigenous Mizak communities in the mountains of Gambia and with engaging communities in Cartagena de las Indias and Ibague.

Given the impact of COVID-19 on the program and participant livelihoods, Trinity Foundation is focused on strengthening and continuing support for its current groups in Silvia, Cartagena de las Indias, and Ibague. Savings groups with approximately 1,161 members are trained in financial and business management and the prevention of gender-based violence.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic's impact in Colombia, Episcopal Relief & Development is also funding emergency assistance to marginalized groups. Food, personal protective equipment (PPE) and other medical supplies have been distributed to groups who have been impacted by the national shutdowns and resulting loss of income.

Participants in this Service:

The Rev. John Beach, Priest-in-Charge ~ Stephen Sikorski, Music Director
Elizabeth Littlehale, Worship Leader

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