

A PRAYER BEFORE READING THE SCRIPTURES

Even as we seek understanding, our minds, too often, shelter us from the realities we might uncover. May we have the courage to hear and hold truths found within these words. Amen. *(Gretta Vosper Another Breath)*

BIBLE READINGS -

Mark 1:1-11 *(page 990)*

Acts 19:1-7 *(page 1099)*

MESSAGE: *“Baptised in the Spirit”* Krikor Youmshajekian

HYMN: 256 *“From Heaven You Came, Helpless Babe”*

NOTICES - Elders' and Council meeting Wednesday 3 Feb 9:30 am.

OFFERING - *In enthusiasm and hope, in humility and community, in trust and expectation, we make our offering to God.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Almighty God, who has given us many good gifts as our Heavenly Father, we now offer these pledges to You. We pray that you accept them, bless them and use them for the spread of Your Kingdom and glory. Guide us, that we might continually accept our responsibility to You, to Your church, and to others, in Christ's name. *Amen.*

HYMN: *“The Lily of the Valley”*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

The Peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

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Longueville - St. Andrew's Uniting Church



ORDER OF SERVICE

Baptism of Jesus

10 January 2021

CALL TO WORSHIP

God is faithful and compassionate. God provides peace in the midst of life's storms. It is God who guides us and creates new paths. Thanks be to God!

INVOCATION

In the beginning, You created and You continue to create out of chaos, O God. In the midst of chaos, it is difficult for us to hear Your voice. In our time of worship may we hear words of encouragement and understand how You offer new opportunities. You never abandon us. Our songs and worship are lifted to You in praise, and in thanksgiving. Through You we see all things anew! Amen.

God of new beginnings has called us to this place.

We come to celebrate the new life that God offers all people.

Be patient. Be attentive. The creator God is here.

In our singing and in our praying and in the silence, God is here.

HYMN: 156 "Morning Has Broken"

A COLLECT OF PEACE

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give to Your servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments, and also that by You, we, being defended from fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

HYMN: 741 "O Lord Hear My Prayer"

CONFESSION OF SIN

Even as we enter into the presence of God, we exclaim with Isaiah: "*Woe is me, I am a person of unclean ways, dwelling among a tainted people.*"

If we claim we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sin and cleanse us of all unrighteousness. Trusting in the steadfast love of God in Christ Jesus the Lord, let us pray:

Lord, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

Sovereign God, in baptism You called us to turn from sin and to turn to Jesus Christ; but we stray from His ways and do not heed Your call.

(Silence)

Lord, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

In baptism You joined us to Christ in His death that we might be raised with Christ in new life; but we cherish old ways and fail to embrace the risen life of righteousness, justice, and love.

(Silence)

Lord, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

In baptism You united us with all the baptised who confess Your name; but we foster division in the church.

We refuse to live as one people, and so fail to witness to Your reconciling love before the world.

(Silence)

Lord, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

In baptism You call us to ministry in all realms of life, but we refuse the struggle to know Your will; we do not nurture the ways of peace; we allow enmity to grow among us, setting neighbour against neighbour and nation against nation.

We abuse the earth You entrust to our care and live in discord with all You have made.

(Silence)

Lord, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

In baptism You sent us to serve with compassion all for whom Christ died; but we ignore the suffering of the oppressed and the plight of the poor.

We take bread from the hungry and stop our ears to cries for justice.

(Silence)

Lord, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

In baptism You gave us the Holy Spirit to teach and guide us but we rely on ourselves and refuse to trust Your direction. We spurn Your eternal wisdom, preferring, instead, the luring ways of the world.

(Silence)

Lord, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

HYMN: 10 "The Lord's My Shepherd"