

The Order for Morning Prayer and
the Ante-Communion
on the

Feast of the Nativity
of Saint John the Baptist

June 24th, 2020 at 11 a.m.

Where it is desired to have a very short and simple service (as when children are taking part), it shall suffice to say the Collect, the Epistle, and Gospel, for Easter Sunday, together with the Nicene Creed, and the Lord's Prayer.

In the absence of opportunities to administer the sacrament, please note the rubric in the Communion of the Sick, p. 323 in the 1928 Book of Common Prayer:

*¶ But if a man, either by reason of extremity of sickness, or for want of warning in due time to the Minister, **or by any other just impediment**, do not receive the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood, the Minister shall instruct him, that if he do truly repent him of his sins, and stedfastly believe that Jesus Christ hath suffered death upon the Cross for him, and shed his Blood for his redemption, earnestly remembering the benefits he hath thereby, and giving him hearty thanks therefor, he doth eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ profitably to his soul's health, although he do not receive the Sacrament with his mouth.*

PREPARING IN PENITENCE.

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. *St. Luke xv. 18, 19.*

A General Confession (*said by all*).

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father; We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Declaration of Absolution, or Remission of Sins

Said by the Priest alone, standing, the People still kneeling.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live, hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins. He pardoneth and absolveth all those who truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.

Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Opening Versicles & Responses (*alternating*)

O Lord, open thou our lips.

Answer. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
Answer. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.
Answer. The Lord's Name be praised.

PRAISE OF GOD'S GLORY.

The King and Lord of the Forerunner : O come let us adore him.

Psalm 95. *Venite, exultemus.*

O COME, let us sing unto the LORD;
* let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving;
* and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

3 For the LORD is a great God;
* and a great King above all gods.

4 In his hand are all the corners of the earth;
* and the strength of the hills is his also.

5 The sea is his, and he made it;
* and his hands prepared the dry land.

6 O come, let us worship and fall down,
* and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

7 For he is the Lord our God;
* and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

8 To-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts
* as in the provocation,
and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness;

9 When your fathers tempted me,
* proved me, and saw my works.

10 Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said,
* It is a people that do err in their hearts,
for they have not known my ways:

11 Unto whom I swear in my wrath,
* that they should not enter into my rest.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, * world without
end. Amen.

The King and Lord of the Forerunner : O come let us adore him.

Psalm 82. *Deus stetit.*

GOD standeth in the congregation of princes;
* he is a Judge among gods.

2 How long will ye give wrong judgment,
* and accept the persons of the ungodly?

3 Defend the poor and fatherless;
* see that such as are in need and necessity have right.

4 Deliver the outcast and poor;
* save them from the hand of the ungodly.

5 They know not, neither do they understand,
but walk on still in darkness:
* all the foundations of the earth are out of course.

6 I have said, Ye are gods,
* and ye are all the children of the Most Highest.

7 But ye shall die like men,
* and fall like one of the princes.

8 Arise, O God, and judge thou the earth;
* for thou shalt take all nations to thine inheritance.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

Psalm 30. *Exaltabo te, Domine.*

I WILL magnify thee, O LORD; for thou hast set me up,
* and not made my foes to triumph over me.

2 O LORD my God, I cried unto thee;
* and thou hast healed me.

3 Thou, LORD, hast brought my soul out of hell:
* thou hast kept my life, that I should not go down into the pit.

4 Sing praises unto the LORD, O ye saints of his;
* and give thanks unto him, for a remembrance of his holiness.

5 For his wrath endureth but the twinkling of an eye,
and in his pleasure is life;

* heaviness may endure for a night,
but joy cometh in the morning.

6 And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be removed:
* thou, LORD, of thy goodness, hast made my hill so strong.

7 Thou didst turn thy face from me,
* and I was troubled.

8 Then cried I unto thee, O LORD;
* and gat me to my LORD right humbly.

9 What profit is there in my blood,
* when I go down into the pit?

10 Shall the dust give thanks unto thee?
* or shall it declare thy truth?

11 Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me;
* LORD, be thou my helper.

12 Thou hast turned my heaviness into joy;
* thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness:

13 Therefore shall every good man sing of thy praise without ceasing. *
O my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

Psalm 98 *Cantate Domino.*

OSING unto the LORD a new song;
* for he hath done marvellous things.

2 With his own right hand, and with his holy arm,
* hath he gotten himself the victory.

3 The LORD declared his salvation;
* his righteousness hath he openly showed
in the sight of the heathen.

4 He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel;
* and all the ends of the world have seen
the salvation of our God.

5 Show yourselves joyful unto the LORD, all ye lands;
* sing, rejoice, and give thanks.

6 Praise the LORD upon the harp;
* sing to the harp with a psalm of thanksgiving.

7 With trumpets also and shawms,
* O show yourselves joyful before the LORD, the King.

8 Let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is;
* the round world, and they that dwell therein.

9 Let the floods clap their hands,
and let the hills be joyful together before the LORD;
* for he is come to judge the earth.

10 With righteousness shall he judge the world,
* and the peoples¹ with equity.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

The First Lesson: **Malachi 3:1-6**

John the Baptist's preaching of repentance foretold.

In those days: spake the Lord by the prophet: Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. ² But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: ³ And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. ⁴ Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years. ⁵ And I will come near to you to

judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts. ⁶ For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Canticle: *Te Deum laudamus.*

The praise of the Creator by the whole creation, and by the Church.

WE praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.

To thee all Angels cry aloud; the Heavens, and all the Powers therein;

To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry,

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of thy glory.

The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee.

The noble army of Martyrs praise thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee;

The Father of an infinite Majesty;

Thine adorable, true and only Son;

Also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.

THOU art the King of Glory, O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man, thou didst humble thyself to be born of a Virgin.

When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants, whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy Saints, in glory everlasting.

O LORD, save thy people, and bless thine heritage.

Govern them and lift them up for ever.

Day by day we magnify thee;

And we worship thy Name ever, world without end.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.

O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.

O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in thee.

O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

The Second lesson: St. Luke 1:5-25

The birth of John the Baptist announced by the angel Gabriel.

There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth. ⁶ And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. ⁷ And they had no child, because that Elisabeth was barren, and they both were now well stricken in years. ⁸ And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God in the order of his course, ⁹ According to the custom of the priest's office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. ¹⁰ And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense. ¹¹ And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. ¹³ But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. ¹⁴ And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. ¹⁵ For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶ And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. ¹⁸ And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years. ¹⁹ And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee

these glad tidings. ²⁰ And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season. ²¹ And the people waited for Zacharias, and marvelled that he tarried so long in the temple. ²² And when he came out, he could not speak unto them: and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple: for he beckoned unto them, and remained speechless. ²³ And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his ministration were accomplished, he departed to his own house. ²⁴ And after those days his wife Elisabeth conceived, and hid herself five months, saying, ²⁵ Thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days wherein he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men.

Benedictus. St. Luke i. 68.

Thanksgiving for our redemption in Christ, and self-dedication to his service.

BLESSED be the Lord God of Israel; *
for he hath visited and redeemed his people;

And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us, *
in the house of his servant David;

As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets, *
which have been since the world began;

That we should be saved from our enemies, *
and from the hand of all that hate us.

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, *
and to remember his holy covenant;

To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham, *
that he would give us;

That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies *
might serve him without fear;

In holiness and righteousness before him, *
all the days of our life.

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: *
for thou shalt go. before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

To give knowledge of salvation unto his people *
for the remission of their sins,

Through the tender mercy of our God; *
whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;

To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S GRACE.

Minister. The Lord be with you.

Answer. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

O God, who hast made this day honorable unto us by the nativity of the blessed John; grant unto thy people the grace of spiritual joy, and directs the minds of all the faithful into the way of everlasting salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

A Collect for Peace.

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Grace.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings, being ordered by thy governance, may be righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE ANTE-COMMUNION

Minister. The Lord be with you.

Answer. And with the spirit.

Minister. Let us pray.

OPENING PRAYERS

said by the priest alone

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. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PREPARING IN PENITENCE.

Priest. Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith.

THOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

¶ *Here shall be said,*

	The Lord be with you.
<i>Answer.</i>	And with thy spirit.
<i>Minister.</i>	Let us pray.

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY God, by whose providence thy servant John Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of thy Son our Saviour by preaching repentance; Make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and after his example constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Lesson for the Epistle: Isaiah 40:1 - 11

Clerk: The Lesson for the Epistle is written in the 40th chapter of the book of the Prophet Isaiah, beginning at the 1st verse:

COMFORT ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.
Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem,
and cry unto her,
that her warfare is accomplished,
that her iniquity is pardoned:
for she hath received of the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,
Prepare ye the way of the Lord,
 make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be exalted,
 and every mountain and hill shall be made low:
and the crooked shall be made straight
 and the rough places plain:
and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
 and all flesh shall see it together:
 for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

The voice said, Cry.
 And he said, What shall I cry?
All flesh is grass,
 and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field:
the grass withereth, the flower fadeth:
 because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it:
 surely the people is grass.
The grass withereth, the flower fadeth:
 but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

O Zion, that bringest good tidings,
 get thee up into the high mountain;
O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings,
 lift up thy voice with strength;
 lift it up, be not afraid;
say unto the cities of Judah,
 Behold your God!
Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand,
 and his arm shall rule for him:
behold, his reward is with him,
 and his work before him.
He shall feed his flock like a shepherd:
 he shall gather the lambs with his arm,
and carry them in his bosom,
 and shall gently lead those that are with young.

The Gospel: St. Luke 1:57 -68 (69-80)

Priest. The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Luke, in the 1st chapter,
beginning at the 57th verse.

Answer: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

AT that time: Elisabeth's full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son. And her neighbours and her cousins heard how the Lord had shewed great mercy upon her; and they rejoiced with her. And it came to pass, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they called him Zacharias, after the name of his father. And his mother answered and said, Not so; but he shall be called John. And they said unto her, There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name. And they made signs to his father how he would have him called. And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, His name is John. And they marvelled all. And his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed. and he spake, and praised God. And fear came on all that dwelt round about them: and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of Judæa. And all they that heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, What manner of child shall this be! And the hand of the Lord was with him. And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people * [, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; as he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: that we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; to perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; the oath which he sware to our father Abraham, that he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life. And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; to give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins, through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.]

Answer: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed *said by all*

IBELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And of all things visible and invisible:
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God; Begotten of

his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man: And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection ☩ of the dead: And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

The Address – Mr. David Svihel, Minister with Youth

THE OFFERTORY

God is not unrighteous, that he will forget your works, and labour that proceedeth of love; which love ye have showed for his Name's sake, who have ministered unto the saints, and yet do minister. *Heb. vi. 10.*

The Biddings

The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Minister. I bid your prayers for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed:

Rest ☩ eternal grant unto them, O Lord;

Answer. and let light perpetual shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. *Amen.*

The Prayer for Christ's Church.

¶ *Then shall the Priest say,*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also, so to direct and dispose the hearts of all Christian Rulers, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and other Ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy People give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless ✠ thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service, and to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Closing Prayers

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we yield unto thee most high praise and hearty thanks, for the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all thy saints, who have been the choice vessels of thy grace, and the lights of the world in their several generations; most humbly beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow the example of their stedfastness in thy faith, and obedience to thy holy commandments, that at the day of the general Resurrection, we, with all those who are of the mystical body of thy Son, may be set on his right hand, and hear that his most joyful voice: Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. Grant this, O Father, for the sake of the same, thy Son Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

And the Blessing, or if there be no priest to pronounce the blessing, then:

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all ever more. Amen.