

**Holy Baptism: Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**

**Opening Salutation**

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People:** *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

**Collect of the Day**

Celebrant: 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.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People:** *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you turn us from the old life of sin: Grant that we, being reborn to new life in him, may live in righteousness and holiness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**The Gospel: Matthew 3:11-17**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew..

**People:** *Glory to you Lord Christ.*

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

Celebrant: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** *Praise to you Lord Christ.*

**Homily:** **Fr. Bob**

## **Presentation and Examination of the Candidates**

Baptism:      Bob Petty

Celebrant:      The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*The candidates who are able to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Sponsors, as follows*

Sponsor:      I present **Bob Petty** to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant:      Do you desire to be baptized?

**Candidate:    I do.**

*Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidate*

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.**

*After all have been presented and examined, the Celebrant addresses the congregation,*

Celebrant:      Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

**People:        We will.**

Celebrant:      Let us 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 the 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 Candidates**

Celebrant: Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth and for those who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

*A Person appointed leads the following petitions*

Leader: Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

***People:*** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

***People:*** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

***People:*** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

***People:*** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

***People:*** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Send them into the world in witness to your love.

***People:*** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: 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 forever. *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.*

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.

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**

*Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying*

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

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them 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.*

*Then the Bishop or Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross saying*

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

Celebrant: 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.***

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

**The Lord's Prayer** *(The people stand)*

***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, forever and ever. Amen.***

Celebrant: All praise and thanks to you, most merciful Father, for adopting us as your own children, for incorporating us into your holy Church, and for making us worthy to share in the inheritance of the saints in light; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

*Alms may be received and presented, and other prayers may be added, concluding with this prayer*

Celebrant: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named, grant you to be strengthened with might by his Holy Spirit, that, Christ dwelling in your hearts by faith, you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ***Amen.***

**Dismissal**

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**People:**     ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.***