



*Daily, we strive to be a welcoming Christian community of faith:
loving and forgiving, questioning and learning, inviting and serving.*

Sunday, June 26, 2022

The Nativity of St John the Baptist

Click here to join online:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84893814344?pwd=QWIvMXBxbTF5eGQ0ZndHUGRYc04rZz09>

St. John's in the Mountains Episcopal Church
1994 Mountain Rd.
Stowe, Vermont 05672

802-253-7578

The Holy Eucharist

Welcome to St. John's in the Mountains and an invitation to quiet meditation.

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn: #76 *On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry*

Hymnal: *The Hymnal 1982*

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
Glory to God for ever and ever.

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.

Gloria in excelsis

Mass of Creation Marty Haugen, b.1950, ©GIA

Refrain:

**Glory to God in the highest
 and peace to God's people on earth**

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
 we worship you, we give you thanks,
 we praise you for your glory.

Refrain

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us, you are seated at the right hand of the
Father, receive our Prayer.

Refrain

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father,
Amen! Amen!

Refrain

God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Collect of the Day – *said by the celebrant*

Almighty God, by whose providence your servant John the
Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of your
Son our Savior by preaching repentance: Make us so to follow his
teaching and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his
preaching; and, following his example, constantly speak the truth,
boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Please be seated for the lessons.

A reading from Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 85:7-13 (*taken from the St. Helena’s Psalter*)

Show us your mercy, O God, *
and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what you are saying, *
for you are speaking peace to your faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to you.

Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, *
that your glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

You, O God, will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before you, *
and peace shall be a pathway for your feet.

A Reading from Acts 13:14b-26

On the sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, “Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, give it.”

So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak: “You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance for about four hundred fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. Then

they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, 'I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes.' Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised; before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his work, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet.'

“My brothers, you descendants of Abraham’s family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God

Please stand as you are able for

Hymn: #66 *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

Hymnal: *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke.
Glory to you Lord Christ

The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, “No; he is to be called John.” They said to her, “None of your relatives has this name.” Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to

speaking, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?" For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favourably on his people and
redeemed them.
He has raised up a mighty saviour for us
in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets
from of old,
that we would be saved from our enemies and
from the hand of all who hate us.
Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our
ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant,
the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands
of our enemies,
might serve him without fear, in holiness and
righteousness
before him all our days."
And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most
High;

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his
ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.
By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the
shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

The Gospel of the Lord;
Praise to you Lord Christ.

Please be seated for the

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Richard R. Swanson

Please stand as you are able for 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.

Please remain standing as you are able for the

Prayers of People

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who
are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Shannon our Bishop, Richard and Zarina our clergy, and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions, verbally (in-person) or in the chat box, if online.

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings, verbally (in-person) or in the chat-box, if online.

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in
your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions, verbally (in-person) or in the chat box, if online.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Deacon bids the Confession of Sin:

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence is kept.

Leader and People

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Priest pronounces the absolution,

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 peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

The clergy and people exchange greetings with one another in the name of the Lord. At this time, we ask that during the peace, everyone stays in their own seat and verbally exchanges words of greeting and peace. Members of the same family may certainly touch one another, but otherwise, the greeting should be words or a bow. We all have different feelings about being touched at this time, and erring on the side of reserve for that is most appropriate.

Hymn: #304 *I come with joy to meet my Lord*
Hymnal: *The Hymnal 1982*

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory (repeat)

Hosanna in the highest; Blessed is He who comes in the
Name of the Lord

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory
Hosanna in the highest!

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were

heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed John the Baptist and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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 Celebrant breaks the bread and says

We break this bread to share the Body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one
bread.**

The Celebrant then says

The gifts of God for the people of God.

*No matter where your faith journey has taken you, or where it may be leading
you today, all are welcome and invited to receive Holy Communion at St.
John's in the Mountains Episcopal Church. Please hold out your hands to
receive the bread. The chalice will not be shared at this time. If you would
like to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms over your
chest.*

Communion music

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Please be seated for the
Announcements

Please stand as you are able for the
Blessing

Hymn: #74 *Blest be the King whose coming*
Hymnal: *The Hymnal 1982*

Descant

3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

1 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

2 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

4 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of

God! For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him
 God! By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly
 God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
 God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they

God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All

barred! Not robbed in roy - al splen - dor, in
 heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
 God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
 need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

The deacon offers the

Dismissal

The people respond

things are in his hand, all a - ges and all

power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
 have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
 things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 light his yoke shall be, for he would have us

peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!

poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!
 Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.
 peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
 bear it so he can make us free!

Participants in today's service

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Richard R. Swanson

Deacon: The Rev. Zarina Suárez O'Hagin

Musician: James Grace

Lectors: Deb Clark

Intercessor: Sandy Duncan

Acolyte: Dylan Morrison

Greeter: Terry Whelan

Coffee Hour: Potluck

Counters: Deb Clark and Lynne Harries

Altar Guild: Kristin Wells

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Altar Flowers

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for God's many blessings on the Kessler and Huber families.

Updates from the All-Parish Vestry Meeting
Please note the following changes effective 3/20/22

- ~ Masks are optional inside the building at your comfort level
- ~ Please **wear** masks during the singing of hymns
- ~ If you're not feeling well, please stay home, even if you have mild symptoms
- ~ **Special Potluck** is directly following worship, outside, weather permitting)

June is LGBTQ+ Pride Month

Fr Rick and Zarina will offer reflections in St John's Weekly on affirmative Christian theology of sexual identity.

