

June 24, 2018

The Birth of Saint John the Baptist

10:30 a.m. – Sung Eucharist

Welcome

*Hearing Assistive Devices and Large Print service leaflets are available
Please ask an usher for assistance*

Please ask an usher for a copy of the service music



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

*⁶⁹ 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

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

Greeting and Collect for Purity

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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 also with you.**

Celebrant Almighty God,

People **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Glory to God [Hymn #686]

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Celebrant Glory to God in the highest,

People **and peace to his people on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy upon us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. 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

¹ Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

² 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.

³ A voice cries out:

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

⁴ 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.

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

⁶ 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.

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

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

⁹ 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!"

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

¹¹ 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

Arrangement by Christopher L. Webber

Tune Hymn #7 Melcombe

1 Show us, O Lord, your steadfast love,
And let your saving grace be near;
To those who turn their hearts to him
The Lord speaks peace and I will hear.

2 To everyone who worships him
His saving help is very near;
His purpose is that in our land
His radiant glory may appear.

3 Mercy and truth at last have met,
Justice and peace are reconciled;
Truth has arisen from the earth,
Justice looked down from heaven and smiled.

4 The Lord will grant prosperity,
Our land will yield its full increase;
Justice shall go before the Lord,
The pathway for his feet is peace.

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.

Second Reading:

Acts 13:14b–26

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

^{14b} And on the sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. ¹⁵ 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." ¹⁶ So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak:

"You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ For about forty years he put up with them in the

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wilderness. ¹⁹ After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance ²⁰ for about four hundred and fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. ²¹ 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. ²² 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.' ²³ Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised; ²⁴ before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. ²⁵ 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.'

²⁶ "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.**

Gradual Hymn #715 "Alleluia"

Holy Gospel:

Luke 1:57–80

Subdeacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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

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

⁵⁹ On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. ⁶⁰ But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John." ⁶¹ They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name." ⁶² Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. ⁶³ He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And all of them were amazed. ⁶⁴ Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. ⁶⁵ Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. ⁶⁶ All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?" For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

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

⁶⁸ "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them.

⁶⁹ He has raised up a mighty saviour for us
in the house of his servant David,

⁷⁰ as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

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

⁷² Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant,

⁷³ the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
to grant us ⁷⁴ that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness
before him all our days.

⁷⁶ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.

⁷⁸ By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,

⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace."

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

Subdeacon The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon

A time for silent reflection is kept.

The Nicene Creed

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Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,

People **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of
the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten,
not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the**

Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Leader Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Confession and Absolution

page 191

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,

People **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.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

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Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn #564 "Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us"

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.**

Eucharistic Prayer #3

Proper Preface Advent

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise 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 we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

People **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Arranged by
Michael Leach

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

People **we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer [Arranged by Michael Leach]

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

People **Our Father in heav'n, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread #3

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Celebrant Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat, whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.

People **So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

Lamb of God [Arranged by Michael Leach]

People **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us, have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

The Communion

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Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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.

Communion Hymn "Jesu, Jesu"

John 13:3–5; Ghana folk song; translation by Tom Colvin

Tune Hymn #504 Chereponi

Refrain:

Jesu Jesu fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends,
Silently washes their feet,
Master who pours out himself for them.

Refrain

2 Neighbors are rich and poor,
Neighbors are black and white,
Neighbors are near and far away.

Refrain

3 These are the ones we should serve,
These are the ones we should love.
All are neighbors to us and you.

Refrain

4 Kneel at the feet of our friends,
Silently washing their feet,
This is the way we should live with you.

Refrain

Communion Hymn #401 "My Life Flows On in Endless Song"

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 [Arranged by Michael Leach]

People **Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more, infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever, for ever and ever. Amen, Amen.**

Blessing

Announcements

Recessional Hymn #108 “Hark, a Herald Voice Is Sounding”

Dismissal

Subdeacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please join us for refreshments following the service.

Services

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|--------|------------|---------------------------|
| 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

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| 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 |