

June 24, 2018

The Birth of Saint John the Baptist

8:00 a.m. – Said Eucharist

## Welcome

*Large Print service leaflets are available*



*<sup>68</sup> Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for he has looked favourably on his people and  
redeemed them.*

*<sup>69</sup> He has raised up a mighty saviour for us  
in the house of his servant David. . .*

Luke 1:68–69

### The Gathering of the Community

#### Greeting

*Celebrant* 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 with thy spirit.**

#### Hymn #103 “On Jordan’s Bank, the Baptist’s Cry”

Text by Charles Coffin; translation by John Chandler

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| 1 | On Jordan’s bank, the Baptist’s cry<br>announces that the Lord is nigh;<br>awake and hearken, for he brings<br>glad tidings of the King of kings. | 5 | All praise, eternal Son, to thee<br>whose advent doth thy people free,<br>whom with the Father we adore<br>and Holy Ghost for evermore. |
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#### Collect for Purity

*Celebrant* Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **Almighty God, you called John the Baptist to give witness to the coming of your Son and to prepare his way. Give your people the wisdom to see your purpose, and the openness to hear your will, that we too may witness to Christ’s coming and so prepare his way; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 40:1–11

<sup>1</sup> Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> A voice cries out:

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

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

<sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

<sup>9</sup> 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!"

<sup>10</sup> See, the Lord God comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.

<sup>11</sup> 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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 85:7–13

7 Show us your mercy, O Lord,  
and grant us your salvation.

8 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.

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him,  
that his glory may dwell in our land.

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

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

12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,  
and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him,  
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

**God of grace, you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son to be our Saviour. Help us to rejoice in our salvation by showing mercy and truth, and by walking in the way of righteousness and peace. We ask this in his name and for his sake. Amen.**

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Second Reading:

Acts 13:14b–26

*Reader* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>14b</sup> And on the sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. <sup>15</sup> 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.” <sup>16</sup> So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak:

“You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. <sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. <sup>19</sup> After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance <sup>20</sup> for about four hundred and fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> 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.’ <sup>23</sup> Of this man’s posterity God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised; <sup>24</sup> before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. <sup>25</sup> 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.’

<sup>26</sup> “My brothers, you descendants of Abraham’s family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent . . . ”

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

Holy Gospel:

Luke 1:57–80

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

<sup>57</sup> Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. <sup>58</sup> Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

<sup>59</sup> On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. <sup>60</sup> But his mother said, “No; he is to be called John.” <sup>61</sup> They said to her, “None of your relatives has this name.” <sup>62</sup> Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. <sup>63</sup> He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote,

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“His name is John.” And all of them were amazed. <sup>64</sup> Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. <sup>65</sup> Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. <sup>66</sup> All who heard them pondered them and said, “What then will this child become?” For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

<sup>67</sup> Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

<sup>68</sup> “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them.

<sup>69</sup> He has raised up a mighty saviour for us

in the house of his servant David,

<sup>70</sup> as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

<sup>71</sup> that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

<sup>72</sup> Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,

and has remembered his holy covenant,

<sup>73</sup> the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,

to grant us <sup>74</sup> that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,

might serve him without fear, <sup>75</sup> in holiness and righteousness

before him all our days.

<sup>76</sup> And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

<sup>77</sup> to give knowledge of salvation to his people

by the forgiveness of their sins.

<sup>78</sup> By the tender mercy of our God,

the dawn from on high will break upon us,

<sup>79</sup> to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,

to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

<sup>80</sup> The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of Christ.

*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Sermon

*A time for silent reflection is kept.*

### The Nicene Creed

*People* I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;  
 And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God, of God; Light, of Light; very God, of very God; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father; through whom all things were made: who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end.  
 And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### The Prayers of the People

#### Confession and Absolution

*Celebrant* Let us humbly confess our sins to almighty God.

*Silence is kept.*

*People* **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things and judge of all people: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word and deed, Against thy divine majesty. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### The Peace

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

### The Celebration of the Eucharist

#### The Prayer over the Gifts

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **God of our salvation, accept all we offer you this day, and free us to worship you without fear, in holiness and righteousness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### The Great Thanksgiving

##### Eucharistic Prayer A

Proper Preface Advent

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Celebrant* It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, creator and preserver of all things.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world; that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name; evermore praising thee and saying:

*People* **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant* Blessing and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee, almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and

sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all, of this; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy bread of eternal life and the cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded:

*People* **We praise thee, we bless thee, we thank thee, and we pray to thee, Lord our God.**

*Celebrant* And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant* And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say:

*People* **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.**

### The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*All are invited to share in Communion. If you would rather not receive the bread and wine, please feel free to come forward for a blessing.*

### Prayer after Communion

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **We thank you, Lord, for your word and your table which give us the knowledge of salvation. Your compassion has broken on us like the dawn; guide now our feet into the way of peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

### Doxology

*Celebrant* 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 and ever. Amen.**

### Announcements

### Dismissal

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

## Services

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Said Eucharist (BAS 1962)
	9:00 a.m.	Mandarin Fellowship
	10:30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist (BAS)

BAS 1962 (Book of Alternate Services) uses the 1962 rite which is the traditional language as in the BCP (Book of Common Prayer)

Mandarin Fellowship is offered in the Sanctuary. We hope our Mandarin Fellowship can be a "harbour for love," where we seek truth together, while experiencing and receiving the abundant grace of God.

衷心欢迎您来到圣乔治教会大家庭，我们的国语团契每周日上午9点举行主日聚会。

盼望国语团契可以成为一个爱的港湾，在这里我们一起寻求上帝的真理，一起经历上帝的同在，一起领受上帝的恩典。

BAS (Book of Alternate Services) uses contemporary, inclusive-language

Interim Priest-in-Charge	The Rev. Leonard Leader
Honorary Associate	The Rev. Canon Sister Constance Joanna Gefvert, SSJD
Assistant Curate	The Rev. Morning Wang
Organist & Director of Music	Michael Leach
Parish Administrator	Craig Gustafson
Custodian	Philip Ikhuoria