



The Baptism of Effie Teresa Via-Card

10 AM, February 15, 2026

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

The Holy Baptism

Hymnal

Prayer Book

Processional Hymn #135 “Songs of thankfulness and praise“

Salzburg

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.

The Collect

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

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The people sit.

The First Reading: **Exodus 24:12-18**

The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of

the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 99 *read in unison:*

1 The Lord is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.

2 The Lord is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.

3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.

4 “O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.”

5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.

6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *

they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.

9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

The Epistle: **2 Peter 1:16-21**

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn #490 “I want to walk as a child of the light”

Houston

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel: **Matthew 17:1-9**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

The Rev. Rosa Lindahl

The Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The Celebrant says

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents

I present Effie Via-Card to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant

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

Parents and Godparents

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 Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Then 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.

Then, Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Effie her life in Christ?

People We will.

Celebrant Let us join with Effie who is committing herself 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 saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ever lasting.

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 (*Intercessor, Tade Anzalone*)

Celebrant

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

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.

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.*

The baptismal party proceeds to gather around the font, led by the crucifer

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

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.

At the following words, both Celebrants touch 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

Celebrant says

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

Celebrant

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 Effie, 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.*

Effie, 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.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The service continues in the Book of Common Prayer, beginning on page 361

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem “Christ, we do all adore you” Theodore Dubois, arr. Hal Hopson

Christ, we do all adore thee; we do praise you forever, Christ, we do all adore thee,
Lord, we do praise you forever. You on the holy cross have bought us, Savior and
Redeemer. Christ, we do all adore thee; Lord we do praise you forever.
Christ, we do all adore thee; Lord we do praise you forever, Christ, we do all adore
thee; Lord we do praise you forever. You on the holy cross have bought us, Savior and
Redeemer. Christ, we do all adore thee; Lord, we do praise you forever.
Christ, we do all adore thee!

Doxology #43 (v.4) “Praise God from whom all blessings flow” *The Eighth Tune*

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A		Bcp 361
Sanctus S-125	“Holy, holy, holy”	<i>Proulx</i>
The Lord’s Prayer		Bcp 364
The Breaking Of The Bread		
The Post Communion Prayer		Bcp 365
The Blessing		
Recessional Hymn #460	“Alleluia! sing to Jesus”	<i>Hyfrydol</i>
The Dismissal		

We welcome Catherine Collier, Canon to the Ordinary who will be concelebrant and meet with the vestry immediately after the service.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for Effie Teresa Via-Card

The Congregation is invited to join Effie and family in McMaster Hall for a reception immediately following the service

Important dates coming up:

Feb 16 - Office closed

Feb 17 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper with ASU chorus (and Children's Family Meal), 5:30 PM

Feb 18 - Ash Wednesday Service, 12:00 PM

Feb 22 - Kaleidoscope Concert of African-American Spirituals and Art Songs

w/ Kris Sanchack, Corey Galloway, 6 PM

Feb 3, 10, 17, 24 - Food Pantry, 9:30 AM

Feb 4, 11, 18, 25 - Morning Prayer, 9:30 AM

Feb 5, 12, 19, 26 - Compline, 7:00 PM

March 22/23 - Vestry Meeting*

March 29 - Palm Sunday/Bishop visitation

**Option to have regular schedule on Sunday or Monday via Zoom 7 AM*

March 7, 14, 21, 28 - Food Pantry, 9:30 AM

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Morning Prayer, 9:30 AM

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - Compline, 7:00 PM

*If you would like to give to Holy Comforter,
text 73256 with message HCGIVE*

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