

JANUARY 15, 2022 Baptism of the Lord

Commentator

Good morning!

On behalf of the Charis Community, I welcome you to our Sunday Mass. All are truly welcome, and we are excited that you are joining us whether it's your first time praying with us or if you've been with us for a while. The worship aid for Mass is on our website, and we will put the address in the chat for you should you like to pull it up to support your prayer.

We are a Eucharistic people, so we invite you to have bread and wine, in whatever form you have it, with you where you are. Even though we are in many locations, we affirm that we are one table of believers.

Today we hear Jesus call his first followers from their nets. In the Scriptures, calling is repeatedly described in terms of God's faithful and enduring presence. God is present and available to humanity and He continually invites us to return to God presence and be in God's divine presence.

In church settings, people often allude to a sense of calling that guides their lives. ("I feel called to music ministry" or "I don't feel called to work with the homeless.") But what does it really mean to be called? How can we identify our calling—How do we discern where God is inviting us to go based on our particular gifts, both as we grow as a faith community and in all the other settings in which we are found?

Let us begin our Sabbath prayer thinking about those questions, and raising our hearts in song.

FIRST READING

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

When one looks out over the land
one sees distress and darkness,
gloom and anxiety,
darkness and people forced from the land.
but there will be no more gloom for her who was in distress.
Anguish has taken wing; darkness is dispelled.

In earlier times, God degraded the land of Zebulun
and the land of Naphtali,
but in the end God has brought honor to the road of the sea,
the land west of the Jordan,
the District of the foreigners.

The people who walk in darkness
see a great light;
Light shines
upon those who live in a land of deep darkness.

You have brought them abundant joy
and great rejoicing,
as they rejoice before you as at the harvest,
as people celebrate when dividing spoils.

For the yoke that burdened them,
the club that strikes their shoulders,
and the rod the oppressor uses on them
you have shattered, as on the day of Midian.

Hear What The Spirit is Saying to God's People...Thanks be to God

Second Reading

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

I urge you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
to agree together, to end your divisions,
and to be united by the same mind and purpose.

For members of Chloe's household have made it clear to me
my brothers and sisters,
that there are quarrels among you.

And I say this because, each of you is saying,
"I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos,"
or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ."
Is Christ divided?

Paul wasn't crucified for you, was he?
Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius,
so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name!
(I also baptized the household of Stephanus.
Otherwise, I do not remember whether I baptized anyone
else.)

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the good news,
and not with clever speech,
so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its meaning.

Hear What The Spirit is Saying to God's People...Thanks be to God

GOSPEL

God is with you alwaysand also with you

A reading from the Glad Tidings according to Mark

After John had been taken into custody,
Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the Glad Tidings God brings;
The Glad Tidings from God, the Glad Tidings and Good News about
God.

“This is the time of fulfillment. The realm of God is near.
Transform yourself, have a change of heart, and trust in the Good
News.”

As he went along the Sea of Galilee,
he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea;
(for they were fishermen).

Jesus said to them,

“Come after me, and I will turn you into fishers of people.”
They abandoned their nets immediately and followed him.

He walked along a little farther
and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John.
They too were in a boat mending their nets.
Then he called them.
So they left their father Zebedee in the boat
along with the hired men and followed him.

The Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Commentator:

My family in Christ, commitment to follow the one who calls us asks us to show compassion and mercy to those in need.

Let us offer together our prayers for the church and the world.

Our response is, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That all those called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus do so mercifully, lovingly, and peacefully. We pray...

That the people who transmit brokenness and disorder may be shown mercy, and that those who suffer at the hands of these injustices may be unburdened. We pray...

For those who suffer in mind, body, spirit, especially the mentally ill, the imprisoned, the enslaved, and the unhoused. We pray...

For the prayers we hold in our heart and for the prayers placed in our prayer basket. We pray...

We invite you to unmute your mic and share your personal prayers with our community. We would very much like to pray with you

Commentator after people are no longer offering individual prayers :

Lead us, O God, into your paths of faithfulness. Help us drop our nets and turn outside ourselves, that we may follow in the way of our Savior Jesus. Empower us to live always within the power of your Holy Spirit.

We pray this prayer in Jesus' name, **Amen**

Worthy of praise and thanksgiving are you, Lord God, for you summoned all things into being, and from the beginning you beckoned your creation to fullness of life in you. Through covenant you claimed a people to share your life; in slavery you called them to freedom; in exile you summoned them to faithfulness, when they turned from you, you beckoned them toward your light.

From the first day until now you have called creation to share your goodness. In Christ you came seeking our salvation with your very life, bidding us to come and follow. And so we echo on earth the song of the angels in heaven who behold your glory unending: Holy, holy, holy, Lord...

Prayer after Communion

Jesus, God of invitations,
You call us from what we know to something new
From a life on this sea with this family
From the nets of generations before us

You call us to a new beginning
A new way of being and doing
You call us to follow
To move and become

Help us turn towards you
Help us follow
Help us believe and trust you fully
Immediately
Help us live into our chosenness
Help us to lay down what we know and pick up the new

Empower us to go out with you
Across, beyond, into the deep
Bringing in your wild, shining kingdom
Full, full nets
Full, full nets
Full, full nets