

Valhalla Parish Sunday Worship—The Baptism of the Lord

Sunday January 9, 2022

Welcome

Prelude

The Gathering of the Community

Leader The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

All And also with you.

Leader Almighty God,
All **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.**

Hymn

Joyful Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee
God of glory, Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee
Opening to the sun above

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day

All thy works with joy surround thee
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays
Stars and angels sing around thee

Centre of unbroken praise

Field and forest, vale and mountain
flowery meadow, flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in thee.

Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life

Leader

Let us pray.

Silence and Stillness

Collect

Leader

God of glory, immerse us in your grace, mark us with your image, and raise us to live our baptismal promises, so that, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we may follow the example of Christ your beloved in whose name we pray.

All

Amen

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

Reader

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
3 For I am the Lord your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.
 I give Egypt as your ransom,
 Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
 4 Because you are precious in my sight,
 and honoured, and I love you,
 I give people in return for you,
 nations in exchange for your life.
 5 Do not fear, for I am with you;
 I will bring your offspring from the east,
 and from the west I will gather you;
 6 I will say to the north, 'Give them up',
 and to the south, 'Do not withhold;
 bring my sons from far away
 and my daughters from the end of the earth—
 7 everyone who is called by my name,
 whom I created for my glory,
 whom I formed and made.'

Reader

All

Silence and Stillness

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

Psalm 29

Afferte Domino

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
 ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due the divine name; *
 worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
 the God of glory thunders; *
 the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
 4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
 the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendour.
 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *
 the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon,
 6 and makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
 and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

7 The voice of the Lord *
 splits the flames of fire;
 8 the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; *
 the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
 9 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!"
 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
 the Lord sits enthroned as sovereign for evermore.
 11 The Lord shall give strength to this people; *
 the Lord shall give this people the blessing of peace.

All

Glory to God, source of all being, eternal word and Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

Silence and Stillness

Second Reading

Acts 8:14-17

Reader

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Reader

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Down to the River to Pray

As I went down in the river to pray
 Studying about that good ol' way
 And who shall wear the starry crown
 Good Lord, show me the way

O sisters, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O sisters, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord, show me the way

O brothers, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
Come on, brothers, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord, show me the way

O fathers, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O fathers, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord, show me the way

O mothers, let's go down
Come on down, don't you wanna go down?
Come on, mothers, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray

Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord, show me the way

O sinners, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O sinners, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord, show me the way

The Gospel

Reader

All

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Reader

All

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Reader

The Gospel of Christ.

All

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Sermon

Preacher

Andrew Stephens-Rennie

Silent Reflection

In this time you are invited to silently reflect on what Holy Spirit may be saying to us. After a period of silence, you will be invited to share a thought or wondering about where God may be calling us as a community.

It is not a time for conversation or debate, but an opportunity to discern together what God might be saying to us in this moment.

Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

Leader

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All

**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 human.**

**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.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

We offer to God our prayers of intercession and thanksgiving. After each bidding you are welcome to add your own petitions—silently or out loud (unmuting yourself first!).

Leader God who knits us all together in perfect unity, we pray for your church throughout the world; for the Anglican Communion; for Linda our Primate; for Mark, the National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop, for Lynne, our Archbishop, for all who serve the work of the church in the diocesan office; for all clergy, and for all who exercise their baptismal ministry in the world.

We pray for the congregations, worshiping communities, and ministries of the Diocese of Kootenay, and for the growth, sustenance and witness of our own Valhalla Parish.

Please add your own prayers at this time

Leader We pray for all those in authority: for hereditary chiefs, and chiefs in Council; and for our country, Canada. For Justin, our Prime Minister, for John, our Premier, and for city councils in the places where we live.

Please add your own prayers at this time

Leader We pray for our communities, and the world in which we live

Please add your own prayers at this time

Leader We offer our prayers of thanksgiving
Please add your own prayers at this time

Leader We pray for those in need
Please add your own prayers at this time

Leader We pray for those who have died and those who will meet death this night
Please add your own prayers at this time

Leader Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord
All And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Leader May they rest in peace.
All And rise in glory.

Leader O God, creator of all, at his baptism you proclaimed Jesus your beloved and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make us faithful to our calling to be your children, and empower us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.
All Amen.

Leader As our Saviour taught us, and in the language of our hearts, we now pray:
**All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
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.**

Doxology

Leader

All

Glory to God,
**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.**

Blessing

Leader

May God bless you and keep you
May God make his face to shine upon you
May God enfold his loving arms around you
And give you peace.

May the blessing of God all loving, Creator, Christ, and Spirit
Be with us, and remain with us
this day and for evermore.

All

Amen.

Hymn

How Can I Keep From Singing?

My life goes on in endless song
Above earth's lamentations,
I hear the real, though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of heaven and earth
How can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife
I hear its music ringing,
It sounds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of heaven and earth
How can I keep from singing?

While though the tempest loudly roars,
I hear the truth, it liveth.
And though the darkness 'round me close,
Songs in the night it giveth.

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of heaven and earth
How can I keep from singing?

When tyrants tremble in their fear
And hear their death knell ringing,
When friends rejoice both far and near
How can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of heaven and earth
How can I keep from singing?

Dismissal

Leader

Go out into the world, renewed in God's spirit, ambassadors of God's dream
for the world.

All

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

* * *

As a part of our response to God's self-giving love, members of Valhalla Parish give of our time, energy, and financial resources as a way of participating in God's mission in our communities.

Please give as you are able, either by dropping your offering envelopes at the church or by giving online www.valhallaparish.ca/give