



## ***First Sunday after the Epiphany***

# ***Baptism of Our Lord***

***Sunday, January 11, 2026***

10:15 AM (with music)

***Also Live Streaming at***

<https://www.facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/>

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### **VOLUNTARY**

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

Setting by Paul Manz, David Bednall

*(Please stand)*

### **PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

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### **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

<i>Presider</i>	Alleluia! Christ is risen!
<i>People</i>	<b>The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!</b>
<i>Presider</i>	There is one Body and one Spirit;
<i>People</i>	<b>There is one hope in God's call to us;</b>
<i>Presider</i>	One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
<i>People</i>	<b>One God and Father of all.</b>

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider*        The Lord be with you.

*People*         **And also with you.**

*Presider*        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.**

*(Please be seated)*

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 42.1-9

*Lector*         A Reading from Isaiah

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
    my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
    he will bring forth justice to the nations.  
He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
    or make it heard in the street;  
a bruised reed he will not break,  
    and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
    he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
He will not grow faint or be crushed  
    until he has established justice in the earth;  
    and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord,  
    who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
    who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
    and spirit to those who walk in it:  
I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,  
    I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
    a light to the nations,  
    to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
    from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
I am the Lord, that is my name;  
    my glory I give to no other,  
    nor my praise to idols.  
See, the former things have come to pass,

and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

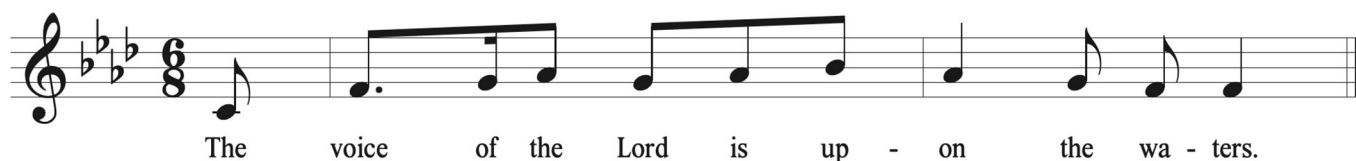
*Lector*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 29

Setting: David York

*The choir sings the antiphon once and the congregation repeats. The choir sings the Psalm verses. The choir and congregation then sing the antiphon following each section of verses.*



The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders;  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.  
The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.  
The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; **Antiphon**

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.  
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.  
The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe  
and strips the forests bare. **Antiphon**

And in the temple of the Lord  
all are crying, "Glory!"  
The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.  
The Lord shall give strength to his people;  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. **Antiphon**

## SECOND READING

Acts 10.34-43

*Lector* A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

## SEQUENCE HYMN

Baptized in Water

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*(Congregation sings vv. 1 & 2, the Gospel is read, then v. 3 is sung)*

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 3.13-17

*Presider* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.

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

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*(Please be seated)*

*(Silent reflection)*

## HOLY BAPTISM

### PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

*The Presider says*

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Parents and Godparents*

**I present Morgan Dunnahoe to receive the Sacrament of Baptism**

**I present Oswald Dunnahoe to receive the Sacrament of Baptism**

**I present Roberto Villanueva to receive the Sacrament of Baptism**

*The Presider asks the Parents and Godparents*

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and Godparents*

**I will, with God's help.**

*Presider*

Will you by your prayers and witness help these children child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and Godparents*

**I will, with God's help.**

*Then the Presider asks the following questions of the Parents and Godparents who speak on behalf of the infant and younger children*

*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.**

*(Please stand)*

*The Presider addresses the congregation, saying*

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

*People* **We will.**

*The Presider then says these or similar words*

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

## **BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

*Presider* Do you believe in God the Father?

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

*Presider* 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.**

*Presider* 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.**

<i>Presider</i>	Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
<i>People</i>	<b>I will, with God's help.</b>
<i>Presider</i>	Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
<i>People</i>	<b>I will, with God's help.</b>
<i>Presider</i>	Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
<i>People</i>	<b>I will, with God's help.</b>
<i>Presider</i>	Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
<i>People</i>	<b>I will, with God's help.</b>
<i>Presider</i>	Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
<i>People</i>	<b>I will, with God's help.</b>

#### **PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATE**

*Presider* Let us now pray for this child who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

*A Person appointed leads the following petitions*

<i>Leader</i>	Deliver Morgan, Ozzie, and Roberto, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
<i>People</i>	<b>Lord, hear our prayer.</b>
<i>Leader</i>	Open their hearts to your grace and truth.
<i>People</i>	<b>Lord, hear our prayer.</b>
<i>Leader</i>	Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
<i>People</i>	<b>Lord, hear our prayer.</b>
<i>Leader</i>	Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
<i>People</i>	<b>Lord, hear our prayer.</b>
<i>Leader</i>	Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.
<i>People</i>	<b>Lord, hear our prayer.</b>
<i>Leader</i>	Send them into the world in witness to your love.
<i>People</i>	<b>Lord, hear our prayer.</b>
<i>Leader</i>	Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.
<i>People</i>	<b>Lord, hear our prayer.</b>

*The Presider says*

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 for ever. **Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

*The Presider blesses the water, first saying*

*Presider*        The Lord be with you.

*People*        **And also with you.**

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

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

*The Presider continues*

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.

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**

*Each candidate is presented by name to the Presider who then pours water upon the candidate, saying*

Morgan / Ozzie / Roberto, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying*

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



*When this action has been completed, the Presider says*

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.**

*The Baptismal candle is lit from the Paschal Candle and presented. The Presider says*

Receive the light of Christ as a sign that you have passed from darkness into light. Shine as his light in the world to the Glory of God the Father.

*The Presider then says*

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*Presider 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.**

## **ASPERGES**

*The People are sprinkled with Holy Water as a reminder of their own Baptisms*

## **ASPERGES HYMN**

Wade in the Water

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## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *(Please remain standing or kneel)*

Through Christ we are anointed with the Holy Spirit in baptism. May the same Spirit inspire us as we offer our prayers, responding, "Hear us, God of Glory."

For an overflowing gift of generosity, that we may reflect God's abundant care for all of creation, lifting others out of systemic poverty, increasing the mission work of our churches, and reaping the joy of a philanthropic life; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

For the courage to walk through the tranquil and turbulent waters of life, knowing that in our baptism we died with Christ in darkness and joined him in the risen light; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

For our President and all who exercise authority in the nations of the world, that they will faithfully establish justice on earth, and carry the torch of freedom and peace into all their deliberations; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

For the Church, that it may bear witness to Jesus' forgiveness and love, offering to those outside its walls the light that illumines all darkness and releases humanity from the grip of sin; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

That we may know our identity through the voice of God, who claims us as his beloved children, and invites us to share in his earthly mission; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

In thanksgiving for the Body and Blood of Christ, a foretaste of that heavenly banquet upon which the faithful departed continually feast; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

In companionship with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Gregory our patron, and all the saints whose constant intercession strengthens our faith, let us continue our prayers, silently, aloud, or in the comment section.

*(pause)*

For these petitions, let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

*The Presider says the concluding collect:*

As those who have been baptized into Christ, may we all enter into the liberty and splendor of the children of God through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*Presider*        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 Risen Lord.)*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL BLESSINGS**

***Birthday and Anniversary Prayer:*** Watch over your *children*, O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

John Gardner

Sean Dunnahoe, percussion

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;  
I would my true love did so chance  
To see the legend of my play,  
To call my true love to my dance;

*Refrain:*

*Sing, oh! my love, oh!  
my love, my love, my love,  
This have I done for my true love*

Then was I born of a virgin pure,  
Of her I took fleshly substance  
Thus was I knit to man's nature  
To call my true love to my dance.

*Refrain*

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was  
So very poor, this was my chance  
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass  
To call my true love to my dance.

*Refrain*

Then afterwards baptized I was;  
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,  
My Father's voice heard from above,  
To call my true love to my dance.

*Refrain*

### PRESENTATION HYMN

As with Gladness Men of Old

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(Verse 3)

As they offered gifts most rare  
at that manger rude and bare;  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ! to thee, our heavenly King.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant*                      *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*

Lift up your hearts. 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.

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

*Missa Simplex, Peter Hallock*

*Organ:*                      *Everyone:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry — Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blest is the one who comes in the name of our God. — Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with [blessed \_\_\_\_\_, and] all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

**Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

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

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
 be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
 dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
 as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead  
 us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us  
 from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,  
 and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*(A period of silence is kept after the Celebrant breaks the host)*

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

## FRACTION ANTHEM – S169

Jordan Tickner, cantor

The musical score is written on four staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple, using quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -". Above the first staff is the instruction "Cantor or Choir". The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: "deed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my". Above the second staff are two first endings, both marked "All". The first ending leads to the second staff, and the second ending leads to the third staff. The third staff continues the melody with the lyrics: "flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. My". Above the third staff is the instruction "All". The fourth staff concludes the piece with the lyrics: "flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord." The piece ends with a double bar line.

*The Presider says the following or a similar invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at this Altar. Holy Communion will be distributed from a single Communion Station at the foot of the chancel steps. The Ushers will release people by row to receive Communion. **Gluten free wafers are available upon request.***

### PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*Those participating in the live streamed service and therefore not able to receive communion may wish to say the following prayer in recognition that the desire to receive communion carries the same spiritual benefits as actually consuming the consecrated elements.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you have instituted for us a great sacrament in your promise of life and love, which we remember now as we hear your words again: "This is my body; this is my blood — given for you." Feed us in our hearts with faith and trust, draw us closer to you and to each other, and strengthen us for service to our neighbor. We come before you now, with hearts you have fed all our lives with the promise that you have given yourself for us. Keep us strong in that faith until we can meet at your table again. Amen.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

Johann Schop

Dylan Wicks, Jordan Tickner, soloists

O Morning Star, how fair and bright,  
You shine with God's own truth and light,  
Aglow with grace and mercy!  
Of Jacob's race, King David's son,  
Our Lord and master you have won  
Our hearts to serve you only!  
Lowly, holy! Great and glorious,  
All victorious, Rich in blessing!  
Rule and might o'er all possessing!  
(Philipp Nicolai, 1599)

## COMMUNION HYMN

Shall we Gather at the River

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## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*Presider* Let us pray.

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and 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 Savior. Amen.**

## BLESSING

The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

When Jesus Came to Jordan

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## DISMISSAL

*Presider* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**



## **VOLUNTARY**

Christ the Lord to Jordan Came

Johann G. Walther

*If you choose to leave during the Voluntary, please do so quietly,  
out of courtesy for those staying to listen.*

**FLOWERS TODAY ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

**Please join us in Francis Hall for refreshments and fellowship  
following the worship service**

(Francis Hall is out the main church doors and to the left)

### **TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Presider & Preacher	Fr. Michael Fincher
Music Director	David York
Crucifer	David Luebben-Morrill
Lector	Caryn Cobb
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	Fran Luebben-Morgan
	Elizabeth Spencer

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Texts of Sunday sermons are available on our parish website, at  
<http://stgregoryschurch.com/sermons-archive/>

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# PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Hymnal 1982, Hymn 119*

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

*Wie Schön leuchtet*

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are arranged in three stanzas. The first system covers the first two lines of the first stanza. The second system covers the last line of the first stanza and the first two lines of the second stanza. The third system covers the last line of the second stanza and the first two lines of the third stanza. The fourth system covers the last line of the third stanza. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

1 How bright ap - pears the Morn-ing Star, with mer - cy beam - ing  
2 Though cir - cled by the hosts on high, he deigned to cast a  
3 Re - joice, ye heavens; thou earth, re - ply; with praise, ye sin - ners,  
from a - far; the host of heaven re - joic - es;  
pit - ying eye up - on his help - less crea - ture;  
fill the sky, for this his In - car - na - tion.  
O right-eous Branch, O Jes - se's Rod! Thou Son of Man and  
the whole cre - a - tion's Head and Lord, by high - est ser - a -  
In - car - nate God, put forth thy power, ride on, ride on, great  
Son of God! We, too, will lift our voic - es:  
phim a - dored, as - sumed our ve - ry na - ture;  
Con - quer - or, till all know thy sal - va - tion.

Je - sus, Je - sus! Ho - ly, ho - ly, yet most low - ly,  
 Je - sus, grant us, through thy mer - it, to in - her - it  
 A - men, a - men! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

draw thou near us; great Em - man - uel, come and hear us.  
 thy sal - va - tion; hear, O hear our sup - pli - ca - tion.  
 Praise be giv - en ev - er - more, by earth and hea - ven.

## SEQUENCE HYMN

Baptized in Water

Buinessan

*(Congregation sings vv. 1 & 2, the Gospel is read, then v. 3 is sung)*



1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his  
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

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# ASPERGES HYMN

Wonder, Love & Praise Hymnal, Hymn 740

Wade in the Water

African American Spiritual

Wade in the wa - ter, wade in the wa - ter, chil - dren,

Wade in the wa - ter, God's a - gon - na trou - ble the wa - ter. **Fine**

1. See that host all dressed in white,  
2. See that band all dressed in red,  
3. Look o - ver yon - der, what do I see?  
4. If you don't be - lieve I've been re - deemed,

God's a - gon - na trou - ble the

wa - ter.  
1. The lead - er looks like the Is - ra - elite,  
2. Looks like the band that Mo - ses led,  
3. The Ho - ly Ghost a - com - ing on me,  
4. Just fol - low me down to Jor - dan's stream,

God's a - gon - na trou - ble the wa - ter. **D.C.**

**PRESENTATION HYMN**  
*Hymnal 1982, Hymn 119*

As with Gladness Men of Old

*Dix*

(Verse 3)



3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at that man-ger rude and bare;



3 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,



3 all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ! to thee, our heaven-ly King.



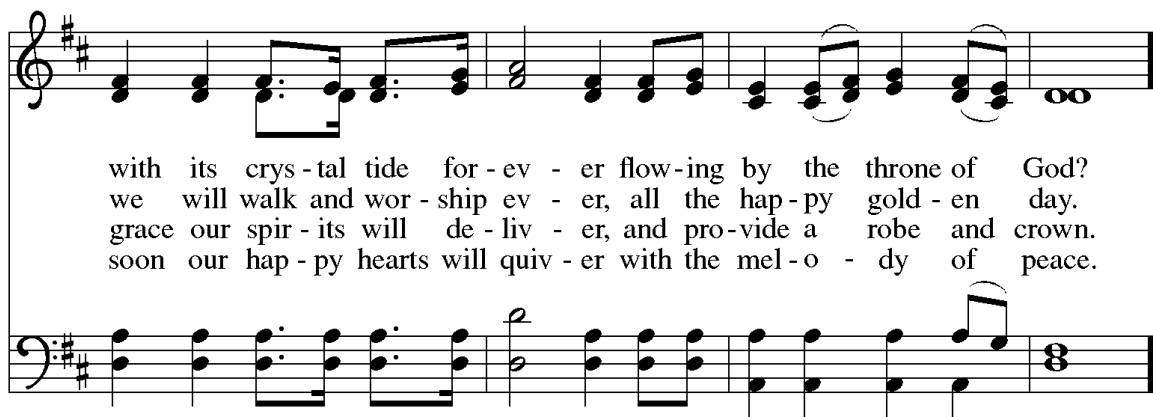
# COMMUNION HYMN

Shall We Gather at the River

*Hanson Place*



1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,  
 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,  
 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;  
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?  
 we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.  
 grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
 soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

*Refrain*



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899  
 Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

# RECESSIONAL HYMN

When Jesus Came to Jordan

*King's Lynn*



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John,  
 2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,  
 3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.  
 for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.  
 this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond-age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,  
 So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,  
 Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.  
 the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.  
 to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune

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## ***THIS WEEK AT ST. GREGORY'S***

### **Tuesday, January 13**

**Centering Prayer** at **6:30 PM** on Zoom. Contact Fr. Michael for access information.

### **Thursday, January 15**

**Holy Eucharist and Healing Service** at **10:00 AM** in the Chapel.

**Bible Study** at **11:00 AM** in the Fireside Room.

**Choir Rehearsal** at **7:30 PM** in the Choir Room. Contact David York for more information.

### **Sunday, January 18 – Second Sunday after the Epiphany**

**Holy Eucharist** (spoken) at **8:00 AM** in the Church.

#### **Sunday School**

**Seniors** (ages 11 to 18) at **9:30 AM** in the Youth Room.

**Juniors** (ages 8 to 10) at **10:15 AM** in the Youth Room.

**Beginners** (ages 5 to 7) at **10:15 AM** in the Youth Room.

**Holy Eucharist** (with music) at **10:15 AM** in the Church and live streamed on the St. Gregory's Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/>).

***Nursery Care is available on Sundays, starting at 7:45 AM, in the Nursery (Room 3)***

### **Evening Prayer (Tuesday through Thursday)**

**Evening Prayer:** Tuesday through Thursday at **5:00 PM** on the St. Gregory's Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/>).

*For Evening Prayer, you will need either a Book of Common Prayer or you can download the Evening Prayer liturgy and the Psalms for the week from the St. Gregory's website ([www.stgregoryschurch.com](http://www.stgregoryschurch.com)).*

## ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

### **Sunday, January 18 – Music at Four**

Music at Four presents “From Bach to The Beatles: Music for Organ and Brass” on Sunday, January 18 at 4:00 PM. The South Coast Brass and organist David York perform music by Bach, Gabrieli, Holst, Widor and The Beatles.

### **Sunday, February 1 – Annual Meeting**

Our Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will have a single worship service at 9:00 AM, followed by the Annual Meeting, which will begin about 10:30. The Annual meeting will be followed by a lunch in the Parish Hall.

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

**Pledge Numbers and Envelopes:** Please be advised that the Envelope Number and Pledge Number that you currently have will remain the same for 2026 (unless you are a new pledge). A list is provided in the Narthex with your pledge number. Envelopes are also available for those who requested them. We ask that when you find your assigned envelopes, please initial on the Envelope Number summary so we know that they went to the right home. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office or email [info@stgregoryschurch.com](mailto:info@stgregoryschurch.com).

**A Climate Evensong:** A joint offering of the Bishop's Commissions on Climate Change and Liturgy & Music of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles will be held on Sunday, January 11, 2026 at 5:00 PM at All Saints Church, Pasadena. The service will be an opportunity to gather in lament for the losses in the fires, in hope for resilience in the ongoing recovery, and in commitment to action to reverse the damage to our world. Inspired by the vision of Dr. Lucy Jones, the service is framed within the traditional Anglican liturgy of Choral Evensong and is an invitation into a musical and meditative sound bath to find stillness and experience God's grace. All are welcome, in person and via live stream at <https://allsaints-pas.org/livestream/>. A reception will follow.

**Diocesan Convention Delegates:** The Diocese of Los Angeles holds its annual convention on the second weekend of November. Each parish is represented by its clergy and lay delegates. We are entitled to three delegates – one to be selected by the Vestry from among its members, and two to be elected at the Annual Meeting. If you are interested in representing us at the Diocesan Convention on Friday, November 13 and Saturday, November 14, 2026, at the Riverside Convention Center, please notify the Parish Office. If you have any questions, see Fr. Michael.

**Annual Reports:** With the New Year, it's time to start thinking about our Parish Annual Meeting, scheduled for Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> (more to come on that). In preparation for the Annual Meeting, we will need to produce the Annual Report. All persons responsible for a ministry program in the Parish (you know who you are) should submit written reports of the

year's activities to the Parish Office no later than **Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**. Reports need to be in Word or Word-compatible format and emailed to the Parish Office at [info@stgregoryschurch.com](mailto:info@stgregoryschurch.com). Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

**American Sewing Guild:** Starting on Sunday, January 11, the American Sewing Guild (ASG) Long Beach neighborhood group will be meeting monthly at St. Gregory's in the Parish Hall Conference Room at the same time (1:00 - 3:30) as the Stitches of Faith group. The ASG is a national non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the sewing arts through education and community engagement. ASG aims to preserve and advance sewing as an art and life skill. Members of St. Gregory's, as well as interested people from the community, are welcomed to join us at a meeting. The group is very excited to have a regular meeting home at St. Gregory's and cannot wait to demonstrate their ability to help and promote sewing skills to all levels of sewists who attend. For questions or more information, contact Susan Mora.

**Stitches of Faith:** Are you looking for a space to share your creativity, enjoy fellowship, and be inspired? Stitches of Faith is a gathering for anyone who loves to craft—or wants to learn! Whether you knit, crochet, quilt, paint, or want to try your hand at another craft, this group is open to all skill levels, including beginners eager to discover something new. We meet on Sundays from 1:00–3:30 PM in the Conference Room. Each week, we will enjoy time for projects, encouragement, and conversation in a relaxed, faith-filled environment. Light refreshments will be provided. Bring your supplies, your curiosity, and your kind spirit. Come create, connect, and grow in community with us!

**Lend a Hand:** Like any older building, St. Gregory's constantly needs maintenance and touching up. Fred Cornett has made up a list of things to do in the near future: Cleaning and arranging the janitor's closet and the storage areas, cleaning the trash cans, etc. Many hands make light work, and most of the jobs won't take much time if two or three people join in. There is a signup sheet in the narthex, and Fred is always available for consultation or questions: (562) 308-6955. Thanks, Fred, for getting the projects going!

**Altar Flower Donations:** Need a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one or friend? Make a flower donation. There is a flower donation chart located on the Narthex wall that you can use to sign up for special dates to donate altar flowers. Simply fill out a donation form attached to the bottom of the chart and return the form to the Parish Office. Payment for flowers can be made by check or online at <https://stgregoryschurch.com/4721-2>. Make sure you specify your donation is for Altar Flowers. The Altar Guild thanks you.

**Episcopal News Updates:** The Diocese provides weekly email updates to help you keep informed about what's happening all over our six-county diocese. If you want to receive the Episcopal News, visit <https://diocesela.org/episcopal-news/contact/> and enter your email address in the box provided.

**Feed My Lambs and Food Bank:** THANK YOU for your generosity and your donations. In addition to your support, we are pleased to announce that St. Gregory's has been awarded \$1,000 from the Long Beach Food Access Fund in support of our feeding programs. We have

also received 170 prepackaged boxes of nonperishable food from the Los Angeles Area Food Bank.

Here's the latest news on our parish feeding programs.

- **Feed My Lambs**
  - **Homemade cookies can be dropped off any time.** Please put your homemade cookies in Ziploc Bags and label them with the date and "FML" (this way we know they are for Feed My Lambs and not other purposes).
  - **Please do not bring hardboiled eggs.** Due to issues with eggs, we now have a dedicated team responsible for providing hardboiled egg.
  - **Volunteers** – If you are interested in helping out Feed My Lambs, contact Tamera Benedict at ([tlbenedict4@gmail.com](mailto:tlbenedict4@gmail.com), 562.301.6800).
- **Food Bank** The Food Bank relies on your financial support and appreciates all donations of funds or non-perishable food items. We also can use more volunteers at:
  - Bagging and distribution the THIRD WEDNESDAY of each month from 8:30 to 11:00 AM
  - Any other time you may have available and could assist with assembling our bags (e.g. on Sunday before or after service, or any time the office is open for access)Please contact the Parish Office ([info@stgregoryschurch.com](mailto:info@stgregoryschurch.com), 562.420.1311) or Bill Eldon ([billeldon@gmail.com](mailto:billeldon@gmail.com), 562.234.9920) for more information about the Food Bank.

Your continued support of our feeding ministries, through product and monetary contributions, is greatly appreciated!

**Gratitude for Your Support of the Parish:** We continue to be humbled and so incredibly grateful for your generosity in supporting our parish and its ministries! While you may not be able to drop your donation in a real offering plate, there are still ways you can make sure your donation gets to the parish:

- You can mail your check to the parish office.
- Make donations through our online payment account, accessible through the parish website at <http://stgregoryschurch.com/4721-2/>.
- Scan the QR code found in the Sunday bulletin.

And again, THANK YOU for your continued support!

**Parish Directory:** Our online parish directory is at <https://www.instantchurchdirectory.com/>. This is a secure site and can be accessed using the email address you had published in the parish directory. You can also download the "Instant Church Directory" on your smart phone. Versions are available for Android, iPhone, iPad, and Kindle.

**One Body & One Spirit Annual Appeal:** The Diocese has established an ongoing campaign focused on raising funds to assist congregations, schools, affiliated institutions, and their communities who are faced with unprecedented challenges. We are invited to prayerfully consider making a donation to help others in our Diocese who may have unmet needs. More information is available at <https://diocesela.org/annual-appeal/>.

**Forward Day By Day:** For those who use the Forward Day By Day booklet for personal devotions and need the newest edition mailed, please contact the Parish Office at 562-420-1311 or [info@stgregoryschurch.com](mailto:info@stgregoryschurch.com).

**In Case of Emergency . . . Notify Your Priest!** In the event of a hospital stay, illness, death in the family, or other pastoral emergency, please call Fr. Michael on his cell phone (909-373-6478). And PLEASE, no excuses about not wanting to bother me. That's why we are here – for YOU!

## ***PRAYER LIST***

Lydia Gibbs, Suzan Lavery, Martin Nemitz, Ferdinand Gonzalez, Patrick McDonough, Mike Lavery, Mother Beryl, Scott Morgan, Fran Luebben-Morgan, Harold Peacock, Rudy Revell, Jared Baker, Kimberly Bouzguenda, Shannon Romano, Ralph Tesla, Anne Cantrell, Matt Burger, Kathy Edwards, Darlene Feit-Pretzer, Keeley Gilmore, Betty Peacock, Maria White, Laura Mae Harper, Elizabeth Laursen, Eric Kela, Dodie Martin, Savannah Jimenez, Martha Wong, Joanne Paine, Jonah Culbert, Carlos Cruz, Alexis Cattivera and Family, Sean Wood, Marina Tesla, Jim Perreten, Nancy Luebben, Diane Duacsek, Michele Morrill, Kira Dirghalli, Edith Finney, Paige Hardin, Marty Wong, Dominic Ginder, Miriam Edwards, Charles H. Parks, Perry Nelson, Nellie Bell, Ernie and Vickie Morrison, Alison and Mick, Phyllis Comiskey, Marie Romer, Brett W., Roberto Villanueva, Adan Murillo, Val Kela, Michael Hipsman, Trisha Cookmeyer, Sally Blevins, Sue Davis, Jack Alt, Shizuka Yoba, Craig Wong, Rosalind Walters, Linda Elliott, Ron Dixon, Darryl Takaki

*Note: Unless we are aware of on-going concerns, names only stay on the Parish Prayer List for a month. If names need to be re-added, please notify the Parish Office.*



# ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

6201 E. WILLOW STREET, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90815  
562-420-1311 [WWW.STGREGORYSCHURCH.COM](http://WWW.STGREGORYSCHURCH.COM)

## **WELCOME TO ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH!**

St. Gregory's is a warm and caring community of families and singles, young and old, committed to sharing the good news that Jesus is the Lord of all life. We are an Episcopal Church, having members from all backgrounds and religious traditions. Many of us had no church involvement before coming here. We want to offer to you the same welcome and friendship that were extended to us when we came to St. Gregory's.

## **ST. GREGORY'S MISSION STATEMENT**

God has called us into Christian community and gifted us for ministry:

To worship and glorify God  
To transform faith into action  
To share the love of Jesus Christ

The Right Reverend John H. Taylor  
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles

The Reverend Michael K. Fincher, Rector  
[rector@stgregoryschurch.com](mailto:rector@stgregoryschurch.com)

David York, Music Director & Organist  
[york1635@aol.com](mailto:york1635@aol.com)

Parish Office Hours: 9:00am-12:00pm, Tuesday – Thursday