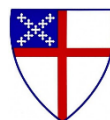


Christ Episcopal Church



January 8, 2023
10:00 a.m.



Christ Episcopal Church
1521 N. Patterson St.
Valdosta, GA



January 8, 2023

Epiphany: Baptism of the Lord
Welcome to Christ Church!

Rite I

Mobile text number simply text your gift amount to **844-928-4938**

Prelude - Shall We Gather at the River

Anthony Giamanco

Opening Hymn – *O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair*

Hymnal 137

1 O won - drous type! O vi - sion fair of glo - ry
2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in - car - nate
3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ deigns to
4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high by this great
5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son, and Ho - ly

1 that the Church may share, which Christ up - on the
2 Lord holds con - verse high; and from the cloud, the
3 man - i - fest to - day what glo - ry shall be
4 vi - sion's mys - ter - y; for which in joy - ful
5 Spi - rit, ev - er One, vouch - safe to bring us

1 moun - tain shows, where bright - er than the sun he glows!
2 Ho - ly One bears re - cord to the on - ly Son.
3 theirs a - bove who joy in God with per - fect love.
4 strains we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
5 by thy grace to see thy glo - ry face to face.

Opening Salutation:

Alleluia! Unto us a child is born!

O come, let us adore him, Alleluia!

The Celebrant may say

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Glorv to God on high.

and on earth peace. good will towards men.

We praise thee. we bless thee,

we worship thee,

we glorify thee.

we give thanks to thee for thy great glory.

O Lord God. heavenly King. God the Father Almighty.

O Lord. the only-begotten Son. Jesus Christ:

O Lord God. Lamb of God. Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world,

have mercy upon us.

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father
have mercy upon us.**

For thou only art holy;

thou only art the Lord;

thou only, O Christ,

with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only begotten Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know thee now by faith, to thy presence, where we may behold thy glory face to face; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People ***Amen.***

The Lessons

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 Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

- 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.

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 Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn – *Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized* Hymnal 121

1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spi - rit on you came,
 2 God called you his be - lov - ed Son, called you his ser - vant true,
 3 Straight - way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed his call
 4 Bap - tize us with your Spi - rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,

as peace - ful as a dove and yet as ur - gent as a flame.
 sent you his king - dom to pro - claim, his ho - ly will to do.
 free - ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.
 that, like - wise in God's ser - vice we may per - fect free - dom find.

Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Then, all standing, a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon – The Rev. Dr. David Perkins

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
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.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ’s Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; And grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy Holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Frank our Bishop; Scott our retired bishop, for David our interim priest, Walter and Marcia our assisting priests, Nancy our deacon; Peter, our retired priest, Stella and Patricia our retired deacons; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of Government in this and every land, especially Joe our president, Brian our Governor, and for those serving in the Armed Forces that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Kathy Armstrong, Max Bontrager, Caty Carter, Anna Gardner, Allan Dear, Janet Dickman, Tommy Hatcher, Peter Ingeman, Laurie McCall, Laura Paine, Richard Rigby, Rocky, Benita Sandbach, Burt Tillman, Jerry Tyson

and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy Holy Name for all thy servants departed this life, in thy faith and fear; especially

beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator & Advocate.

Confession of Sin

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

**Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace

People The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

Offertory – *Down to the River to Pray, traditional*, arr. by Sheldon Curry

Doxology

Hymnal 380 vs. 3

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer II

People The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying.

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.
A period of silence is kept.
Then the following may be said*

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

Prayer of Humble Access

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful
Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold
and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord
whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore,
gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us. Amen**

The Celebrant may say the following Invitation
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for
you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith,
with thanksgiving.

Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And, since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to 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.**

Communion Hymn – *Shall We Gather at the River*

Choir

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that
thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of
the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus
Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards
us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of
thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also
heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly
beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that
we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works
as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our
Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory,
world without end. Amen.**

Blessing

Hymn – *God the Omnipotent! King, Who Ordainest* Hymnal 569

1 God the Om - ni - po - tent! King, who or - dain - est
 2 God the All - mer - ci - ful! earth hath for - sak - en
 3 God the All - right - eous One! earth hath de - fied thee;
 4 God the All - prov - i - dent! earth by thy chas - tening

thun - der thy clar - ion, the light - ning thy sword;
 thy ways all ho - ly, and slight - ed thy word;
 yet to e - ter - ni - ty stand - eth thy word,
 yet shall to free - dom and truth be re - stored;

show forth thy pi - ty on high where thou reign - est:
 bid not thy wrath in its ter - rors a - wak - en:
 false - hood and wrong shall not tar - ry be - side thee:
 through the thick dark - ness thy king - dom is haste - ning;

give to us peace in our time, O Lord.
 give to us peace in our time, O Lord.
 give to us peace in our time, O Lord.
 thou wilt give peace in thy time, O Lord.

Dismissal

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude – *On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry*

David Cherwien

Special Notes

Children's Church will meet on January 8th. Children age 3 – 5th grade are welcome to meet Keri Wilkin in the Children's Classroom in Gabard. (This is the first classroom on the left in the preschool hallway.)

Vestry - We have nine candidates for the position of Vestry 2025. Vestry Elections will be held today during the Annual Parish meeting to be held immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Annual Parish Meeting - Today we will have a shortened 10 am worship service with the annual meeting at its conclusion. At the annual meeting we will have Vestry Elections and you will find out about all the good works that Christ Church has been doing. The Men in Blue, the Vestry, Parish Life Committee and the Hospitality Committee will be providing a hamburger/hot dog luncheon.

The Tuesday Night Bible study led by Willa Valencia, will be held on January 10th, from 7:30 to 8:30 pm at the home of Ron and Tammy Borders (1718 Williams St.). All adults are welcome. Please bring your Bible—any translation.

Father Perkins Resignation – Father Perkins has announced his resignation as interim rector. His last day will be January 15th. The Rev. Hal Weidman arrives on Ash Wednesday and it has been Father Perkins practice to depart a month prior to a new rector's arrival. A Farewell Reception will be held next Sunday, January 15th, immediately following the 10:00 service. Please plan to join us as we bid Father Perkins a fond farewell.

Notes to Father Perkins - It would be very meaningful to Father Perkins if you took a moment to write him a note about what this interim period has meant to you. Note cards and envelopes will be available at church the next two Sundays, or you can use your own stationery and bring your notes with you. We will place a container in the narthex in which you can drop your notes. You also can email Kim at office@christchurchvaldosta.org with your note.

Garden Guild will meet Monday, January 9th beginning at 10:00 a.m. (later time – weather permitting). We will meet under the Dave Clark Cook Shelter on Mondays and Wednesday. Bring your gloves and tools. All are welcome. We will begin work around the rectory.

Special Notes – Cont.

Stewardship Update – We have received 97 pledges as of Thursday, December 29th for a total of \$441,820
3 new pledges totaling \$10,800
6 have previously given but not pledged totaling \$17,300.
39 pledges stayed the same totaling \$167,510
39 increased their pledge totaling \$224,030 with an increase of \$29,350
10 decreased their pledge totaling \$22,180 with a decrease of \$17,960
(making our overall pledge increase total \$11,390)
We encourage you to give prayerful thought to your commitments for 2023 and to render your pledge as soon as possible. You can render your pledge by putting your card in the box in the narthex, mailing it to the office, or emailing Amy (books@christchurchvaldosta.org).

Serving Today

LEM: Phyllis Holland, Nancy Lutsko, Mike Tanner

Lectors: Sallie Honeycutt, Pete Stone, Pat Denmark

Acolytes: Nancy Lutsko, Blake Yarbrough, Maddie Yarbrough

Altar Guild: Team 2 – Phyllis Holland, Anne Reid, Mimi Allen, Pat Bezona, Karen Gunter

Ushers: Alex Alvarez, Eric Nielsen, Delrick Bradley

Media Crew: Julius Ariail, Chip Whiting, Larry Wisenbaker

Dedication of the Media Desk and Equipment
Christ Episcopal Church
Valdosta, GA
January 8, 2023

The gift may be presented to the Presider with these words

We present to you this media booth, cameras, and sound system to be set apart for the service of Christ's holy Church.

The following versicles and prayer may be said

V. All things come from you, O Lord;

R. And from your own gifts do we give to you.

V. Prosper the work of our hands;

R. Prosper our handiwork.

V. Show your servants your works;

R. And your splendor to their children.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you that you have put it into the hearts of your people to make offerings for your service, and have been pleased to accept their gifts. Be with us now and bless us as we set apart this media booth, cameras, and sound system to your praise and glory in honor of our media team and in memory of Marilyn Miller; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Antiphon

Go into all the world and proclaim the good news* to the whole creation.

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

R. We will, with God's help.

Let us pray. (Silence)

Almighty God, who declared your will to the prophets and sages of Israel, and revealed your glory in the Word made flesh: Accept, we pray, this media booth, cameras, and sound system, and grant that through the extending of prayer and worship to those who view may be brought to faith or have their faith strengthened, and be woven into the community of faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In Commemoration

Almighty God, we remember before you today your faithful servant Marilyn; and we pray that, having opened to her the gates of larger life, you will receive her more and more into your joyful service, that, with all who have faithfully served you in the past, she may share in the eternal victory of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Benefactors

We bless your Name, O Lord, because it has pleased you to enable your servant Monty to offer this gift for your worship. Remember him for good, and grant that all who benefit from this gift may show their thankfulness to you by using it in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*