

# You are welcome here!

We are disciples of Jesus, growing in Faith, Hope, and Love

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#### **Worship Times** Sunday 10:15 am

Wednesday 7:00 pm

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**Pastor** Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



# Gathering

## **\*** INTRODUCTION

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

## **\*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

#### C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God, our rock and refuge,
- C we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

- P The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.
- C Amen.

## ★ GATHERING HYMN – Shine, Jesus, Shine (ELW #671)

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## **\* GREETING**

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

## ★ GLORY TO GOD – (ELW Setting Five, p.159)

1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on ly Son of God, tion's cre - a -3 To a - lone, O God. we cry. the Ho - ly One you we giv en! Let gels sing, let all re - ply; good an thor, 0 Lamb of God, death a - lone takes au your for a - lone God most high, one you; you are name will breaks forth from Al-might - y, Lord God heav en! a - way sin for ev er. Stretch out your arms to liv - ing God claim wor - ship you, Lord we you: we heav - en's king, we wor ship you, our thanks we sing, we ev - 'ry land, and, you reign God's right hand, as at re -Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it blest. ev - er in praise you for glo your гу. ceive our prayer; have mer cy. God the Fa - ther's glo ry. A men.

## **\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- A Let us pray. Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## Word

## **☞ FIRST LESSON – 2 Kings 2:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. <sup>3</sup>The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

<sup>4</sup>Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. <sup>5</sup>The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

<sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. <sup>7</sup>Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." <sup>10</sup>He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." <sup>11</sup>As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup>Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## ★ RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 50:1-6

<sup>1</sup>The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken;

calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

<sup>2</sup>Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,

## God shines forth in glory.

<sup>3</sup>Our God will come and will not keep silence;

with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

## <sup>4</sup>God calls the heavens and the earth from above

## to witness the judgment of the people.

<sup>5</sup>"Gather before me my loyal followers,

those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."

# <sup>6</sup>The heavens declare the rightness of God's cause, for it is God who is judge.

## **★** SECOND LESSON – 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

<sup>3</sup>Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

★ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – (ELW #513)



## ★ GOSPEL – Mark 9:2-9

- P The Holy Gospel, according to Mark, the ninth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. <sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

- P The gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

## **\* SERMON**

## ★ HYMN OF THE DAY-Christ, Be Our Light (ELW #715)

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## ★ APOSTLES' CREED (ELW p. 105)

- P With the whole Church, let us confess our faith:
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 INTERCESSION**

A As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

- A We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- A We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace,

#### C receive our prayer.

- A We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- A We pray for any who are sick and suffering, especially those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. *(pause)* Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.

- A We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- A Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died. Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.

#### Here other intercessions may be offered.

- P Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

## **₩ PEACE**

- P The peace of the Lord be with you all.
- C And also with you.

## **\* OFFERING**

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, here and around the world. After the offering is gathered, the gifts are brought forward to the altar. As this happens, please stand as you are able for the offering prayer and meal.

## **\* OFFERING PRAYER**

- A Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.
- C Amen.

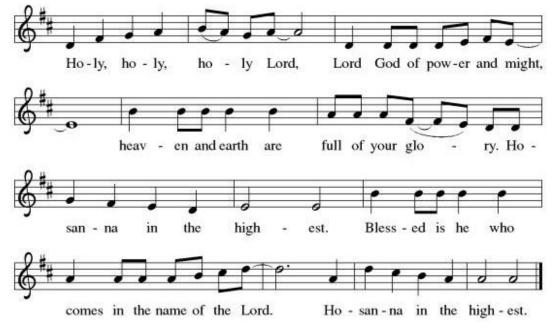
Meal

## **\* GREAT THANKSGIVING**

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## ★ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW Setting Six p. 173)



## **\* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

- P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life... Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P With this bread and cup...We look with hope for his coming.
- C Come, Lord Jesus.
- P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.... Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- C Come, Holy Spirit.
- P All praise and glory are yours... one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## ✤ LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
- C 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, forever and ever. Amen.

## **\*** INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

## **\* DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

#### ★ COMMUNION HYMN – Let Us Break Bread Together (ELW #471) African American Spiritual

## **✤ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- A Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## ▼ NUNC DIMITTIS – O Lord, Now Let Your Servant (ELW #313) vs. 1

Oh Lord, now let your servant depart in heavenly peace, For I have seen the glory of your redeeming grace; A light to lead the nations unto your holy hill, The glory of your people, the chosen Israel.

## **\* BLESSING**

- P God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, + bless you and remain with you always.
- C Amen.

## **\*** ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ★ SENDING HYMN – We Are Marching in the Light (ELW #866)

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## **\* DISMISSAL**

- P Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
- C Thanks be to God.

## **Grand Prairie Food and Clothing Co-op**

The list of needed items for our Lenten Season Food Drive include:

- Canned peas
- Canned vegetables
- Canned tuna

Please leave donations in the big tub in the narthex.

## **Grand Prairie Homeless Outreach**

Here is a link to Amazon to shop for different packages of Mylar Blankets <u>Amazon.com : mylar blankets</u>

The delivery address for GPHOO is their Chamber of Commerce address: GPHOO c/o Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce 900 Conover St. Grand Prairie, TX 75051

## **OTHER NEEDED ITEMS -**

The sleeping bag we are asking for is XL and cold weather rated to 0 F. PALLYGO 0 Degree Sleeping Bag Cotton Flannel Sleeping Bags for Adults Cold Weather Camping Winter Zero Degree Warm Weather Big and Tall. Found online at: <u>AmazonSleepingBag</u>

We have two tent options. Right now Academy has their Magellan tents in stock. We like them because they have a tarp bottom. Magellan Outdoors Tellico 3 Person Dome Tent. Found online at: <u>AcademyTent</u>

Or, we also like Mansader 2/4 Person Camping Tent for Outdoor Camping Family Beach Hiking Travel as they are easy setup and also have a tarp bottom. Found online at: <u>AmazonTent</u>

#### **\* SERVING TODAY**

Presiding Minister: Music Director: Altar: Assisting Minister: Lay Reader: Usher: Videographer: Communion Cup Holder: The Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal John Zacharias Nina Wallace-Martinez Kris Davies Nina Wallace-Martinez Nino Martinez Steve Curry Meleah Zapata

Children in attendance are welcome to break away during our services with our Sunday School teachers. Those teachers include Cheri Oertel (director), Julie Bothun, Katie Valencia and Phyllis Bell.

If anyone would be interested in volunteering once a month to teach Sunday School during the service, please contact the church office or talk to Cheri Oertel.

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