



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Wilson, NC  
An Online Expression of an Ante-Communion Holy Eucharist  
First Sunday after the Epiphany  
Service of Confirmation for Reception  
January 10, 2021

The Reverend James G. Reed – Rector  
The Right Reverend Anne Hodges-Copple – Celebrant & Preacher  
Dexter Ruffin, Organist  
Jennifer Long, Lay Reader

**Opening Hymn**

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

**H 616**

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Bishop then continues*

There is one Body and one Spirit;  
*People* There is one hope in God's call to us;  
*Bishop* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;  
*People* One God and Father of all.

*Bishop* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Bishop* Let us pray.

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

**THE LESSONS** (read by Jennifer Long)

**A Reading from Genesis 1:1-5**

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 Word of the Lord.  
***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 29** (read by Jennifer Long)

- <sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, \*  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- <sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; \*  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- <sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; \*  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- <sup>4</sup> The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- <sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- <sup>6</sup> He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- <sup>7</sup> 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.
- <sup>8</sup> The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe \*  
and strips the forests bare.
- <sup>9</sup> And in the temple of the LORD \*  
all are crying, "Glory!"
- <sup>10</sup> The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- <sup>11</sup> The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

**THE EPISTLE** (read by Jennifer Long)

**A Reading from Acts 19:1-7**

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

The Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN**

*I want to walk as a child of the light*

**H 490**

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."

*Celebrant*            The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*                **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**THE SERMON**

**The Right Reverend Anne Hodges-Copple**

**Presentation and Examination of the Candidate**

**The Right Reverend Anne Hodges-Copple**

*The Bishop says*

The Candidate(s) will now be presented.

*Presenters*            I present *these persons* for Confirmation.  
*or*                        I present *these persons* to be received into this  
                                  Communion.  
*or*                        I present *these persons* who desire to reaffirm  
                                  their baptismal vows.

*The Bishop asks the candidates*

                                  Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?  
*Candidate*            I do.  
*Bishop*                 Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?  
*Candidate*            I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

*After all have been presented, the Bishop addresses the congregation, saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these persons* in their life in Christ?

*People*                We will.

*The Bishop then says these or similar words*

Let us join with *those* who are committing *themselves* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

**The Baptismal Covenant**

*Celebrant*            Do you believe in God the Father?  
*People*                I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
                                  creator of heaven and earth.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?  
*People* 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.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?  
*People* 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.

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and  
fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the  
prayers?  
*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever  
you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?  
*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good  
News of God in Christ?  
*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving  
your neighbor as yourself?  
*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all  
people, and respect the dignity of every human  
being?  
*People* I will, with God's help.

## The Prayers for the Candidate

Rev. James G. Reed

*The Celebrant then says to the congregation*

Let us now pray for *these persons* who *are* to receive the Sacrament of new birth [and for those (this person) who *have* renewed *their* commitment to Christ.]

*A Person appointed leads the following petitions*

*Leader* Deliver *them*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Open *their hearts* to your grace and truth.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Fill *them* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Keep *them* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Send *them* into the world in witness to your love.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Bring *them* to the fullness of your peace and glory.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*The Celebrant says*

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. *Amen.*

*Then the Bishop says*

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in *these your servants* the covenant you have made with *them* at *their* Baptism. Send *them* forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before *them*; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **FOR RECEPTION**

**The Right Reverend Anne Hodges-Copple**

*Dante Pittman*, we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. *Amen.*

*The Bishop concludes with this prayer*

Almighty and everlasting God, let your fatherly hand ever be over *this your servant*; let your Holy Spirit ever be with *him*; and so lead *him* in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that *he* may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*The Peace is then exchanged*

## **THE PEACE**

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - FORM III** (read by Jennifer Long)

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Sam and Anne, our Bishops; Jim, our priest; and for all bishops, priests, deacons, and those in religious orders.  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for Donald our President, Roy our Governor, and Carlton our Mayor and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world.  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on; those who have immediate needs -- Buster Dawson, Bonnie Campbell, Eva Morriss, Bill Wrenn, Dallas Clark, April Lamm, Jerry Hamill, Miles Johnson, Chris Perri, Don Doster, William Blake Tucker, Mike Pierce, Fannie Lee Dickerson, Anna Jane Ruffin, Michelle Williams, Ginger Williams, Tom Sheen, Josh & Rachel Watson, Alexander Rawlings, those affected by Covid-19, those affected by the lack of respect for the dignity of every person; and, those who have ongoing needs as listed in our website and those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed, eternal rest; especially Eddie Rodriguez.  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence.*

Let us pray together:

O gracious God, you know our unique needs as we continue this journey to recognize and select our new Rector.

Help us to listen anew to You and each other so that we may discern the direction you would have us go. Be with us as we create a new, shared vision and guide our steps with your heavenly compass, that we may accomplish our task inspired by imagination and not memory.

Finally, we ask Your blessing upon the St. Timothy's family, even as we continue to pray for the priest, known only to You, who is on the way to us.

All this we ask in Jesus's name, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

We pray for the mission and ministries of our sister Episcopal Churches of St Mark's and Guadalupana.

We pray for our military personnel serving throughout the world, particularly those in war zones. We pray for those affected by terrorism, both domestic and abroad, and for those who protect us from such acts of violence.

We pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week, especially Will Edgar, Brent Cook, Doug Hackney, Avery Williams, Grace Robbins, Creighton Agner, Charlotte Daniel, Renee Turner, Julia Fielding, Jane Lyon, Cliff Blanton, Bobby Bryson, and Jennifer Long.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**The Rev. James G. Reed**

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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

**THE BLESSING**

**The Right Rev. Anne Hodges-Copple**

**THE DISMISSAL**

**The Rev. James G. Reed**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY (Dexter)**