



# The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

January 10, 2021

9:00 a.m.

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two  
With Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

---



**The Baptism of Christ**

## Prelude

## Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant:* Blessed is Christ, the light of the world;

*People:* **And that light is manifested to our eyes.**

## Processional Hymn of Praise

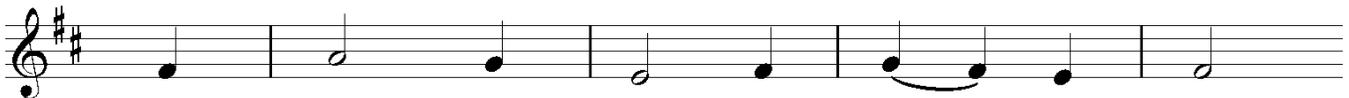
*The Hymnal 1982, Hymn 120*



1 The sin - less one to Jor - dan came,  
2 Up - ris - ing from the wat - ers there,  
3 A - bove him see the heaven - ly Dove,  
4 How blest that mis - sion then be - gun  
5 O Christ, may we bap - tized from sin,  
6 On you may all your peo - ple feed,



1 and in the riv - er shared our stain;  
2 the Fa - ther's voice did then de - clare  
3 the sign of God the Fa - ther's love,  
4 to heal and save a race un - done!  
5 go forth with you a world to win:  
6 and know you are the Bread in - deed,



1 God's right - eous - ness he thus ful - filled,  
2 that Christ, the Son of God, had come  
3 now by the Ho - ly Spi - rit shed  
4 Straight to the wil - der - ness he goes  
5 grant us the Ho - ly Spi - rit's power  
6 who gives e - ter - nal life to those



1 and chose the path his Fa - ther willed.  
2 to lead his scat - tered peo - ple home.  
3 up - on the Son's a - noint - ed head.  
4 to wres - tle with his peo - ple's foes.  
5 to shield us in temp - ta - tion's hour.  
6 that with you died, and with you rose.

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* God be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*All:* **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

*The congregation sits.*

### **First Lesson: Genesis 1:1-5**

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

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.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

*Remaining seated, all say together [in unison] the*

### **Gradual: 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 his 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 splendor.**
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**
- 6 He 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;  
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; \*  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe \*  
and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD \*  
all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

**Second Lesson: Acts 19:1-7**

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

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

*All stand for the reading of the*

**Gospel: Mark 1:4-11**

*Priest:* The Holy Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark

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

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."

*Priest:* The Gospel of Christ.

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

**The Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

*All stand. The Celebrant begins*

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now as we commemorate the Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

*Celebrant* Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

***People* I do.**

*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 Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**People:** Amen.

*All remain standing or sit for the*

### **Prayers of the People**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray to our God whose Spirit breathes life into being, that through baptism we may be empowered as God's beloved children to share in the healing and reconciling work of Christ, saying: God shall give strength to the people; God shall give us the blessing of peace.

God shall give strength to the people;

**People:** God shall give us the blessing of peace.

*Leader:* Fill your Church with the power of your Holy Spirit, O God, that we may bring the light of your blessing to the whole world.

We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop and Primate; for Daniel, our Bishop; for Tom, our Priest; for all the baptized in this parish, ministering here and in the world; and for all lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons. We give thanks for the parish mission and goals we have discerned and ask that they may guide our congregation as we more fully carry out God's call to service and build up our life together as Resurrection parish.

God shall give strength to the people;

**People:** God shall give us the blessing of peace.

*Leader:* Let your gentle spirit be upon this nation and upon all in authority, that we may share in your work to bring forth justice upon the earth.

We pray for Donald, our President, and Joseph, our President-elect, along with the newly-installed members of Congress and the judges of our courts; Tom, our Governor, along with the General Assembly and the Courts in our Commonwealth; the leaders of this Township of Aston, and the leaders of all the townships and boroughs in which we live.

God shall give strength to the people;  
**People: God shall give us the blessing of peace.**

**Leader:** Let your prophets speak powerful words of repentance and transformation to the ends of the earth, that the breath of your creative love and the sound of your blessing may go forth throughout the world.

God shall give strength to the people;  
**People: God shall give us the blessing of peace.**

**Leader:** Let your grace descend and dwell among the people of this community, that we may be united in love, abounding in compassion, and proactive in peace.

God shall give strength to the people;  
**People: God shall give us the blessing of peace.**

**Leader:** May your heavens open and your Spirit descend upon us, bringing your comfort and healing to all for whom we pray, especially for Joan Allen, Dawn Viscusi, Roxie Koerner, Eric Brunner, and Jacob Blake; for those over 22 million of our fellow Americans who are infected with the COVID-19 virus; for those unemployed, or whose businesses are in distress because of this pandemic; for those who face the terrifying choice of entering work environments that jeopardize their health; for those imperiled by harsh weather, both in our country and elsewhere; for those grieving or menaced by violent acts of hate in our country and around the world, especially those whose lack of resources and whose suffering under the inequalities of our society cries out to us for justice, redress, and support; for children and families separated or interned at our nation's borders; for those mentioned in our parish's prayer list, and for those we name before You now:

*Silence is kept.*

*The People may offer their own prayers and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.*

God shall give strength to the people;  
**People: God shall give us the blessing of peace.**

**Leader:** Hear our grateful thanks and praise for your manifestation of presence and grace in our lives and in the lives of others, giving thanks especially for Maria Schwitters, as she celebrates her birthday this week; for MaryBeth Clements, Stephanie Haley, and Charles Handschuh, as we commemorate their baptisms; for Barbara Krisack, Dick Dunlap, Rick Dunlap, Jr., and Bruce Warren, as we commemorate their confirmations; for the first responders and health care workers who strive to protect us from dangers to our health, including the COVID virus; for the essential workers who put their health at risk for us; for the hope of vaccines to ease the COVID pandemic; this parish's fellowship and its ministry; for the mission you have given us to accomplish, and to which we have dedicated ourselves; and for those blessings we remember before You now:

*Silence is kept.*

*The People may offer their own prayers and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.*

God shall give strength to the people;

**People: God shall give us the blessing of peace.**

**Leader:** Welcome with your divine pleasure all who have died, especially Carolyn Watson, Estherine Craig, Jean Latch, Ellie Evans, Richard Hess, Edward Kurt Rappold, Jr., Dorothy Laxton, Mollie Schockey, Cheri Jean Jones, Walter Wallace, Jr., Aaron Danielson, George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, Breonna Taylor, and Joe Ritchie-Bennett; those over 360,000 of our fellow Americans who have died in the Coronavirus pandemic, including John Davis, Linda Eppes, and Father Hank White; among these we give special thanks for those who gave their life for others by serving as health care workers, first responders, and essential workers; all those killed by unlawful violent acts, both by and against law enforcement officers, and those whom we remember before You now:

*Silence is kept.*

*The People may offer their own prayers and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.*

God shall give strength to the people;

**People: God shall give us the blessing of peace.**

**Celebrant:** Gracious and loving God, you have anointed your people with the waters of Baptism and have made us your beloved children: Let your Spirit spread mightily among us, that we may share in the work of your Son, bringing blessing and light to all the world in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**People: Amen.**



*[The Baptism of Christ by Leonardo da Vinci]*

*All kneel as they are able or sit for the*

## **Confession and Absolution**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*All kneel (as they are able) or sit.*

*Silence may be kept.*

**All**      **God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.**

*The Priest alone stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**People: Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*Celebrant:* The peace of Christ be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **Announcements**

## **Offertory**

*The Celebrant begins the Offertory with an appropriate sentence of Scripture.*

*After the gifts of bread and wine are offered at the Altar, all say the following*

## **Doxology**

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold  
**So, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.**  
As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare,  
**So my we our treasures bring, Christ! To thee, our heavenly king.**

*At the conclusion of the Doxology, the Celebrant begins the Eucharistic Prayer.*

### **Eucharistic Prayer B (Expansive language)**

*Celebrant* God 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.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Savior.

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:

*Celebrant and People*

### **Sanctus**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,**

**God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the Name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In Christ you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing the wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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, according to his command, O Father,

**All        We remember Christ's death,  
              We proclaim Christ's resurrection,  
              We await Christ's coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

**People:    AMEN!!**

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional Translation)** *The Book of Common Prayer*, page 364

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**All        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 Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. This anthem is said.*

**Leader** The light of light descends from the realms of endless day:

**People** **Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High.**

## **The Invitation**

*The Celebrant raises the elements and says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**“If a person desires to receive the Sacrament, but...is unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine, the Celebrant is to assure that person that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth.”**

**[*The Book of Common Prayer*, p. 457]**

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says* Let us pray.

**All:** **God of abundance,  
you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us  
with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one  
with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth  
in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever  
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

**Celebrant:** Ascribe to God glory and strength  
and worship God in the beauty of holiness.

**People:** **Amen.**

**Celebrant:** The same God who proclaimed Jesus as the beloved has also made you God's  
beloved child; you are part of the goodness of God's wonderful creation.

**People:** **Amen.**

**Celebrant:** You have received the Holy Spirit; keep the covenant you have made and  
boldly live in the light of that Spirit.

**People:** **Amen.**

**Celebrant:** And the blessing of our Creator God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with  
you and empower you, now and for ever.

**People:** **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn:**

*The Hymnal 1982, Hymn 139*



1 When Je - sus went to Jor - dan's stream his Fa - ther's will o -  
2 The Ho - ly Spi - rit then was shown, a dove on him de -  
3 He came by wa - ter and by blood to heal our lost con -



bey - ing, and was bap - tized by John, there came  
scend - ing; the Tri - une God is thus made known  
di - tion; he cleans - es, rec - on - ciles to God,



a voice from hea - ven say - ing, "This is my dear be -  
in Christ as love un - end - ing. He taught, he healed, he  
and gives the Great Com - mis - sion. Then let us not heed



lov - èd Son up - on whom rests my fa - vor."  
raised the dead, yet, in his great en - deav - or  
world - ly lies nor rest up - on our mer - it,



And till God's will is ful - ly done he will not bend or  
to save us, his own blood was shed; but death could hold him  
but trust in Christ who will bap - tize with wa - ter and the



wa - ver, for he is Christ the Sa - vior.  
nev - er. He rose, and lives for ev - er.  
Spi - rit that we may life in - he - rit.

**Dismissal**

**Celebrant:** Christ says, 'Go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations.'  
Go in the peace of Christ.

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

✘ ✘ ✘ ✘ ✘ ✘ ✘

## Forward Day-By-Day Issue to be distributed by mail

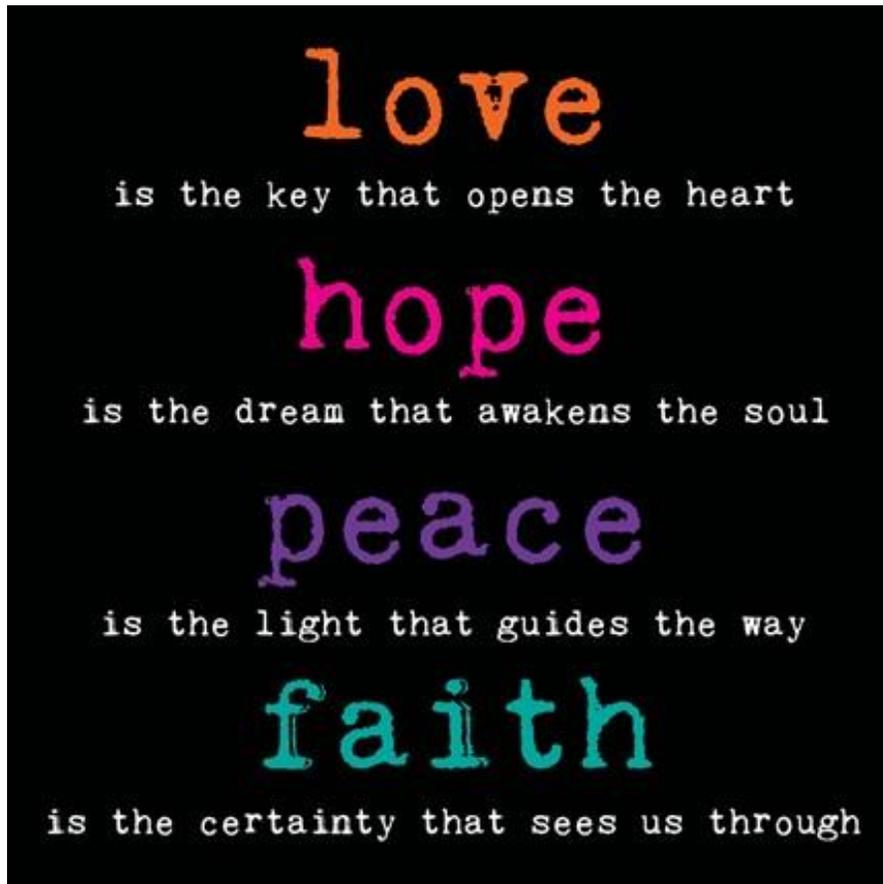
The new issue of *Forward Day-By-Day* has arrived at the Church Office. Because of pandemic precautions, we will be mailing the issue to parishioners who request one [by mail, email, or phone]. Let us know if you would like a copy, and also if you need one of our limited large-print copies.



Your contributions are the main funding source for our parish.

We thank you for your continued support!

WEEK #1	01/03/2021	ACTUAL	BUDGET 52 WEEKS
Pledge	\$150.00	\$11,458.00	\$2,346.15
Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$144.23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>	<b>\$11,458.00</b>	<b>\$2,490.38</b>



**Please remember in your prayers**  
**those for whom our prayers have been requested, especially:**



for Joan Allen, Sarah Laxton, Doug Soule, Roxie Koerner, Eric Brunner, Ed Hess, Sr., and Jacob Blake; those over 22 million in our country infected with the COVID-19 virus; those unemployed, or whose businesses are in distress because of this pandemic; those who face the terrifying choice of entering work environments that jeopardize their health; those imperiled by harsh weather, both in our country and elsewhere; those grieving or menaced by violent acts of hate in our country and around the world, especially those whose lack of resources and whose suffering under the inequalities of our society cries out to us for justice, redress, and support; children and families separated or interned at our nation's borders; Wendy A, Billie Jean Adams, Thomas Adams, Gene Adamuski, Bruce, Kylie Benditt, Hilda Bunting, Dolly Boyd, Fr. Arthur Brunner, Eric Brunner, Merry Buffington, Carol Cannon, Bruce Coffin, Jim and Barbara Dickson, Irene Doniger, Annis Dunlap, Stephanie Eckenrode, David Evans, Jennifer Finley, Charlie Gaeto, Paul Hagy, Maggie Hancock, Susan Harbison and Family, Dawn Hess, George Kolodi, Sophie McNerney; Debbie Mazingo, Wayne Mazingo, The Osborn Family, Marisa Osimo, Cathy Pannabaker, Mike Pelegrino, George Rigby, Ruby, John Ryan, The Schiller Family, Bill Scott, Keith Scott, Doug and Ruth Soule, Gale Spencer, Susan Stretch, Bernice Strohl, Glenda Tate, Marie Taylor, Dale Tibbetts, Paula Trudell, Dawn Viscusi, Bruce Warren, Kevin Widrig, Hazel and Henry Will, and Lora Lee Wright.

**Those blessings for which we offer thanks, especially:**

for Maria Schwitters, as she celebrates her birthday this week; for MaryBeth Clements, Stephanie Haley, and Charles Handschuh, as we commemorate their baptisms; for Barbara Krisack, Dick Dunlap, Rick Dunlap, Jr., and Bruce Warren, as we commemorate their confirmations; for the first responders and health care workers who strive to protect us from dangers to our health, including the COVID-19 virus; for the hope of vaccines to ease the COVID pandemic; for the essential workers who put their health at risk for us; this parish's fellowship and its ministry; for the mission you have given us to accomplish, and to which we have dedicated ourselves.

**Those who have died, especially:**

for Carolyn Watson, Estherine Craig, Jean Latch, Ellie Evans, Richard Hess, Edward Kurt Rappold, Jr., Dorothy Laxton, Cheri Jean Jones, Mollie Schockey, Walter Wallace, Jr., Aaron Danielson, George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, Breonna Taylor, and Joe Ritchie-Bennett; those over 265,000 of our fellow Americans who have died in the Coronavirus pandemic, including John Davis, Linda Eppes, and Father Hank White; among these we give special thanks for those who gave their life for others by serving as health care workers, first responders, and essential workers; all those killed by unlawful violent acts, both by and against law enforcement officers.



## Resurrection Pre-School

9am till 12noon

5-day classes for 4's

3-day classes (M/W/F) for 3's

Reasonable rates—Financial Aid Available

Children need to be toilet-trained

Please call the office 610-459-2013 for more  
information and pricing

Dawn Viscusi, Pre-School Administrator

**REMEMBER:**

***IT'S YOUR WORD OF MOUTH PROMOTION  
OF OUR PARISH'S PRESCHOOL THAT  
KEEPS THIS OUTREACH PROGRAM OF OUR  
PARISH ALIVE AND DOING ITS GOOD  
WORK!***



## **The Mission and Goals of Resurrection Church**

The mission of Resurrection Episcopal Church is to nourish the spiritual lives of our diverse parish family and to follow the example of Jesus through service to our community.

The Internal goal for Resurrection Episcopal Church is to grow stronger in faith, care for those who cannot be present, and unify as a family sharing in faith based activities.

The Resurrection Episcopal Church outreach goal is to become more visible and listen to the needs of the community by doing God's work through service to others.



# Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale

2131 Mount Road, Aston, PA 19014

(610) 459-2013

The Rev. Thomas C. Wand, Priest-in-Charge

## Racial Justice and Reconciliation in Our Country—How Do We Actively Help?

### A Statement by the Priest-in-Charge, Wardens, and Vestry of Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale

Our Church, our Diocese, indeed all of us are committed by our Baptism into the Christian faith to “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.” [BCP, p. 305] This means that we must actively oppose and seek to dismantle systems, structures, and beliefs which promote and sustain the privileges of one group or race over another.

Based in the resurrection, our work is not to blame, not to single out individuals or groups to pronounce guilty or sinful [most notably, because we know everyone has sinned, including us]. Jesus calls us not to judge and condemn *others*, but to bring the righteousness of the Reign of God into visible reality. This righteousness comes from right relationships among all people, among all structures of our society, and among us as human beings relating to God and all Creation.

This will be, in our society (and for our parish community), long and hard work. This did not start recently; its repair will not be done soon. We have many broken and distorted relationships in our society and its structures [The Bible calls this “sin.”]. We cannot stand by and refuse the work to transform that because of its difficulty or pain to us. The Cross will not allow that. The time to start is now.

Our parish will be examining the work to which we are called and the ways we can move forward. Your help in the discernment and in the work is essential. Please pray for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and support for you, for our parish, and for our country as we seek to:

**“Let the whole world know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by [the One] through whom all things were made, ..Jesus Christ.” [BCP, p. 280]**



(From top left:) Janet Russello, Jill Graham, Fr. Wand, Phyllis Russell, Barbara Krisack  
 (From bottom left:) Helen Dunlap, Jim Geiger, Rosemary Bezuidenhout, Marsha Litwin



## **Vestry of Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale**

Phyllis Russell, Rector's Warden	610-358-0258
Barbara Krisack, People's Warden	610-497-1603
Marsha Litwin, Secretary	610-299-0967
Rosemary Bezuidenhout, Treasurer	541-246-0780
Helen Dunlap	610-485-5623
Jim Geiger	610-506-1085
Jill Graham	610-459-5854
Kelly McNerney	484-326-0885
Janet Russello	610-800-2377
Jude Winters	484-487-3940
The Rev. Thomas C. Wand	610-291-4362

**Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale**  
 2131 Mount Road, Aston, Pennsylvania 19014  
 (610) 459-2013

Website: [www.resurrectionrockdale.org](http://www.resurrectionrockdale.org)  
 Father Wand's Email: [resurrectionpriest@verizon.net](mailto:resurrectionpriest@verizon.net)  
 Office Email: [resurrectionrockdaleoffice1@verizon.net](mailto:resurrectionrockdaleoffice1@verizon.net)