**Canon Davis Memorial Church**

*Anglican Church of Canada*

The Baptism of the Lord

8th January 2023

***We Come and worship God.***

***We go our way with souls nourished.***

Officiant: Ginny Schleihauf  -- Organist: Dorothy Miller

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**8th January 2023 — The Baptism of the Lord**

**Service of the Word**

**Gathering Hymn**​**# 103**​

***On Jordan’s Bank, the Baptist’s Cry***

Officiant:       The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the

              ​fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People:**​**And also with you.**

Officiant:  Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord’s Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord.

**People:**   **Amen.**

Officiant:  Dear friends in Christ, as we turn our hearts and minds to

        ​worship almighty God, let us confess our sins.

**People:  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 neighbours 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: Merciful God, grant to us, your faithful people, pardon and

peace, that we may be cleansed from allour sins and serve you with a quiet mindthrough Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**People:**  **Amen.**

Officiant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:**  **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us reconcile to God and one another a sign of Christ’s

        ​peace.

**The Collect of the Day**

**Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesusrevealed 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.**

**First Reading**​Isaiah 42: 1-9

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF 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.

Officiant:​The Word of the Lord.

**People:**​**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**​29: 1-10 *(Response in bold.)*

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**​Acts 10: 34-43

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF Acts**

Peter began to speak to the Gentiles: "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."

Officiant:   The Word of the Lord.

**People**:    **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant:   The Lord be with you.

**People:**    **And also with you.**

Officiant:  The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

         ​according to Matthew.

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

**The Gospel**​​Matthew 3: 13-17

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Then 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 fulfil 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."

Officiant:  The Gospel of the Christ

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

**Sermon**

Sermon   Matthew 3: 13-17​

In today’s passage, Jesus comes to John the Baptist and asks him to baptize Him. John is taken aback and says that Jesus should be baptizing him instead. John is very uncomfortable with this request from Jesus.

Poor John.  It didn’t look right.  What was going on here?  This was not the public appearance of Jesus that John had set everyone up to see.  As Matthew 3 ends, you can almost picture John the Baptist carrying on with the rest of that day’s baptisms with a blank, vacant look on his face.  He said all the familiar liturgical words and kept dunking people in the river, but his mind was not on his work.  Why would Jesus have let himself be so anonymous?  Why did he let himself look like any other mere mortal?  Where was the fire, and the razzle-dazzle John had been hopping up and down screaming about?  It’s like John had been predicting Sylvester Stallone, for so long, but mild-mannered, unassuming man shows up

We, like John, would maybe prefer a Jesus who looks less humble and more proudly powerful; less vulnerable and more victorious.  John the Baptist wanted Jesus to take over the preaching that day, to fill the air with words even more fiery than John’s own words had been.  But Jesus declined.  Instead he silently waited in the baptism line, silently shuffled into the baptismal waters, and then silently wandered off into thewilds of the wilderness.  Jesus held back.  He was silent.  He was humble.  He was vulnerable.

It is fully possible, based on Matthew’s account, that Jesus’ baptism was one of dozens, that long ago day at the Jordan River.  It’s quite possible that few if any noticed anything unusual about that particular baptism.  But isn’t that how we view all the baptisms we witness?  The parents bring the baby to the font, in any givencongregation, we’ve all seen such a sight manytimes before.  We don’t expect anything unusual to happen, and to our watching eyes and listening ears, nothing does happen either—nothing beyond what we expected.

Yet in the silence of the sacrament and even in its ordinary exercise, the triune fullness of God is present.

The heavens are opened again so that we can get at God and God can get at us.

The Spirit of peace and wholeness descends to make a little one holy.  And the Father’s voice issues the decree of adoption into the divine family.

At church we don’t typically see much razzle-dazzle and power as the world reckons things.  Stones don’t turn to bread nor do angels flutter above our heads.

But that hardly means nothing is going on!

Because as Christians, it’s our privilege to open people’s eyes and ears to see and to hear what is actually taking place.

Amen

**Sermon Hymn  #628**​

***O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High***

Officiant:   Let us confess our faith as we say.

**People**:    **I believe in God, the FatherAlmighty, 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.**

**Prayers of the People**​

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

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

For this community, our country, 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 needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
**For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.**

For Todd our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;
**For all who serve God in the Church.**

For our own needs and those of others.

Silence.

In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for…

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*.)

We will exalt you, O God our king;
**And praise your name for ever and ever.**

We pray for those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to you alone, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence.

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

Gracious God, you have heard the prayers of your faithful people; you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us. This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
**Amen**

**Offertory Hymn  #505**​

***Be Thou My Vision***

**Offertory Response**​***All Things Come of Thee***

**People:**  **Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the**

**splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.**

Officiant:  And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,

 we are bold to say,

**People**:   **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

        ​**hallowed by 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, butdeliver us from evil.**

      ​**For thine is the kingdom,**

      ​**the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

Officiant:   Glory to God

**People:**    **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than**

**we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever**

**ever and ever**

**Amen**

**Closing Hymn. #433**

**How Great Thou Art**

Officiant​May the God of hope fill us all withjoy and peace in believing

             ​through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sung Benediction​***Howard’s Blessing****(vs 1-2)*

*(in the back of the blue Hymn book)*

***The Flowers on the Altar today are given to***

***the Glory of God, a gift of the Chancel Guild.***

Please enter names in the**Intercessions Book**each week to be read in the service.

**News and Events**

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Please send all announcements for the bulletin to Karen by **11:00 a.m. Tuesday** of each week. Call: 519-344-9531 or E-mail:canondavis@gmail.com.

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If you would like a home visit with Communion or know of someone who would, please let Rev. Ray know as he and/or a Lay Visitor will be available in the coming weeks.

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Please join us for **Coffee Hour**after service for a time of fellowship in the parish hall.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Reminders**

**Jan 16**​Vestry Reports are due

**Jan 19**​Parish Council Meeting

**Jan 22**​Vestry reports issued

Jan 28.       Sew Day, everyone welcome  9:00 - 3:00

**Jan 29**​Vestry meeting after church service in the parish hall