

8:00 SERVICE

presented via livestreaming



The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

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www.st-john-aptos.org



The Last Sunday After the Epiphany

The Transfiguration

February 14, 2021

Welcome, Visitors!

We are glad you joined us for this online service. Please fill out our [Online Welcome Card](#) so we can get to know you. Visit our website www.st-john-aptos.org, for more information about our community.

Announcements

An asterisk () denotes in-person events or activities.*

Shrove Tuesday Party - Tuesday (2/16), 6-7:30 p.m., Zoom. Pancakes at 6 p.m. (cook your own at home), entertainment at 6:30 p.m., toasts and gratitude at 7 p.m. Thanks to Brian Raney for organizing this virtual celebration. (You can pick up a Mardi Gras mask to wear when you come by to pick up communion today!) Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86220442396>

Ash Wednesday Services (2;17), *12 p.m. Front Courtyard, 7 p.m., Zoom. We will hold two services on Wednesday: one in-person in the front courtyard at noon and one online in the evening at 7 p.m. We will also have Ashes to Go available as a drive-through in the church parking lot from 6:30-9:30 a.m. and 4-6:30 p.m. If you'd like to have ashes to impose on yourself during the 7 p.m. online service, you can pick up a small personal-size container from Ashes to Go.

Lenten Adult Formation Study: What Do We Believe?, Sundays, 9:15-10:15 a.m., Zoom. In this study, we plan to explore the real-life encounters we have had with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. By looking at scripture, church history, various creeds, and our own experiences, we hope to reach a deeper understanding of what, and how, we believe.

Lenten Taizé Services - Wednesday nights, 7 p.m., Zoom & YouTube. We will again hold Contemplative Taizé services on Wednesday nights in Lent (Feb. 24, March 3, March 10, March 17, and March 24).

From Many, One: Conversations Across Difference, Three Wednesdays (2/24, 3/10, 3/24), 6:30-7:30 p.m., Zoom. For an hour before the Wednesday night Taizé service on the first, third and fifth Wednesdays in Lent, we'll gather online for conversations using curriculum from The Episcopal Church designed to help us have conversations across many lines of difference - political, socioeconomic, racial, etc. You'll be asked to have some on-on-one conversations in between the group meetings, on your own time.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer (1979)

† The Liturgy of the Word †

Opening Acclamation

BCP 351

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Presider 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

BCP 356

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray. (Silence.) O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Introduction to the First Lesson

In our reading from the Hebrew Scriptures, we hear about the end of the prophet Elijah's ministry, when he is taken into heaven by a chariot of fire after passing the mantle to his successor, Elisha.

We'll see Elijah again in the Gospel reading on this Transfiguration Sunday.

2 Kings 2:1-12

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Lector **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

A bell is rung. We wait until we cannot hear the residual of the bell ringing anymore before beginning the psalm.

Psalm 50:1-6

BCP Translation

- 1 The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; *
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *
God reveals himself in glory.
- 3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; *
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.
- 4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above *
to witness the judgment of his people.
- 5 “Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice.”
- 6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; *
for God himself is judge.

Introduction to the Second Lesson

The metaphors of veiling and light in this passage from 2 Corinthians are pertinent to today's Gospel reading about Jesus's identity being unveiled to Peter, James and John on the mountain.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Lector **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

A bell is rung. We wait until we cannot hear the residual of the bell ringing anymore before beginning the Gospel reading.

Introduction to the Gospel Reading

We read the story of the Transfiguration on the Sunday before Lent begins because it marks a turning point in Jesus' ministry. After this experience, he and his followers leave the countryside of Galilee and go to Jerusalem, where Jesus will eventually be killed. For us, the season of Lent recalls the journey to the cross that began right after this experience.

Mark 9:2-9

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

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

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller, Rector

A moment of silence follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, and of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate
from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;**

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Form VI, BCP 392-393

Deacon In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

Intercessor For all people in their daily life and work;

People **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

Intercessor For this community, the nation, and the world, and for those in positions
of public trust, especially Joe, our President; and Gavin, our Governor.

People **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Intercessor For the just and proper use of your creation;

People **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

Intercessor For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Intercessor For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Intercessor For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Lucinda, our Bishop; Tracy, John,
Mary Lou, and Eliza, our Priests; Joan, our Deacon; and for all bishops
and other ministers;

People **For all who serve God in his Church.**

Intercessor For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence, during which the People may add their own petitions.

Intercessor Hear us, Lord;

People **For your mercy is great.**

Intercessor We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence, during which the People may add their own thanksgivings.

Intercessor We will exalt you, O God our King;
People **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

Intercessor We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence, during which the People may add their own petitions.

Intercessor Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People **Who put their trust in you.**

All: **Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Invitation to Confession

NZPB 407

Deacon God has promised forgiveness to all who truly repent,
turn to Christ in faith, and are themselves forgiving.

In silence, we call to mind our sins.

During the silence, we invite you to review the past week and acknowledge specific sins to God.

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.**

Absolution

BCP 360

Presider 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

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please share the peace with those who are watching with you in person. You can also leave a comment on the live stream to share the peace with others watching virtually.

Community Prayers

For Birthdays:

BCP 830

Watch over **Elena** Peet (14), **Liz** Lindsley (14), **Debra** Spencer (15), **Pat** Poulos (15), **Patricia** McGowan (16), **Leonard** Foreman (17) & **Gina** Barman (18), 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 hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Baptism Anniversaries:

BCP 421, modified

Almighty God, through baptism you unite us to the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ and commission us for ministry in his name. As your servants _____ celebrate the anniversaries of their baptisms, give them courage, patience, and vision, and strengthen them in their Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Wedding Anniversaries:

BCP 431

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church; send therefore your blessing upon your servants _____ & _____, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

For Travelers:

BCP 831

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel, in particular _____; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

† The Holy Communion †

The Offertory

The Offertory is a time when we offer our gifts to God. Since we are unable to pass the offering plate or otherwise take up a collection in an online service, we ask that you make an online gift to the parish at this time, if you are able. You will find links to do so on the Virtual Worship page of our website: <http://www.st-john-aptos.org/virtual-worship.html>

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

All **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.**

Presider 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 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 Savior 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 before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

All **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Presider And we offer this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O 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 may be acceptable through him, 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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed John the Baptist, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of 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 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.

People AMEN.

The Lord’s Prayer

BCP 364

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All: **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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The General Thanksgiving

BCP 101

All Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

The Blessing

BOS 2018, p. 10

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Serving Today at 8 a.m.

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller
Scripture Introductions: The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller
Server: Brian Raney
Lesson: Margy Cottle
Epistle: Barb Raney
Virtual Usher: Bart Coddington

Thank you to Wilma Staver for the altar flowers.