ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
HEALING AND PRAYER SERVICE WITH THE HOLY EUCHARIST
Wednesday, June 24, 2020
The Rev. Carl H. Beasley is the celebrant and the Rev. Leslie J. Hague is the preacher.

THIS WEEK IS THE COMMEMORATION OF THE NATIVITY OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Christians have long interpreted the life of John the Baptist as a preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ, and the circumstances of his birth, as recorded in the New Testament, are miraculous.

OPENING ACCLAMATION
Grace and peace to you from God.
   God fill you with truth and joy.
The Lord be with you.
   The Lord bless you.
This is the day which the Lord has made.
   We will rejoice and be glad in it.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Collect
Celebrant  The Lord be with you.
People     And also with you.
Celebrant  Let us pray
Almighty God, by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Savior by preaching repentance: Make us so to follow his teaching and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and, following his
example, constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Reading from Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the L ORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the L ORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the L ORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the L ORD has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of he L ORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!”

See, the Lord G OD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.
Psalm 85 or 85:7-13  (spoken in unison)  Benedixisti, Domine

1 [You have been gracious to your land, O LORD,*
   you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people*
   and blotted out all their sins.
3 You have withdrawn all your fury *
   and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.
4 Restore us then, O God our Savior; *
   let your anger depart from us.
5 Will you be displeased with us for ever? *
   will you prolong your anger from age to age?
6 Will you not give us life again, *
   that your people may rejoice in you?]
7 Show us your mercy, O LORD,*
   and grant us your salvation.
8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying,*
   for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
   and to those who turn their hearts to him.
9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him,*
   that his glory may dwell in our land.
10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
    righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
    and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,*
    and our land will yield its increase.
13 Righteousness shall go before him,*
    and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

A Reading from Acts 13:14b-26

On the sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. After
the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue
sent them a message, saying, “Brothers, if you have any word of
exhortation for the people, give it.”
So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak: “You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance for about four hundred fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. Then they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, ‘I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes.’ Of this man’s posterity God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised; before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his work, he said, ‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet.”  
“My brothers, you descendants of Abraham’s family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to Luke

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 1:57-80.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, “No; he is to be called John.” They said to her, “None of your relatives has this name.” Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue
freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, “What then will this child become?” For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty saviour for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.”

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HOMILY The Rev. Leslie J. Hague

A LITANY OF HEALING

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers:

The people audibly name those for whom they are interceding
and we include the names of those on our parish prayer list.
Loving God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: accept our prayers for those who seek healing and all whom we name in our hearts. Grant the power of your grace, that the weak may be strengthened, sickness turned to health, the dying made whole, and sorrow turned to joy;

Hear us O Lord of life.

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Befriend all who are lonely, anxious, despondent, or afraid with an awareness of your presence;

Hear us O Lord of Life.

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to clarity of mind and hopefulness of heart.

Hear us O Lord of life.

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Having prayed for others, let us now pray for ourselves, confessing our transgressions against God and our neighbors.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil which enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.
May the God of Love, visit us in our times of trial and weakness, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, raise us to newness of life, strengthen us in all goodness and through the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

Generous God, we give you thanks for your beloved Jesus Christ in whom you have shared the beauty and pain of human life. Look with compassion on all for whom we pray and strengthen us to be your instrument of healing in the world, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Peace

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you and bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being; sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so we join the saints and angels in proclaiming your glory as we say:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Remembering now the suffering and death and proclaiming the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus our Redeemer, we now offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of Christ.
On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his friends, and said: “Take eat; This is my Body which is given to you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Dying, you destroyed our death,
Rising, you restored our life,
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

We now celebrate, O God, the memorial of Christ our Savior. By means of this holy bread and cup, we show forth the sacrifice of Christ’s death, and proclaim the resurrection, until Christ comes in glory.

Gather us by this Holy Communion into one body in the Risen One, and make us a living sacrifice of praise. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

Blessed are you now and forever. 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 us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread
(Alleluia) Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast, (Alleluia.)

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Prayers following Communion
Let us pray.
Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in this Sacrament of Christ’s Body and Blood. Now send us forth; a people forgiven, healed, and renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

A Collect for the Human Family
O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Collect for All Saints and our Rector (spoken in unison)
Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for our rector and our parish family. Stir up your power within our parish, strengthen the faithful and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!