

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.**

THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:4-11

The gospels are stories of Jesus' life

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord 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."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Kate Heichler

PRAYER SONG

The Lord is my light (Taize)



OUR PRAYERS

Let us pray together. During the silence after each petition, please add your own prayers. Please respond to: **"Jesus, Light of the World"** with: ***Be visible in us.***

Christ, our Light, we thank you for revealing God to us.

Thank you for blessing us in so many ways, especially for ... and for all other blessings we name now, aloud or in silence:

Jesus, Light of the World: *Be visible in us.*

Christ, our Light, sages from the east came to worship you as a light to all nations. Give us peace in this world, light where darkness reigns, provision for all who hunger, and security for all who live in terror. We pray for... and for all other places and people we name now:

Jesus, Light of the World: *Be visible in us.*

Christ, our Light, the Church was born in the waters of your baptism. Bless your church in every place; make us beacons of light and bringers of peace.

We pray especially for..., that all may serve the world in your name.

Jesus, Light of the World: *Be visible in us.*

Christ, our Light, you revealed your power in the first miracle at Cana. Thank you for the healing power you give us through your Spirit. Give us the faith and courage to offer healing in Your name.

We pray especially for those in need, whose names we see here, and for all others we name now, aloud or in silence:

Jesus, Light of the World: *Be visible in us.*

Christ, our Light, you shone on the Mount of Transfiguration, giving your friends a glimpse of you as their destination as well as their teacher and Lord. We pray for all who have died, that they may know life in your presence now and forever, especially for... and for all others we name now, aloud or in silence:

Jesus, Light of the World: *Be visible in us.*

THE CONFESSION

Deacon Let us make our confession together,

Most holy and most loving God, we admit to you and to each other,
that we are creatures who through foolishness or willfulness often choose darkness instead of light.

Here and now we surrender to you
our fears and proud opinions,
our short-sighted folly and misguided assumptions,
our deep-seated sins
our apathy towards change and renewal.

Forgive us the pain we have inflicted on others and upon ourselves.

In the light of your love, restore the hopes and ideals within our souls.

Trusting your grace, we earnestly pray:

“Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us,” through Christ Jesus our Savior.

Amen!

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Celebrant Beloved of God, your sins are forgiven through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Take up your forgiveness with thanksgiving, and live without shame or anxiety.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY HYMN Christ, when for us you were baptized, vv. 1, 4 (*Words on last page*) Hymnal 121

You can make your offering online at <https://christchurchlaplata.org/donate/>
Or text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts.

THE HOLY MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

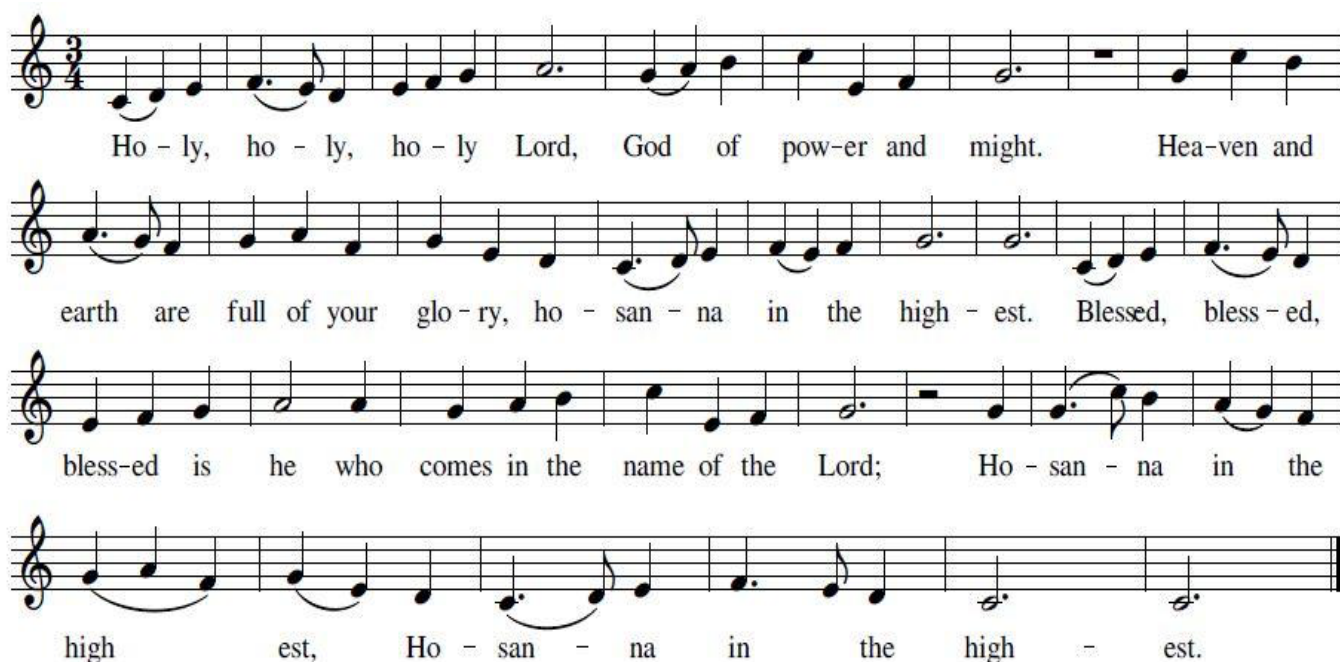
The people are invited to participate praying the words in bold type.

Celebrant The Lord 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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, 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 you Son Jesus Christ. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and all the company of heaven who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy (Sanctus)

Kate Heichler, 2000



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might. Hea-ven and
earth are full of your glo-ry, ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed, bless - ed,
bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; Ho - san - na in the
high est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord 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 to remember me.”

After supper he 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 for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me.”**

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours,
Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN!**

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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, how and forever. Amen.**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKS

Almighty God, thank you for revealing yourself through your Word, through prophets and sages, stars and beacons, signs and miracles. Thank you for revealing yourself in the Bread and Wine that we share at your Table and our tables. Above all, we praise you for revealing yourself in Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Open our eyes to welcome your light into every corner of our hearts, that we may bear your light into the darkness, in the power of your Spirit. Amen

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

Songs of thankfulness and praise, vv 1-2

Hymnal 135

PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

COMMUNITY NEWS

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ

People **Thanks be to God!**

THE PRAYERS

We Pray For: Those in need of healing – Melanie Coe, Alicia Cordelle, Steve Blamer, John MacCoy, Marion Denniston, Barry Kercher, Beverly Stone, Gary Murray, Susan White, Bonnie Rafer, Missi Fox, Garner Burroughs, Andie Corby, Betty and Peanut Bowling, Susie Marshall, Scott Forward's sister Jane and niece Michelle; and those in mourning, Barb Palko and family, Bill Cooke and family, Nancy Batten, Susie Marshall and family

Birthdays: Jane Badger (1/14)

Anniversaries:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEET THE PROPHETS! Kirk Vandezande will lead our 10 am Sunday morning (and 7 pm Wednesday evening) explorations into some of the prophets of Israel we meet in our readings this season: Who were they, where do you find them in the Bible, what did they say, why do they matter?

COLLECTING COATS AND BLANKETS: We now have a beautiful box to receive donations of blankets and coats, new and used. We are seeking a coordinator for this project, some signage, and will need some folks to assist with laundering the used items, and/or making donations to our Giving Fund to cover the cost of dry cleaning. We can also use help with distributing the goods. Please contact Deacon Joan if you'd like to be part of this ministry to keep people warm this winter.

CHRIST CHURCH TUTORING PROGRAM - Launching in January

The havoc which Covid restrictions have wreaked on our educational systems has left many children at risk of failing this year. Neal Bankenstein, who works with vulnerable children and families in the Charles County Public Schools, is helping us launch a tutoring program to give kids some extra help.

He and other administrators will refer children to us; we'll match them up with tutors who are comfortable with the needed subject matter, and we'll set up a time for tutoring to happen on Zoom. Karen Hile, a teacher and member at Christ Church La Plata, has offered to serve as a consultant for tutors who want some help. Sign up with the link in the weekly Parish e-news.

ONLINE GIVING - You can text a donation - text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts. You can give to Open Plate or toward your pledge. A 2.6% fee is charged for credit or debit cards - you'll have the option to include that in your gift or not. Standard text message rates do apply. You can also give online - go to www.christchurchlaplata.org and scroll down to the "Donate" link.

GIVING FUND – Please consider making a dedicated donation to the Giving Fund, from which Rev. Kate can offer help. Our policy is to help once, as we are able, and deal with repeat requests on a case-by-case basis. You can write a check or give online at the donate page on our website, www.christchurchlaplata.org, or text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts, designating Giving Fund. You now have the option to make pledge offerings or donations online, or by text.

HYMNS

Christ, Be Our Light

Refrain:

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, when for us you were baptized

Christ, when for us you were baptized
God's Spirit on you came,
As peaceful as a dove, and yet
As urgent as a flame.

Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord,
Your cross on us be signed,
That likewise in God's service we
May perfect freedom find.

Songs of thankfulness and praise

Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,
Manifested by the star
To the sages from afar;
Branch of royal David's stem
In thy birth at Bethlehem;
Anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana, wedding-guest,
In thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in power divine,
Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.