

The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord

January 9, 2022
8:45 & 11:00am

MISSION STATEMENT

To know and love God as He is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, to bring others to His saving love, and to serve the world in His name.



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

(Established 1836)
Flat Rock, North Carolina

Welcome and Reminders

We welcome you warmly to St. John in the Wilderness and invite you to share in our songs, prayers, and eucharistic feast. If you do not have a church family at this time, then we invite you to join in this fellowship of faith as we share life together as the Body of Christ. While we are broken and incomplete in many ways, we find God making us whole through this parish community. Fill out a card in your pew and put it in the offering plate or talk to an usher, greeter, or member of the clergy to learn more about St. John. It is wonderful to be with you today!

Reminders for Worship

- We are asking everyone to wear a mask in Sunday worship at least through January, and we encourage mask wearing for other indoor church activities.
- If you find out that you have COVID-19 and that you might have brought it to this service, please call the church office and ask for the Rector.
- You will find hand-sanitizer in the pews and with the ushers. Please use it after the Peace and before receiving Communion.
- Please participate in the service by singing and praying with us. At the time of the Peace, please take a few moments to leave your pew and greet others in the name of our Lord.

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

8:45 & 11:00am

PRELUDE: The Sinless One to Jordan Came

David Lasky

ENTRANCE HYMN: No. 120 The sinless one to Jordan came

Solemnis haec festivas



1 The sin - less one to Jor - dan came,
2 Up - ris - ing from the wat - ers there,
3 A - bove him see the heaven - ly Dove,
4 How blest that mis - sion then be - gun
5 O Christ, may we bap - tized from sin,
6 On you may all your peo - ple feed,



1 and in the riv - er shared our stain;
2 the Fa - ther's voice did then de - clare
3 the sign of God the Fa - ther's love,
4 to heal and save a race un - done!
5 go forth with you a world to win:
6 and know you are the Bread in - deed,



1 God's right - eous - ness he thus ful - filled,
2 that Christ, the Son of God, had come
3 now by the Ho - ly Spi - rit shed
4 Straight to the wil - der - ness he goes
5 grant us the Ho - ly Spi - rit's power
6 who gives e - ter - nal life to those



1 and chose the path his Fa - ther willed.
2 to lead his scat - tered peo - ple home.
3 up - on the Son's a - noint - ed head.
4 to wres - tle with his peo - ple's foes.
5 to shield us in temp - ta - tion's hour.
6 that with you died, and with you rose.

THE WORD OF GOD

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People

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

GLORIA

Hymnal S-280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most

High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

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 First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

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 ends of the earth—
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

Afferte Domino

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse.

- 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 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 forest 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.

The Second Lesson: Acts 8:14-17

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN: No. 121 Christ, when for us you were baptized

Caithness

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.

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Music: *Caithness*, melody from *The Psalms of David in Prose and Meter*, 1635; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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

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."

After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Fr. Josh Stephens

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

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Loving God, in Jesus you have made Light to shine in the darkness of our hearts and in our world. Cut us away from trusting in ourselves and fill us more and more with your saving Light.

Silence

We beseech you, O Christ.

Lord, hear our prayer.

O God our deliverer, in Christ you know our every need and pain, and through him you have freed us from death and brought us into the new life of your Kingdom. Call all the peoples of the earth away from worshiping false gods and following phony saviors, that we may find life in your dominion of justice and peace.

Silence

We beseech you, O Christ.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Healing God, in Jesus you touched the troubled and unclean. Reach out and touch all who are sick or in any kind of trouble. Heal us, O Lord. Especially, be with Dick and Libby, Kay, Jeff, Stewart, Arnold, Dick, Chris, Joanne, Katherine, Lois, JoAnn, Dianne, Ann, Helen, Chuck, Herb, John, Sandy, Debbie, and Barb. Are there others?

Let your power make us whole that we may sing your praises.

Silence

We beseech you, O Christ.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, your mercy encompasses all creation. Stretch out your gracious hand even as we struggle to know and to see you in our lives. Be with our loved ones and those whom we struggle to love. Reconcile us with our enemies and forgive us our pride. Help us to see you in one another and all of creation.

Silence

We beseech you, O Christ.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Compassionate God, you came to us in poverty and vulnerability. Make us to see and serve the poor whom you love. Provide for those fleeing from their homes, those who are

in prison, and those who are victims of violence and hate. Use us to share your love with a world in need.

Silence

We beseech you, O Christ.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Remembering God, we thank you for always bringing us home to you and for promising that nothing will separate us from your love in Christ Jesus. Remember those whom we love but see no longer, especially Carol Duff. Let light perpetual shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through your mercy, rest in peace.

Silence

We beseech you, O Christ.

Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Exchange of Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

The ushers pass the offering plates and present the gifts of the congregation at the Lord's table.

OFFERTORY MUSIC: Trio No. 1 in G Minor Joseph Rheinberger

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Praise God from whom all blessings flow *Old 100th*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

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:

Celebrant and People

SANCTUS

Hymnal S-129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

The people stand or kneel.

Then 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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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,

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.*

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

People

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.

The Celebrant continues

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

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The ushers immediately begin releasing the congregation to share in the Eucharistic feast. We are not drinking from the chalice or practicing intinction, but the chalice will be presented to you visually and verbally. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION HYMN: No. 510 Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove

St. Agnes

1 Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, heav - en - ly Dove, with all thy quick-ening powers;
2 See how we tri - fle here be - low, fond of these earth - ly toys;
3 In vain we tune our for - mal songs, in vain we strive to rise:
4 Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, heav - en - ly Dove, with all thy quick-ening powers;

kin - dle a flame of sa - cred love in these cold hearts of ours.
our souls, how heav - i - ly they go, to reach e - ter - nal joys.
ho - san - nas lan - guish on our tongues, and our de - vo - tion dies.
come, shed a - broad a Sa - vior's love, and that shall kin - dle ours.

Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.


Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.


The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing.

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 among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

DISMISSAL HYMN: No. 448 O love, how deep, how broad, how high *Deus tuorum militum*
vv. 1, 2, 3, 6



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom

The Prayers of the People is that part of our liturgy which offers intercessions and thanksgivings to God. **Worshippers, wherever they are in the church, are encouraged to offer aloud or silently their own such prayers during the appropriate part of the Prayers of the People.** As we pray, please remember those who are ill or with other needs: Dick & Libby Wright, Kay Arnold, Jeff Gunter, Stewart, Arnold Smith, Dick Zecher, Chris, Joanne Adams, Katherine Gee Thaxton, Lois Karcher, Dianne Nowak, Ann Stringfield, Helen Aschenbrener, Chuck King, Herb Quarles, John Gulbrandsen, Sandy Bernreuter, Debbie O'Brien, and Barb Mendel.

The Altar Flowers were given in loving memory of Sara Henderson McCandless and Edward McCandless by their sons, Richard and John.

To our visitors: We welcome you with all our hearts! You are also invited to come forward at the time of Communion to receive a blessing or the Sacrament. All baptized Christians are encouraged to receive Communion, including infants and children. If you are not baptized, please come forward and kneel at the altar while crossing your arms over your chest to receive a special blessing, and we invite you to talk to the priest at any time about entering discernment for being baptized. Won't you join with Christ and his Church on this journey of faith?

If you do not have a church home at this time, then we hope you will make St. John in the Wilderness your church family. We find that through sharing life together as the Body of Christ, we are made whole and renewed daily. Talk to an usher or member of the clergy about joining this parish, or you are welcome to simply fill out a card in your pew and put it in the offering plate. We welcome you!

We give thanks to the following for their ministry to our church:

	January 9, 2022		January 16, 2022	
	8:45	11:00	8:45	11:00
Lay Readers	John/Margaret Barker	Candace Lewis	Sandra Jeffery	Bill Taylor
Acolyte	Jasmine Pharr	Julianna Savage		
Ushers	Jim Spry Clint Adams	David Christenbury Karen Conley	George Grzenda Debby Staton	John Knapp Bettie Orr
Greeters	Brenda Hillyer Bonni Spry		Dottie Dalzell Judy Petersen	Vickie Taylor Jan Knapp
Cart Driver	Jim Olson	Chris Kanipe	Steve Hutcherson	Scott Bell
Eucharistic Visitors	Margaret Barker Dick Zecher	Mike Covell Meg & Jerry Holt		
Altar Guild	Kathy Newbold Candace Lewis Robin Howe Beth Melton	Lynn & Julianna Savage Elaine Harris	Cathryn Harrell BJ McKee Robin Howe	Vickie & Bill Taylor
Opening Gatekeeper	Mark & Jill Owen		Mark & Jill Owen	
Closing Gatekeeper	Dick Zecher		Dick Zecher	
Flower Guild	Reuther & Jim Wagner		Catherine Richardson	

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

PO Box 185, 1905 Greenville Highway, Flat Rock, NC 28731

828-693-9783 | www.stjohnflatrock.org

In the case of a pastoral emergency, call the Parish Office and dial 4.

Worship Services 8:45 & 11:00am | Office Hours: 9am-4pm M-F

Children's Sunday School: 10:00am (during school year only) | Adult Sunday School: 10:00am

Holy Eucharist & Healing Service: Wednesdays 10:30am in the Wilderness Room

The Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin, Bishop

The Rev. Josh Stephens, Rector: rector@stjohnflatrock.org

The Rev. Deacon Sandy Rex, Deacon: cwrexiii@rmimidwest.com

Dewitt Tipton, Organist/Director of Music: dewitt.tipton@furman.edu

Sarah Yeargin, Director of Parish Communication and Administration: officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org

Stacy Knapp, Parish Financial Assistant: finance@stjohnflatrock.org

Kevin Hunt, Sexton: sexton@stjohnflatrock.org

VESTRY MEMBERS

Senior Warden: Jennifer Shelton

Junior Warden: Gibson Sims

2022

Clint Adams

Terry Enslin

Dick Zecher

2023

John Barker

Elizabeth Christenbury

Lynn Wiescholek

2024

E.R. Haire, Jr.

Marisa Pharr

Will Rodriguez

Kim Sanders

PARISH OFFICERS

Margaret Barker, Clerk of the Vestry

Tom Griswold, Treasurer

STANDING COMMITTEES

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Robin Howe

By Laws, Canons & Insurance: Jim Olson

Christian Formation: Mary Anne Inglis

Communications & Publicity: Joey Popp

Finance: Susan MacDonald

Historic Churchyard Committee: Ken Jones

Community Engagement, Evangelism, and Newcomers
(CEEN):

Outreach: Jennifer Shelton

Personnel: Margaret Barker

Stewardship: David Christenbury

OTHER COMMITTEES AND MINISTRIES

Acolytes: Lynn Savage

Altar Guild: Kathy Newbold, Cathryn Harrell

Chefs of St. John: Jim Vint

Churchyard Trustees: Pete Petersen

Docents: E.R. Haire, Jr.

Endowment Trustees: Tom Griswold

Episcopal Church Women: Linda Giltner, Vickie Taylor

Eucharistic Visitors: Dick Zecher

Flower Guild: Bay Chamberlain

Flower Memorials: Gaston Motes

Funeral Reception Ministry: Brenda Hillyer

Garden Guild: Jerry & Jan Tanner

Gatekeepers: Dick Zecher

Greeters: Betsy Tibbs

Heritage, Archives & Gift Committee: John Barker

Lay Readers: Susan MacDonald

Meal Ministry: Bess Tarkington Lee

Needle Work Ministry: Judy Petersen

Newsletter Editor: Sarah Yeargin

Ushers: Clint Adams, Bettie Orr

Wedding Coordinator: Elaine Howe