

## Morning Prayer: Rite Two

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

The Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist

June 24

Officiants: Mary Gardner and Lois Freeman

*Officiant 1* Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.  
*Psalms 19:14*

*Officiant 2* You will go before the Lord to prepare the way, to give God's people knowledge of salvation.  
*Luke 1:76-77*

### Confession of Sin

*Officiant 1* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence*

*Officiant 1* 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.

*Officiant 2* Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

### The Invitatory and Psalter

*Officiant 1* Lord, open our lips.

*Officiant 2* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*Officiant 1* Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:

*Officiant 2* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.  
Amen. Alleluia.

*Officiant 1* The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

*Officiant 2* Come let us adore him.

***Psalms 95:1-7***

*Said antiphonally breaking at the half verse*

Come let us sing to the Lord; \*

**let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.**

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*

**and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God, \*

**and a great King above all gods.**

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*

**and the heights of the hills are his also.**

The sea is his, for he made it, \*

**and his hands have molded the dry land.**

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*

**and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.\*

**Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

*Officiant 1* The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

*Officiant 2* Come let us adore him.

## Psalm 85

*Said antiphonally breaking at the half verse*

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, \*  
**you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.**  
You have forgiven the iniquity of your people \*  
**and blotted out all their sins.**  
You have withdrawn all your fury \*  
**and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.**  
Restore us then, O God our Savior; \*  
**let your anger depart from us.**  
Will you be displeased with us for ever? \*  
**will you prolong your anger from age to age?**  
Will you not give us life again, \*  
**that your people may rejoice in you?**  
Show us your mercy, O Lord, \*  
**and grant us your salvation.**  
I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, \*  
**for he is speaking peace to his faithful people**  
**and to those who turn their hearts to him.**  
Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, \*  
**that his 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.**  
The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
**and our land will yield its increase.**  
Righteousness shall go before him, \*  
**and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.**  
  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.**  
**Amen.**

## The Lessons

*Officiant 1*   **A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah**   *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 forever.

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.

*Officiant 1*   The Word of the Lord

*Officiant 2*   Thanks be to God

Canticle **The Song of Zechariah**

*Luke 1: 68-79*

*Said antiphonally breaking at the half verse*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*

**he has come to his people and set them free.**

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*

**born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*

**from the hands of all who hate us.**

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*

**and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*

**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**

Free to worship him without fear, \*

**holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*

**for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**

To give people knowledge of salvation \*

**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God \*

**the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

To shine on those who dwell in darkness

and the shadow of death, \*

**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Officiant 2 **A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke**

*Luke 1:57- 69, 80*

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 speak, 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 favorably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David."

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

Officiant 2 The Word of the Lord

Officiant 1 Thanks be to God

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*Officiant 1*

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

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.

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. Amen.

## **The Prayers**

*Officiant 2* The Lord be with you.

*Officiant 1* And also with you.

*Officiant 2* Let us pray.

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.

## **Suffrages B**

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. We praise your Name for ever.

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. For we put our trust in you.

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. And we shall never hope in vain.

*Officiant 1* 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. *Collect of the Day*

*Officiant 2* O God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Guide us in our search for a new rector. Empower each one of us to use our unique ministries, to share openly and honestly our thoughts, to respect the opinions of others, and to encourage humility, patience, and joy. Instill in us a vision of the Church's mission, that guided by your Holy Spirit, we will be united in love and joyfully accomplish this mission of discovering the one you have called to serve with us as our rector. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen "*Parish Transition Process for the Diocese of Massachusetts*"

*Officiant 1* O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A Collect for Peace*

*Officiant 2* Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

*Prayer for Mission*

## **The Peace and Greetings**

*Officiant 2* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*Officiant 1* **And also with you**

The worshippers exchange the Peace and greet one another.

*One of the Officiants prays Thanksgivings and Intercessions shared in Chat*

## **Closing Prayers**

*Officiant 2* Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

*The General Thanksgiving*

*Officiant 1* Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

*A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

*Officiant 1* Let us bless the Lord.

*Officiant 2* Thanks be to God.

*Officiant 1* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

*2 Corinthians 13:14*