



# Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Feast of the Baptism of our Lord

January 11, 2026 9:30 a.m.

917 Pond Road, Loudon, TN 37774  
865.986.2390

[www.episcopalloudon.com](http://www.episcopalloudon.com)



GLORIFYING GOD BY  
REFRESHING SOULS | BRIDGING COMMUNITIES | ENGAGING PEOPLE IN SERVICE

Good morning! We're so glad you chose to be here at Resurrection today. Whether you're here for the first time, or are a life-long member, Resurrection is a hopeful, healing, transformation-minded kind of place, a place where everyone is welcome and can grow their relationship with God and with one another.

If you are here for the *first time* (or if you just haven't gotten around to it yet), please fill out a pew card and put it in the offering plate to let us know you were here. To receive our weekly email bulletin, be sure to include your email address. And let us know if you would like to connect with our parish life and ministries; we're happy to help you find your spot!

Our services follow *The Book of Common Prayer*, the red book in your pew rack. If you'd like to use the book to follow the service, instead of this order of service booklet, we begin on page 355. Unless otherwise marked, our hymns are from the blue *Hymnal 1982*. A hymn noted "S-xxx" is part of the service music, found at the front of the hymnal, appearing before the regular congregational hymns begin. For example, S-280 (*The Gloria*) is found before hymn 1.

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To learn more about Resurrection, check out [www.episcopalloudon.com](http://www.episcopalloudon.com),  
email us at [office@episcopalloudon.com](mailto:office@episcopalloudon.com), or  
find us on Facebook or Instagram.

Fill out a visitor card or email [office@episcopalloudon.com](mailto:office@episcopalloudon.com) to subscribe to our weekly church email, the *Parish Tidings*, for all the latest information from Resurrection.

If you can't make it here in person, join us at 10:30, live on Facebook:  
[facebook.com/episcopalloudon](https://facebook.com/episcopalloudon).

# Holy Eucharist, Rite II

## The Word of God

**Prelude**     *Largo e spiccato from Concerto in D minor by A. Vivaldi, arr. by J.S. Bach*

**Entrance Hymn**

*I bind unto myself today (verses 1, 2, 6 & 7)*

*Please stand as able.*

**Hymnal 370**

**Opening Acclamation**

**BCP 355**

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

*People*        **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

**Collect for Purity**

*All*            Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Gloria**     *(Sung at 9:30.)*

**Hymnal S-280**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson: Isaiah 42: 1-9

*Lector* A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.  
He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
or make it heard in the street;  
a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:  
I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,

to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
I am the LORD, that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.  
See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

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

*Psalm 29*     *Afferte Domino*

**BCP 620**

*Lector*        We will read the Psalm responsively. (*Congregation reads the bold lines.*)

1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, \*  
**ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**  
2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; \*  
**worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**  
3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; \*  
**the LORD is upon the mighty waters.**  
4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; \*  
**the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**  
5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; \*  
**the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**  
6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
**and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**  
7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; \*  
**the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**  
8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe \*  
**and strips the forests bare.**

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9 And in the temple of the LORD \*  
**all are crying, “Glory!”**  
10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
**the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.**  
11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
**the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

*Lector and People*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### **The Second Lesson: Acts 10: 34-43**

*Lector* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.

That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem.

They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

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

### **Sequence Hymn**

*Please stand as able.*

*Christ, when for us you were baptized (verses 1 & 2)*

**Hymnal 121**

## **The Gospel: Matthew 3: 13-17**

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

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 the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

*Celebrant*    The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **Sequence Hymn**

*Christ, when for us you were baptized (verses 3 & 4)*

**Hymnal 121**

## **Sermon**

The Rev. Dr. Rebecca Bridges

## **The Nicene Creed**

**BCP 358**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;**

he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People

*Common Worship*

*Please assume a posture of prayer, whether standing, kneeling, or sitting as able.*

*Intercessor* Jesus calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. Washed clean by the waters of baptism, let us pray that we may live the life to which he has called us. Lord Jesus, eternal Word, proclaimed as the Christ by John the forerunner, hear us as we pray for all who proclaim your word. Lord of truth,

*People* **hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* Lord Jesus, baptizing with the Spirit and with fire, strengthen us to withstand all the trials of our faith. Lord of truth,

*People* **hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* Lord Jesus, bringing forgiveness to all who repent, teach your Church dependence on your grace. Lord of truth,

*People* **hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* Lord Jesus, fulfilment of the promises of old, give hope to all who suffer or are ignored, praying especially for Pat, Linda, Ruth & Frank, Lee R., the Bailey family, the Scott family, the McAfee family, Ginny, Diane & Cal, Jim, Tom, Marshall S., Brenda B., Jackie C., and David H., and all who are in pain or distress. Lord of truth,

*People* **hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* Lord Jesus, beloved Son of the Father, anoint us with the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Lord of truth,

*People* **hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* Lord Jesus, bringer of hope, share with all the faithful the riches of eternal life, praying especially for Kathleen and Jane. Lord of truth,  
*People* **hear our prayer.**

*Hold a moment of silence.*

*Celebrant* Lord Jesus Christ, in you the Father makes us and all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory.  
*All* **Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin**

**BCP 360**

*Continuing in a posture of prayer, we will hold a moment of silence for individual, silent confessions before the priest leads us into the words of corporate confession.*

*Celebrant* The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Savior Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant and People*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## **Absolution of Sin**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sin through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

## The Peace

*Please stand as able.*

*Celebrant* May the peace of Christ be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us show one another a sign of God's peace.

## The Holy Communion

*Celebrant* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,  
a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2a*

**Offertory Hymn** *"The Peace may be exchanged," Dan Locklair*

**Doxology** (*sung together*) **Hymnal 380, verse 3 only**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Celebrant* For all things come from you, O Lord;  
*People* **and of your own have we given you.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

### Eucharistic Prayer B

**BCP 367**

**Sursum Corda (Lift Up Your Hearts)** (*Spoken at 9:30.*)

*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 our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* 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 in the  
mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,  
to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.  
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:

**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.*

*Celebrant* 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.

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,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

*Celebrant* 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.

*Celebrant* 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 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.**      *(Spoken at 9:30.)*

**Hymnal S-146**

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

*All*            **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 and a period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant*    Alleluia, Christ, our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People*        **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**Fraction Hymn** *(Spoken at 9:30.)*

**Hymnal S-161**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: Have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: Have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: Grant us peace.**

*Celebrant*    The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**Communion Music**

*Deck Thyself, my Soul, with Gladness" by J.S. Bach*

*We encourage you to come forward to receive Holy Communion as you feel led.*

*Remain seated, until the usher directs you forward to the communion rail. After receiving communion, return to your seat by the side aisle, so that traffic flows one way. If you would prefer communion be brought to you at your seat, please let an usher know and, as always, we will be happy to do so.*

*If you prefer not to receive communion, you may come forward to the altar rail along with those receiving communion. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you prefer a blessing.*

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

*Common Worship*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*All*           **Eternal God,  
giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ  
has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Birthday and Anniversary Blessings**

## **The Blessing**

## **Recessional Hymn**

*O love, how deep, how broad, how high*

**Hymnal 449**

## **The Dismissal**

*Celebrant*           Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

## **Postlude**

*Trumpet Tune in C Major by Michael McCabe*

# Parish Announcements, Prayers & Thanksgivings

## Annual Parish Meeting is TODAY immediately following this worship service

Please come share brunch together  
as we hear a recap of our ministry together  
this past year as well as a preview  
of what we can look forward to in 2026.

The Finance Committee will present  
an overview of the 2026 budget.

We will elect new vestry members.

## Jane Scott Funeral Monday, January 12

Visitation in the Parish Hall at 10 a.m.  
Funeral Service in the Church at 11 a.m.

*If you are able to help provide food  
for the visitation reception,  
please contact Diane V.  
or the church office.*

## Men's Group Meeting

**Saturday, January 17, 9 a.m., Parish Hall**

We will be discussing Lesson 5: David.  
As always, a light breakfast  
and lively discussion will be had.  
Questions? Contact Mark Hennes.

### *Our parish prayer list*

Pat, Linda, Ruth & Frank, Lee R.,  
the Bailey family, the Scott family,  
the McAfee family, Ginny, Diane & Cal,  
Jim, Tom, Marshall S., Brenda B.,  
Jackie C., David H.

### *Continuing prayers for*

Jim; Daphne; Rosemary O.; the Hentchel family;  
Pat; Claire; Sandy; Rob & Sherry; Cheri; Jane;  
Shannon; Jim; Mel; Wayne; Diana N.; Jack;  
Ashley; Raynella; Ed & Jean; Kim E.; Joe;  
Beverly; Grace; Virginia; Betty Anne; Janey;  
Johnny; and Karen H.

### *Pray for our vestry leaders*

Class of 2025: Lisa A., Donna B., Diane V.K.  
Class of 2026: Alice A., Dianna S., Jenny L.  
Class of 2027: Bev B., Karen B., Mark H.  
Officers: Jenny L., Diane V.K., Sally L.

### **Upcoming Birthdays**

Wayne Tolbert January 3  
Paul Fiebke, Sr. January 6  
Steve Abercrombie January 15  
Diane Van Koughnett January 16  
John Doherty January 16  
Erlys Ploeger January 18  
Paul Fiebke, Jr. January 20  
Bush Hanna II January 20  
Michelle Butler January 24

### **Upcoming Anniversaries**

Tony & Oralee Adams January 6  
Andrew & Cath Wilkinson January 10  
Bryan & Danielle Ledyard January 28

# For Your Calendars

## THIS WEEK

<b>Jan. 11</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	
Acolyte	Mark Smith	Altar Guild Janey Coombes & Judy Egan
Euch. Minister	Holly Pate	
Lector	Mark Hennes	Flower Guild Dianna Stimpson
Ushers	Jerry Ploeger, Andy Hadjian, Garry Lucas	Accompanist Kate Lee
Coffee Hour	Annual Meeting & Brunch	Celebrant & Preacher Rebecca Bridges
Video	Bob Cantine	
Chancellor	Art Stewart	Offering Counters Andy Hadjian & Monty Ross

## NEXT WEEK

<b>Jan. 18</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	
Acolyte	Jack Lefler	Monty Ross	Altar Guild Donna Jackson
Euch. Minister	Mark Hennes	Jackie Buttinelli	Flower Guild Betty Martin
Lector	Jerry Ploeger	Mark Smith	Accompanist Jedediah Dahl
Ushers	Andrew Wilkinson	Drew Hawley & Keytha Graves	Celebrant Rebecca Bridges
Coffee Hour	Cal Van Koughnett	Ginny Tolbert	Preacher Mark Smith
Video	n/a	Mark Blakley	Offering Counters Alice Anderson & Nelda Griffith
Chancellor	Carl Bye	David Baumgardner	

## This week at Resurrection

### Sunday, January 11

- 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, one service  
11:00 a.m. Annual meeting and brunch,  
Parish Hall

### Monday, January 12

- 12:00 p.m. Companions group

### Tuesday, January 13

- 1:00 p.m. Education for Ministry group

### Saturday, January 17

- 9:00 a.m. Men's Group

### Sunday, January 18

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, spoken  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, choral

## Upcoming Parish Events

### Monday, January 12

- 10 a.m., Jane Scott visitation, Parish Hall  
11 a.m., Jane Scott funeral service, Nave

### Saturday, January 17

- 9 a.m., Men's Group (*discuss ch. 5, David*)

### Friday, January 30

- Vestry Retreat

### Saturday, January 31

- Vestry Retreat

To contact our priest, the Rev. Dr. Rebecca Bridges,  
email [rector@episcopalloudon.com](mailto:rector@episcopalloudon.com)  
or call the church at (865) 986-2390.

**Urgent pastoral needs after hours: (865) 242-9240.**

# Art Reflection

**Bartolomé Esteban Murillo, *The Baptism of Christ* (c.1655) in the Gemäldegalerie Museum, Berlin, Germany.**

The boy Jesus has now grown up. But in a sense what we're seeing in this scene is another epiphany, that's to say another moment of revelation. In this case it's the revelation that happens when Jesus comes to be baptized. This is fascinating because here we have John the Baptist being almost the dominant figure in **Bartolomé Esteban Murillo, *The Baptism of Christ* (c.1655) in the Gemäldegalerie** this canvas, which was painted by an artist called Bartolome Murillo from Seville in Spain. This is part of a sequence of four canvases on the life of John the Baptist he painted, so it makes sense that in this moment he's representing John as the dominant figure.

John is described in the Bible as establishing a ministry on the banks of the River Jordan outside Jerusalem and preaching about one who was going to come after him who would judge the people, and asking them to prepare themselves for this moment by a change of life by repenting by living more honestly and righteously. To symbolize that newness of life he called them to a form of ritual washing in the river an immersion actually which is what baptism means.

We're told that huge crowds came from Jerusalem and all over Judea both to hear him and to undergo this ritual. Jesus appears then amongst the crowds and asks John if he too can be baptized. John agrees somewhat reluctantly to do this because he recognizes that this is the man that he's been talking about and preparing people for. He nevertheless does it and at that moment something additional and very remarkable happens which is that the heavens open and a voice from heaven, from God the Father, is heard declaring that Jesus is his Beloved Son. What this artist has done is actually inscribe those words of God the Father on the top of the painting. Here you can see the the words are just truncated and that's because this painting has been cut down but rather wonderfully emphasizing the importance of that moment of acknowledgement of Jesus as his Son: "This is my Beloved Son with whom I am well pleased." It's the full sentence. You see here also this the dove reappears as a sign of the Holy Spirit.

The other way this artist has captured a particular relationship between these two figures is to show the figure of Jesus kneeling, and that seems like a gesture of humility. He's asking to be baptized by John. But as we know from the Bible stories, this is a crucial moment in which John says he who comes after me will be greater than me. So in this moment, Murillo has represented John the Baptist as the greater and the more dominant but if we know our Gospel stories we know that there's going to be a shift and that John the Baptist will recede in importance and Jesus will rise up and begin his own preaching and ministry.

Even these crossed arms seem to be a very humble kind of just a receiving gesture. But there is another text in this painting, along with the words of God the Father, and that's the text on the band roll which is attached to John's reed cross, one of the things he's frequently shown carrying with him, that shows words that he's recorded as speaking in the Gospel of John where he says of Jesus, "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world." So that word behold in Latin is itself a sort of pointing away word. So John is already beginning to direct our attention away from himself, even though he's so dominant here in this painting, and towards Jesus. Both earth and heaven have joined together in witnessing publicly to who this man is and this is such a fascinating moment because it's going to be a shift in power and Jesus' role is going to become far more public; he's going to be preaching and teaching and performing a whole series of miracles.

## Commentary source

Ben Quash and Jennifer Sliwka. 'Jesus Christ, the Baptism,' a short film in the series *Unlocking Christian Art*.

*Produced in partnership with the National Museums in Berlin, these short films tell the story of Jesus with the help of the treasures of the Bode-Museum and the Gemäldegalerie, both sculpture and painting. These films are designed to equip users to understand, read, and enjoy some of Europe's greatest works of Christian art, as well as the texts that inspired them, and to encourage fresh*

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