



# The Epiphany

## The Baptisms of Nicholas & John Erdmann Charlotte Manning Anya & Liam Stuart

January 12, 2025 10:00am - Rite II  
Epiphany Parish, Walpole



*We gather with joy in the power of Jesus' name, to care for one another and to include all people through our fellowship, education & outreach.*

### The Prelude

### Opening Hymn

H#296 We know that Christ is raised

### The Word of God

*Celebrant:* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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*People:* *And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

*The Celebrant then continues:*

There is one Body and one Spirit;

*People:* *There is one hope in God's call to us;*

*Celebrant* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

*People* *One God and Father of all.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* *And also with you.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**The Collect (in unison)** O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### The First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.  
Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.  
Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.  
The Word of the Lord.

*People Thanks be to God.*

### **Psalm 72:1-7,10-14**

***Deus, iudicium***

- <sup>1</sup> Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;  
<sup>2</sup> That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice;  
<sup>3</sup> That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.  
<sup>4</sup> He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.  
<sup>5</sup> He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.  
<sup>6</sup> He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
like showers that water the earth.  
<sup>7</sup> In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.  
<sup>10</sup> The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*  
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.  
<sup>11</sup> All kings shall bow down before him, \*  
and all the nations do him service.  
<sup>12</sup> For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*  
and the oppressed who has no helper.  
<sup>13</sup> He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*  
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.  
<sup>14</sup> He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \*  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

### **The Second Reading**

**Ephesians 3:1-12**

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which

will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord.

*People Thanks be to God.*

## **Gradual Hymn**

**H#121 Christ, when for us you were baptized**

## **The Gospel**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

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

*People Glory to you Lord Christ.*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People Praise to you, Lord Christ*

## **The Sermon**

**The Rev. Christen H Mills**



## **Sacrament of Baptism**

### **Presentation and Examination of the Candidates**

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*The Celebrant says:* The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*The candidates who are able to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Sponsors, as follows:*

*Parents and Godparents say:* I present **NAME** to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Celebrant asks each candidate when presented : Do you desire to be baptized?

*Candidate :* I do.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves:

*Question:* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

*Answer:* I renounce them.

*Question:* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Answer:* I renounce them.

*Question:* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Answer:* I renounce them.

*Question:* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Answer:* I do.

*Question:* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Answer:* I do.

*Question:* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Answer:* I do.

*Celebrant addresses the congregation:*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

*People:* We will.

### **The Baptismal Covenant**

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*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

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

*Celebrant* 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.*

*Celebrant*

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.*

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

*I will, with God's help.*

*Celebrant*

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.*

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

*I will, with God's help.*

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

*I will, with God's help.*

*Celebrant*

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.*

## **Prayers for the Candidates**

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*Celebrant*

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

*Leader*

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

*People*

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

*Leader*

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

*People*

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

*Leader*

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People*

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

*Leader*

Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People*

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

*Leader*

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People*

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

*Leader*

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

*People*

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

*Leader*

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

*People*

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

*Celebrant*

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**

P 306

*The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying:*

The Lord be with you.

*People* *And also with you.*

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Celebrant* 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, Father, 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 Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water:*

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 for ever 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 for ever. *Amen.*

## The Baptism

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*The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying:*

**NAME**, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*When this action has been completed for all candidates, the celebrant, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying:*

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them 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.*

*Then the celebrant places a hand on the child's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying:*

**NAME**, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant says:* Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*Celebrant and 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 is now exchanged.

*Celebrant*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*         *And also with you.*

## Offertory Hymn

**H#304 I come with joy**



## The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

p 367

## Sanctus

Hymnal S-125

## The Lords Prayer

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## The Breaking of the Bread

## The Communion Hymn

**H#416 For the beauty of the Earth**

## The Post Communion Prayer

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## The Blessing

## The Closing Hymn

**H#135 Songs of thankfulness and praise**

## The Dismissal

## The Postlude

### Invitation for Spiritual Communion

*This prayer is a personal prayer that you can say when you desire communion but are unable to receive the sacrament.. Lord*

Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you. Let me never be separated from you.

Amen

All are invited to a special coffee hour downstairs in the undercroft to celebrate the newly baptized!

Congratulations  
Nicholas, John, Charlotte, Anya & Liam

