

8:00 SERVICE

online on Zoom



The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

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www.st-john-aptos.org



The First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 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.*

Sunday Morning Lenten Study: What Do We Believe?, 9:15-10:15 a.m., Zoom.

In this study, we will explore the historic creeds of the church, stories in the scriptures about encounters with God, and share about the real-life encounters we have had with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Today's session will look at early creeds and scriptures that involve mortals encountering the Almighty through personal appearance and/or wind.

Conversation Across Differences and Taizé Service, Wednesday, 6:30 / 7:30 p.m., Zoom (and YouTube for Taize portion).

This Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m., we'll meet on Zoom for the first session of "From Many, One: Conversations Across Differences," a curriculum from The Episcopal Church's Presiding Bishop's Office designed to help heal divisions in our country. At 7:30 p.m., we'll join in contemplative prayer with Taizé music. The Taizé service will be broadcast to YouTube as well. In keeping with our overarching Lenten theme, "The power of love is God's power working in us," this week's focus will be: Offering love and compassion to each other creates mutual well-being.

The Bishop Is Coming! Sunday, Mar. 7 - 10:30 a.m. Service; 2 p.m. Online Forum.

Bishop Lucinda Ashby will make her first official visit to St. John's two weeks from today! On that Sunday, we will have just one service at 10:30. The bishop will be at St. John's in-person, preaching and presiding over the Eucharist at a service in the front courtyard for up to 40 people. The service also will be simultaneously broadcast live via Zoom and YouTube. In lieu of a reception or festive coffee hour, we'll have an opportunity to meet with Bishop Lucinda for fellowship and conversation on Zoom from 2-3 p.m. that afternoon.

Holy Week Schedule. All Holy Week services except the Easter Vigil will be held online this year. We'll gather on Zoom for an Agape Meal and service on **Maundy Thursday (4/1)** at **6:30 p.m.** We'll hold our traditional **Good Friday** service online this year at **12 p.m. (4/2)**, complete with testimonies on the Seven Last Words of Christ. (Yes, it might be a long Zoom call, but you can come and go as you please.) On **Easter Day**, we'll hold the ***Great Vigil of Easter in person**, outdoors in the front courtyard (around the fire pit!) beginning at **5:30 a.m.** We'll worship **online** at **10:30 a.m.** as Mtr. Tracy broadcasts a service of **Holy Eucharist** live from the sanctuary, with drive-by distribution of communion in the parking lot after the service.

MORNING PRAYER

Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer (1979)

Opening Sentence

BCP 76

Officiant Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil. *Joel 2:13*

Confession of Sin

BCP 79

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

Silence is kept to allow time to confess specific sins to God.

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 80

Officiant: 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 Invitatory & Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

BCP 80

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise. (*Psalm 51:16*)

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

Antiphon: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Antiphon: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

Psalm 25:1-9

BCP Translation

The Server leads the psalm in the style of their choice.

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.

- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

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

The Lessons

Introduction to the First Lesson

In our Hebrew scripture reading today, we hear the story of God's covenant with Noah, a covenant considered by Jewish tradition to apply to all humanity.

Genesis 9:8-17

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

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 canticle.

Canticle 12: A Song of Creation

BCP 88-90

Invocation

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

I - The Cosmic Order

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, *
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.

Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, *
all winds and fire and heat.

Winter and Summer, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, *
drops of dew and flakes of snow.

Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, *
O shining light and enfolding dark.

Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Doxology

Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Introduction to the Second Lesson

In this reading, the author of First Peter refers to the story of Noah we heard in our first reading, making the case that our baptism into Christ's death is the new covenant that saves us.

1 Peter 3:18-22

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times

did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you - not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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 canticle.

Canticle 8: The Song of Moses

BCP 85

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *

the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *

the Lord has become my Savior.

This is my God and I will praise him, *

the God of my people and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a mighty warrior; *

Yahweh is his Name.

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; *

the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.

The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *

they sank into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *

your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *

who is like you, glorious in holiness,

awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?

You stretched forth your right hand; *

the earth swallowed them up.

With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *

with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.

You will bring them in and plant them *

on the mount of your possession,

The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *

the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.

The Lord shall reign *
for ever and for ever.

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

Introduction to the Gospel Reading

We begin the season of Lent with the story of Jesus's temptation in the wilderness immediately after his baptism at the beginning of his public ministry.

Mark 1:9-15

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

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

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

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." And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

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 Apostles' Creed

BCP 96

All **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.

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 97

Server The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Server Let us pray.

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.
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.

Suffrages A

BCP 97

Server Show us your mercy, O Lord;

People **And grant us your salvation.**

Server Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People **Let your people sing with joy.**

Server Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People **For only in you can we live in safety.**

Server Lord, keep this nation under your care;

People **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Server Let your way be known upon earth;

People **Your saving health among all nations.**

Server Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Server Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Collect of the Day

Server Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

BCP 98

Server O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Renewal of Life

BCP 100

Server O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for Mission

BCP 100

Server Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

Community Prayers

For Birthdays:

BCP 830

Watch over **Emily Bolin** (21), **Chrys Sparks** (22), **Jovany Medina** (24), **Sherrie DeWitt** (26), **Judy Jugan** (26) & **Lynn Knudsen** (26) 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

Brenda Binkerd (24) & Tracy Wells Miller (27) 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 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.

Closing Versicle & Response

BCP 102

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Concluding Sentence

BCP 102

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20,21*

Serving Today at 8 a.m.

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller

Scripture Introductions: The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller

Server: Chris Cottle

Lesson: Nelson Crandall

Epistle: Brian Raney

Gospel: Barb Raney

Virtual Usher: Bart Coddington

Thanks to Vicky Wilson for growing the curly willow
that Eileen Fernald arranged for Lent in the sanctuary.