

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The First Sunday after the Epiphany—January 7, 2018

The Collect

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan didst proclaim him thy beloved Son and anoint 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 thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1–5

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.

Psalm 29

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,*
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. | 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. |
| 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his
Name;*
worship the Lord in the beauty of
holiness. | 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak
trees writhe*
and strips the forests bare. |
| 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the
waters; the God of glory thunders;*
the Lord is upon the mighty waters. | 9 And in the temple of the Lord*
all are crying, “Glory!” |
| 4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful
voice;*
the voice of the Lord is a voice of
splendor. | 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the
flood;*
the Lord sits enthroned as King for
evermore. |
| 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar
trees;*
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; | 11 The Lord shall give strength to his
people;*
the Lord shall give his people the
blessing of peace. |
| 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,*
and Mount Hermon like a young wild
ox. | |

For the Epistle Reading: Acts 19:1–7

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.

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:4–11

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.”

Sermon

Fr. Guy Mackey