

*First Sunday after the*

# EPIPHANY

*The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ*



*Lauren Wright Pittman © A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)*

**ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

*January 12, 2025*

## Artist Reflection

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### *Beloved*

Digital painting with collage

By Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Luke 3:21-22

Luke's account of Jesus' baptism is brief and vague. He was baptized among "all the people" (Luke 3:21) by an unnamed baptizer, and until he prays, the scene is rather unremarkable. During his prayer, however, an iconic scene unfolds with the heavens opening, the Holy Spirit descending in the form of a dove, and a voice booming from heaven. As I considered how I might visually respond to this text, it was difficult to imagine this event with a beginner's mind. I've seen lots of imagery of Jesus in the water with clouds breaking open and a dove descending, or Jesus bursting out of water into a beam of light. These images are powerful, but I wasn't sure if creating a similar image would be helpful, or if I'd be offering insight into the text that hadn't already been visually explored.

I began to meditate on what was unspoken and implied in Luke's account, and one moment that stuck out in my imagination was the moment Jesus was underwater. How did Jesus feel when he held his breath and descended into the river? This image offers a snapshot of Jesus right before he steps into his calling, on the threshold of spectacular affirmation. He is completely suspended, embraced, and upheld by the waters of baptism. The water's surface is choppy. The future is unknown and precarious. His path is a lonely and formidable one, eventually leading to his suffering and death. Despite what is to come, Jesus reaches toward the surface. Two fish are drawn to the light of his halo, foreshadowing his companionship with fishers and his miraculous feeding of the five thousand. All of creation is leaning into his call. This is what trusting your belovedness feels like – muscles and bones relieved of gravity's burden, serenity, weightlessness, oneness with creation, and the warmth of God's love permeating every cell of your body and every corner of your soul.



Your presence today is a blessing to this parish. This bulletin has been created from the prayers found in *The Book of Common Prayer*, and it contains most of the spoken parts of worship. The blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew rack contains most of the hymns that are sung. You'll find words to the hymns that come from supplemental hymnals printed in this bulletin.

## Voluntary

## Announcements

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Hymn                      *All stand.*                      Hymnal 1982 – 135

Songs of thankfulness and praise    *Salzburg*

Opening Acclamation    BCP p. 355

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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

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

Collect for Purity

BCP p. 355

**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.**

Opening Song of Praise

S 236 – BCP p. 356

A Song of Praise (Canticle 13)

*See pew card for music.*

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;  
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.**

**Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;  
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you, beholding the depths;  
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

## The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

*The people sit.*

## The Lessons

First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

*A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

Now thus says the Lord,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.  
For I am the Lord your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.  
Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honored, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.  
Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;  
I will say to the north, "Give them up,"  
and to the south, "Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth –  
everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## Psalm: Psalm 29

*Remain seated. The choir first introduces the Antiphon, then the congregation joins the choir in singing the Antiphon each time.*

### Antiphon: The voice of God is upon the waters.



From *A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition* © 2007 by Carl P. Daw, Jr. and Kevin R. Hackett. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \*  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due the holy name; \*  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. **ANTIPHON**
- 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; **ANTIPHON**
- 6 The Lord 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. **ANTIPHON**

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!” **ANTIPHON**

10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the Lord sits enthroned as Sovereign forevermore.

11 The Lord shall give strength to the chosen people; \*  
the Lord shall give the people the blessing of peace.  
**ANTIPHON**

*The people remain seated.*

Second Reading: Acts 8:14-17

*A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then



Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

Sequence Hymn                      *All stand.*                      Hymnal 1982 – 636

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord                      *Foundation*

The Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

*All stand.*

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Reverend Jim Bernacki

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

*All stand.*

BCP p. 292

Celebrant: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: **I do.**

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 the 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.**

*The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows*

Celebrant: May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

*All remain standing.*

## The Prayers of the People

From Hear Our Prayer, by Jon White and Lisa Graves

Intercessor: Glorious and Wondrous God, in thankfulness and confidence we lift our hopes and needs to you in prayer as we say, “*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*”

Raise up in your church leaders whose lives are centered in the love of Christ and whose hearts yearn for justice and peace. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Enter into the hearts of those with authority in our nation that they might work for the fellowship of all people and bring about a world where enemies are reconciled and conflict ceases. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Inspire this assembly through the inbreaking of the Spirit in our lives that our faiths may be bolstered and our commitment to the gospel mission renewed. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Instill in us awe and thankfulness for the majesty of your created world that we might be good stewards and develop sustainable practices so that nature's abundance might be available to all future generations. *The people are invited to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Bring healing to the sick and hurting, mend the fractured and broken, grant hope to the fearful and anxious, and grant peace and the knowledge of your love to all people. *The people are invited to add their petitions, followed by silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Grant to the faithful departed peace and rest in your eternal love and welcome us into the resurrection alongside all your saints. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds the concluding collect.*

Celebrant: Hear our prayers and grant our desires as may be best for us and in ways that show forth your grace and mercy. All this we ask through our only advocate and Lord, Jesus, who is Christ and lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Silence.*

People: **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 359

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**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.**

## The Absolution

*The Priest stands and says*

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.**

Peace

BCP p. 360

*All stand*

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

People: **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*



## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*A note about receiving Holy Communion: In the Episcopal Church, we understand that Christ is “really present” in the bread and wine provided from God’s table. All who claim Christ as Lord are always welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion in this church. Children are welcome to receive communion at the discretion of their parents. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Receive the consecrated wafer in the palm of your outstretched hand from the first person who comes to you. To receive a gluten-free wafer, please cross your hands palms down. You may drink from the larger cup/ chalice which the next person will offer you. Receive the consecrated wine by guiding the offered cup to your lips and sipping, or by intinction: lightly dip the wafer into the wine. Those who distribute the wine will wipe the chalice with a food safe sanitizer and turn it for the next person after each person receives. You may also decide to take the wafer only. If you choose not to receive communion, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing as your presence is a blessing to all of us. Once you have been blessed or received communion, you may offer a short prayer and then return to your seat. If physical limitations make it difficult to come forward, please let an usher know that we may have the honor of bringing communion to you.*

### Offertory Sentence

BCP p. 376

*The Celebrant says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

## Offertory Anthem

BCP p. 361

The Grace Divine

*Resignation*/arr. William Roger Price

Come, let us use the grace divine, and all with one accord,  
In a perpetual covenant join ourselves to Christ the Lord;  
Give up ourselves, through Jesus' power, His Name to glorify;  
And promise, in this sacred hour, for God to live and die.

The covenant we this moment make be ever kept in mind;  
We will no more our God forsake, or cast these words behind.  
We never will throw off the fear of God Who hears our vow;  
And if Thou art well pleased to hear, come down and meet us now.

Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, let all our hearts receive,  
Present with Thy celestial host the peaceful answer give;  
to each covenant the blood apply which takes our sins away,  
And register our names on high and keep us to that day!

*St. James Music Press. Licensed permission. User ID #6813*

## Presentation of Gifts

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: **And of thine own have we given thee.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

Sursum Corda

BCP p. 367

*The People remain standing.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

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 you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

Sanctus

BCP p. 367

S 124 Holy, holy, holy

*Hurd*

*Celebrant 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 Celebrant continues*

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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Memorial Acclamation

*See pew card for music.*

*Celebrant and People*

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

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our 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 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.  
**AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 363

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

*People and Celebrant*

**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.**



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 Hymns

“I come,” the great Redeemer cries Hymnal 1982 – 116  
*This Endris Nyght*

Christ, when for us you were baptized Hymnal 1982 – 121  
*Caithness*

## Lay Eucharistic Minister Prayer *(as needed)*

Celebrant: In order that all may receive Holy Eucharist,  
\_\_\_\_\_ will take the Eucharist to \_\_\_\_\_ today.

**All: In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ’s Body and Blood. We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.**



## The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 366

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## Blessing

BCP p. 366

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## Post-Communion Hymn

Hymnal 1982 – 448

O love, how deep, how broad, how high

*Deus tuorum militum*

## Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Voluntary

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# IT'S OKAY TO ASK QUESTIONS!

All Saints' Inquirer's Class  
Sundays @ 10 AM, January 12-March 9  
In the Church Parlor – Led by Rev. Mary Reese



AFTER  
DARK  
@ ALL  
SAINTS'

Community classes to feed your body, mind & spirit

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2025

Sign up  
online,  
in-person on  
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or by mail.





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## REPORTING TO THE VESTRY

Victor Clark, *Treasurer*

Kim Gordick, *Vestry Clerk*

For announcements and information,  
scan the QR code to view  
*All Saints' Weekly Word.*



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