

Church of the Divine Love
THE HOLY NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

JANUARY 1, 2023 10:15 AM

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for the New Year – on insert

Processional Hymn #450, vs. 1-3&6 – All hail the power of Jesus' Name!

Opening Acclamation page 355

Collect for Purity page 355

Gloria page 356

Collect of the Day - lectionary sheet insert

First Lesson: **Numbers 6:22-27**

Psalm 8

Second Lesson: **Galatians 4:4-7**

Gradual Hymn#115 – **What child is this**

Gospel: **Luke 2:15-21**

Sermon – The Rev. Jean Lenord Quatorze

Nicene Creed page 358

Prayers of the People, FormVI page 392

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn #112 – **In the bleak midwinter**

Doxology (sung)

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer D page 372

Sanctus (S-130 in hymnal) page 373

The Lord's Prayer	page 364
The Breaking of the Bread, Anthem & Prayer	page 337
The Communion of the People	
Communion Hymn #93 – Angels, from the realms of glory	
Post Communion Prayer	page 365
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Dismissal Hymn #110 – The snow lay on the ground	
Dismissal	

Sermon Sunday January 1st, 2023

Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8, Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:15-21.

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

The first day of the New Year is a fresh start in the following of Jesus. We could be anxious, but we are people of a great Promise and so we begin with trust and courage. In Mary's Son we have the certain hope that the Word of God made flesh lives among us and takes on himself our fears and our heaviness.

For most of the world January 1st is New Year's Day—the beginning of a new year, a day of resolutions. For the church, however, January 1st is the Feast of the Holy Name. More often than not this feast goes unnoticed, uncelebrated, lost in the new year. And it is a loss. For the liturgical calendar has something to teach us about how we might begin the new year. The Feast of the Holy Name falls eight days after Christmas. Luke tells that, "After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb". Under the Law of Moses, all male infants were to be circumcised on the eighth day after birth (Lv. 12:3). It was also customary at this time for family and friends to witness the naming of the child.

The Feast of the Holy Name, traditionally celebrated as the Feast of the Circumcision, is a major feast of the church. It reflects the significance of the Holy Name, Jesus. The name Jesus is from the Hebrew Joshua, meaning "Yahweh is salvation" or "Yahweh will save." Biblical theology understands there to be great power in a name. It is more than just a label. The name somehow carries or expresses the essence of the person. Thus, the disciples perform miracles and exorcisms "in the name of Jesus." See for example the stories in Mark 9:38 and Acts 4:30. The Apostle Paul insists on the efficacy of the name for our sanctification (1 Cor. 6:11). Further, according to Paul we are obligated to venerate the Holy Name of Jesus "so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil.2:10-11).

Names are more than just labels. In some way names capture and express the essence of the person. They reveal qualities and characteristics. Try these out. See what they reveal. Hussein Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr. These names are about a life and a way of being. Within these names are particular actions, values, and beliefs of the person. Sometimes names reveal experiences and relationships. Think about these names: "Daddy," "Darling," Names can identify and reveal our personhood. That's why it sometimes hurts when we are anonymous and our name forgotten. That's why we also sometimes prefer and hide in anonymity. Names disclose who we are, how we are, where we come from, where we are going. That seems to be at least one of the purposes of all the genealogies in holy scripture. God uses names and name changes to establish relationship, identity, and belonging. Think about God inviting Adam to name the animals and then giving Adam dominion over creation. Adam named Eve for having come from his side. Moses was so named because he was drawn from the water. Abram and Sarai were renamed Abraham and Sarah for their new relationship to God. Jacob wrestled the angel and was named Israel. Saul's life was transformed and he became Paul.

Today, January 1, the world is concerned about a new year, resolutions, football. The Church, however, is focused on a name, Jesus. It is the name that reveals God's life and purpose, claims us as God's people, and changes our lives. Today is the fulfillment of Gabriel's annunciation to Mary. Everything the Archangel said would happen has now happened. The church gathered on March 25, nine months and eight days ago, to celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation. Gabriel came to Mary announcing that she would conceive in her womb, she would give birth to a son, and she would name him Jesus. And so, it was. She conceived. Nine months to the day later, December 25, we gathered with joy to greet the newborn child. Today, eight days after the birth, we gather to hear the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb, Jesus.

Jesus. Yeshua in Hebrew. It means the Lord saves, salvation. Within the name is Jesus' vocation, a relationship to humanity, and a desire of God. The name "Jesus" says that God cares about us; God knows what is happening to and with us; God is not indifferent; God is present, acting in the world and in our lives; and that God loves us. Jesus. the name is, contains, and reveals the fullness of God's life, love, and longing. So maybe we ought to consider our relationship to the name "Jesus." When do we say that name? Where? How often? Under what circumstances? In whose company? Is it only a name we read in the Bible? A name we speak only in church? How have we misused or even desecrated the name? Do we say it as our prayer? What do we believe about that name, Jesus?

"What's in a name?" Juliet asks Romeo. "That which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet." Is she really, correct? I think she has mistaken a name for a label. What if you said the word "rose" and you were filled with its fragrance? I don't mean you remembered what a rose smelled like but you actually smelled the rose. What if every time you said the name "rose" you were immersed in a garden of life, beauty, and color? What if every time you said the name "rose" you could actually feel the softness of its petals? I suspect you would not want to call it anything but a rose and you would never cease calling, "rose." That is how the Holy Name of Jesus works.

Jesus, let that holy name fill our every thought, echo through our every word, occupy our heart, guide and direct our every step. We take that name into every circumstance of our life, into every relationship we have, to everything we do, to all whom we meet. Let it begin, fill, and end our day. Jesus before us. Jesus behind us. Jesus beside us. Jesus above us. Jesus below us. Jesus around us. Jesus within us. The name "Jesus" is our unceasing prayer. All that needs to be said is said in that one name.

Every time we say “Jesus,” we claim God’s salvation. Every time we say “Jesus,” we acknowledge our need of God and salvation. Every time we say “Jesus,” we open ourselves to God’s mercy, forgiveness, and healing. Every time we say “Jesus,” we remember that God is with us. Every time we say “Jesus,” we renew our relationship with him. Every time we say “Jesus,” his response is always the same, “Here I am.” Beloved, this year we do not know what will take place. We cannot forecast the future. There will no doubt be good times and difficult times. There will be tears of Joy and tears of sadness. One thing we know for sure, God has marked us as His people and the mark is these great blessings He has promised. Let’s be strong and very courageous because the Lord our God will be with us wherever we go. And if we would just understand this, it would change everything. May Jesus’ Holy Name fill your mind, your heart, your mouth, your life, and your new year. Happy new year to all of you and be blessed in Jesus’ name! **Amen.**

THE HOLY NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

	10:15 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II	(also on zoom)
		COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWS	
MONDAY	8:00 PM	AA MEETING	
WEDNESDAY	7:00 PM	AL-ANON MEETING	
THURSDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP	
	8:00 PM	AA MEETING	
SATURDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP	
1 EPIPHANY	10:15 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II	(also on zoom)
		COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWS	
	11:15 AM	VESTRY MEETING	

SUPPORT THE FOOD PANTRY – DROP OFF IN THE KITCHEN

	Today	Next Week
Eucharistic Minister	Roe Prosser	Jess Berbeck
Coffee Hour	Janet Croft	Nolans

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Give to all who suffer the refreshing waters of your compassion and healing. Make them dwell in the safety of your care even in the midst of all that troubles them. Especially we remember before you:

Grace Schinella	Harriet Capers	Bob Curley
John Mulligan	Arlene Goodenough	Celeste
Chris Dickson	Kate Jones	Deb P.
Michael Echevarria	John Rocco	Gabriel
Barbara Stinson	Michael & Family	Warren
Charlotte H.	Bernie Walther	Anthony
Mo (Rachael)	Bill Conklin Sr.	Carolyn
Anthony Paribello	Barbara Curran	Del
Ciara	Robert Sweat	Aidan
Sally & Roger	Sophia	Carol K.
People of Haiti	Christopher & Family	Julia
Mary & Family	People of Ukraine	Tim
Nathan Treadwell	Richard & Family	Art

Margaret

Lourdes S.

Elodie

Help us speak words of encouragement and offer deeds of kindness to them.
Bring us with them, into the unending joy of your kingdom. Amen

Prayer for the New Year

God our Father, thank you for being the God who walks besides those who love
Him in the Valley of the Shadow of

Death. I rejoice in the continued presence of the Holy Spirit

with me, so that I am never alone. Lord, I lift up a sincere request for happiness
during this year of difficulty. Help me

find joy, that I may be strengthened spiritually, and happiness that I may continue
to engage with those around

me with Christian love. Sometimes it can be hard to see Your hand moving when
everything around me seems dark.

Help me find happiness so that I can see Your work, even if

I do not understand it fully right now. I know that You use all things for Your
glory, and for my good. I ask that You keep my focus on You during this New
Year. In the name of

Jesus Christ, I pray. Amen

Hymn to be sung during the consecration:

Father I adore you,

Lay my life before you,

How I love you.

Repeat twice with second verse starting with Jesus
and third verse starting with Spirit.

Prayer for Peace

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn
but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So
mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that
all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince
of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominions
and glory, now and for ever. Amen

