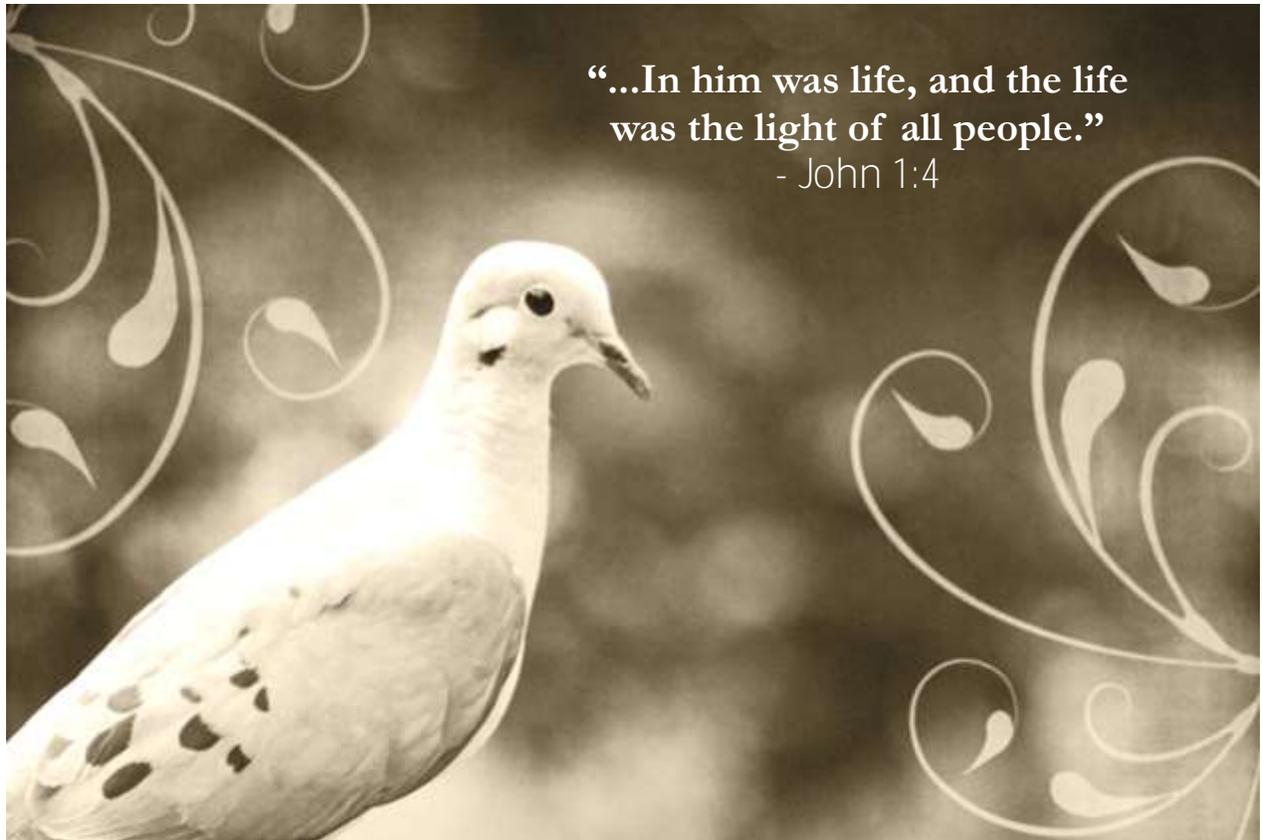


*The First Sunday after  
Christmas*

*December 27, 2015  
Eight o'clock in the Morning*



**“...In him was life, and the life  
was the light of all people.”  
- John 1:4**

*St. John's Cathedral  
The Episcopal Diocese of Florida  
Jacksonville, Florida*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST  
THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER 27, 2015 ~ 8 A.M.

*A joyous and warm welcome to our visitors and guests. Please know how happy our Cathedral community is to have you worship with us. We'd love to know our guests, so please fill out a visitor card and drop it in the offering plate as it comes by.*

In Procession, Hymn 87

“Hark! the herald angels sing”

Mendelssohn

THE WORD OF GOD

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
*People* And blessed be his Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

*Celebrant continues*  
There is one Body and one Spirit;  
*People* **There is one hope in God's call to us;**  
*Celebrant* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;  
*People* One God and Father of all.

The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant continues*

Shed upon your Church, O Lord, the brightness of your light, that we, being illumined by the teaching of your apostle and evangelist John, may so walk in the light of your truth, that at length we may attain to the fullness of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*The People are seated.*

The Epistle

1 John 1:1-9

*Lector* A Reading from the first letter of John.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

*A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.*

*The Psalm is read in unison.*

Psalm 92:1-4, 11-14

It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, \*  
and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High;

To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning \*  
and of your faithfulness in the night season;

On the psaltery, and on the lyre, \*  
and to the melody of the harp.

For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; \*  
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, \*  
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

Those who are planted in the house of the LORD \*  
shall flourish in the courts of our God;

They shall still bear fruit in old age; \*  
they shall be green and succulent;

That they may show how upright the LORD is, \*  
my Rock, in whom there is no fault.

*A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.*

*The People stand.*

The Gospel

John 1:1-18

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

*The People are seated.*

The Sermon

The Reverend Canon David Erickson

*A period of silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

## HOLY BAPTISM

*The People remain seated as the Candidate and Sponsors come forward.*

Presentation of Candidate

*The Celebrant says*

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*The Candidate is presented by the Parents and Godparents*

I present Graelyn Irene Phipps-Poe to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*When all have been presented the Celebrant asks the Sponsors*

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and Sponsors* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and Sponsors* **I will, with God's help.**

*The Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infant.*

*Question* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Answer* I do.

*After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this child in his life in Christ?

*People* We will.

*The Celebrant then says*

Let us stand and join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

## The Baptismal Covenant

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People* I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People* I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People* I will, with God's help.

## Prayers for the Candidate

*The Celebrant then says to the people*

Let us now pray for this child who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

*The Clergy, Candidate and Sponsors process to the Baptismal font.*

*Leader* Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Open her heart to your grace and truth.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Send her into the world in witness to your love.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*The Celebrant says*

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen.*

## Thanksgiving over the Water

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Celebrant* We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water*

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## The Baptism

*The candidate is presented by name for Baptism and Chrismation, and is presented with a Baptismal candle, a sign of the Light of Christ within them.*

I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

**You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen.***

*The Celebrant then says,*

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

*The Celebrant then says,*

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*Celebrant and People*

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

## The Peace

*The People stand.*

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

*People* And also with you.

*The Clergy and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## Welcome and Announcements

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

*Representatives of the congregation bring forward the People's offerings of money, and other gifts. The People stand when the offerings are brought forward and placed on the Altar.*

Hymn 380 vs. 3

“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”

*Old 100th*

*The People stand.*

*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 him thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant continues*

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 you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*The Celebrant and People 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.

*The People stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues*

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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

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 for the remembrance of 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 and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”**

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*The Celebrant and People say*

We remember His death.

We proclaim his resurrection.

We await his coming in glory.

*The Celebrant continues*

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 the 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.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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

*The Celebrant and People say together*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread

*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 Celebrant continues*

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.)

*All people are invited forward to share in our communion. If you are not yet baptized, please stand with your arms crossed over your chest for a blessing from one of the clergy.*

## The Sending of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

*Following communion, Eucharistic Visitors to our homebound members may be sent forth with the following prayer.*

*Celebrant* **In the name of St. John's Cathedral, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.**  
*People* We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.

## The Postcommunion Prayer

*The Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*The People kneel. The Celebrant and People say*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Blessing

*The Celebrant blesses the people.*

In Procession, Hymn 100

“Joy to the world! the Lord is come”

*Antioch*

## The Dismissal

*People* Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

† † †

*The flowers in Cummings Chapel and at the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the baptism of Graelyn Irene Phipps-Poe.*

