

ORDER OF SERVICE
January 10, 2021 - Baptism of the Lord

INTRODUCTION

“And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’”

Good morning everyone. This is Fr. Dean Mercer and I welcome you as the parish of St. Paul’s gathers on the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. Separated physically, we join in spirit, sharing in the joy of the resurrection of our Lord.

Reading the lessons is Linda Esty. The anthem is performed by David McCartney. And the litany is led by Jacqueline Abel.

So let us hear Holy Scripture, reflect and pray together, and open our hearts to the Living Word, Jesus Christ - our risen Saviour and Lord.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit, keep your children, born of water and the Spirit, faithful to their calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN.

LESSONS

First Reading

GENESIS 1:1-5

READER: A reading from Genesis

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The Psalm

PSALM 29

READER: From Psalm 29.

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

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 splendour.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

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.
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.

Second Reading

Mark 1.4-11

READER: A reading from the Gospel of Mark

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Litanist: In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, "Lord, grant us peace."

By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER & BLESSING

Leader: And now as our Saviour 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

CALL TO PRAYER - Baptism of the Lord - January 10, 2021

The full schedule of in-person and online services can be found on the online church calendar - www.stpl.ca/calendar.html - or here: www.stpl.ca/services.html

The Christmas recording, the Online Christmas Pageant, and E-cards from the Sunday School and Youth Group can be viewed here: www.stpl.ca/christmas-2020.html

The Annual Meeting of Vestry will be on Sunday, January 24 at 12.30 p.m. by Zoom. Everyone is invited to attend. All members are invited to attend and vote.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89627479359?pwd=UkJjd0tTM0sra2hZb25LcTZ4bERLdz09>
By Phone: 647 374 4685; 647 558 0588;
Meeting ID: 896 2747 9359
Passcode: 623364

Reports to Vestry are due, Sunday, January 10.

Sunday Services by Phone on Zoom - Sundays, 11.15 a.m.

The weekly Sunday recording can now be heard by phone on Zoom on Sundays at 11.15 a.m..
Zoom Invitation:
By Phone: 647 374 4685; 647 558 0588;
Meeting ID: 854 0290 8277; Passcode: 970844

Order for 2021 Church Calendars

Thank you for all those who ordered 2021 church calendars. They have arrived and are ready for pick-up during normal office hours.

Friday Night Bible Study - on Zoom - Fridays, 7.00 p.m.

The Bible study will resume on Friday, January 15, with a 8-week study of 1st and 2nd Thessalonians. Study guides are available online (www.parasource.com or www.christianbook.com) or may be ordered through Fr. Dean+.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/830877703>
Telephone: 647-374 4685, or 647-558 0588; Meeting ID: 830 877 703

Bible Study Guides - 1 & 2 Thessalonians - \$14 - only a few left at that discounted price. Contact Fr. Dean.

The Doors of St. Paul's Have Re-opened

In a series of careful steps, the doors are re-opening and services and programs are being resumed - starting with Sunday Services. Four services (8, 10, 1pm Chinese, 3:45 Tamil) are offered in the church. Ten (10) people are allowed in the church proper - main floor and balcony - at any one time. The hall, kitchen and rooms downstairs remain closed. Morning Prayer will continue to be offered on Zoom, Monday through Saturday. Sunday School by Zoom and the Sunday recording continue.

NOTE: Due to heightened safety restrictions, regular office hours are suspended. Messages by phone and email will continue to be monitored closely but an appointment needs to be made if something from the office itself is needed.

Smartphone Deal for Seniors, Families and Youth on Government Assistance.

Right now SPLC is recommending a \$25 smartphone deal from Telus for seniors on government assistance (including those with disabilities, families and youth). More information is available here: www.telus.com/en/about/seniors/application

S.P.Y. - St. Paul's Youth - off until new year

Gifts and Offerings - Your faithful support is as important now as it has ever been. Church Envelopes can be sent by mail. Members may wish to sign up for the Pre-Authorized Giving Program (contact the office). Or, gifts can be made online at our website through CanadaHelps here: www.stpl.ca/give.html. Members who use online banking may now also make E-transfers (contact the office).

The 2020 Envelopes Now Available. Church envelopes are now available and may be picked up on Sundays or by appointment at the office. In the meantime, offerings can be forwarded in any envelope on which is written your Name, Date and Church Envelope #.

We encourage every member to register their givings at St. Paul's as an act of membership and so that a record of your gifts can be included in the filing of your annual income tax form. For more information, contact the church office.

Contact - The clergy of St. Paul's are all in the vicinity and visiting in homes again, though according to diocesan safety guidelines and by appointment. If any one of us can be of service, don't hesitate to call or write. Website: www.stpl.ca; Church phone: 416-499-1545; Email: stpl@stpl.ca;

Fr. Dean Mercer: deanmercercer@hotmail.com; Rectory phone: 416-497-6352.