

# CONNECTING MEOTA January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

**This newsletter is meant to inspire, engage, and encourage everyone in the Meota Parish to seek God and reach out to one another throughout the week.**

**Our next church service will be**

**Sunday January 7th 10:30 am  
at St George's Diamond Valley, Christ Church Millarville**

January services 2024





# The Baptism of the Lord

Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## Readings

GENESIS 1:1-5; PSALM 29; ACTS 19:1-7; MARK 1:4-11

## First Reading

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. **Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.** God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

GENESIS 1:1-5





## Second Reading

### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." **Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.** When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied - altogether there were about twelve of them. ACTS 19:1-7

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# THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

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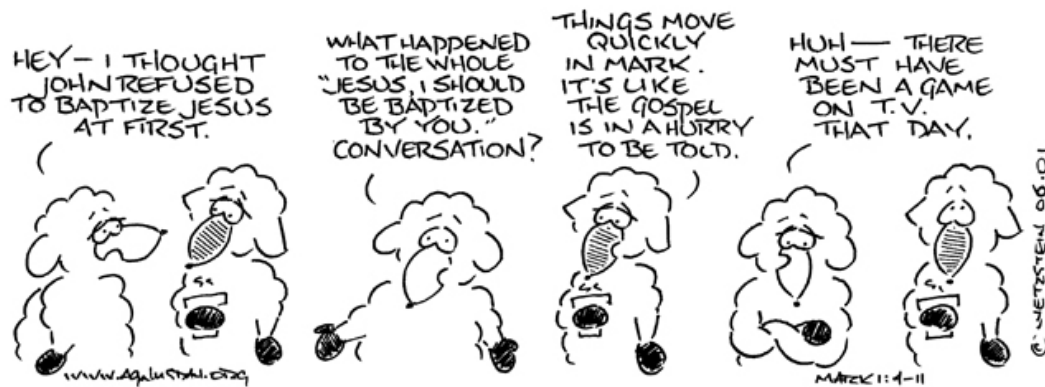


## Gospel

### THE HOLY GOSPEL OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MARK

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. **I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.**" In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

MARK 1:4-11



## The Trinity Displayed in the Baptism of the Lord

*It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." (Mark 1:9-11)*

Christ's baptism remarkably shows all three Persons of the Trinity at the same time: the Son being baptized, the Holy Spirit descending, and the Father speaking from the heavens. In this event, the Father and the Holy Spirit confirm the deity of Christ, and Jesus submits to his Father's will.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!





# Gentle Goals for a New Year

Learn something new.

Tell people you love them.

Set healthy boundaries.

Get outside when you can.

Be truthful.

Read good books.

Sing in the shower.

Allow your feelings to breathe.

Be delighted by small things.

Take responsibility.

Practice seeing goodness.

Speak kindly to yourself.

Spend time being lazy.

Remember your dreams.

Stay compassionate

and hopeful.





The music must not turn the church into an audience enjoying the music but into a congregation singing the Lord's praises in His presence.

JOHN CALVIN, @SWORDANDSOLAS

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE HYMN??

Email [meotaparish@gmail.com](mailto:meotaparish@gmail.com) the title of your favourite.

Let me know and I will research it for you.



# ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL. From Wikipedia

"**All Things Bright and Beautiful**" is an Anglican hymn, also sung in many other Christian denominations. The words are by Cecil Frances Alexander and were first published in her *Hymns for Little Children* of 1848. The hymn is commonly sung to the hymn tune All Things Bright And Beautiful, composed by William Henry Monk in 1887. Another popular tune is Royal Oak, adapted from a 17th-century English folk tune, "The 29th of May".

The hymn was first published in 1848 in Mrs Cecil Alexander's *Hymns for Little Children*.<sup>[1]</sup> It consists of a series of stanzas that elaborate upon the clause of the Apostles' Creed that describes God as "maker of heaven and earth", and has been described as asserting a creationist view of the natural world.<sup>[2][3]</sup>

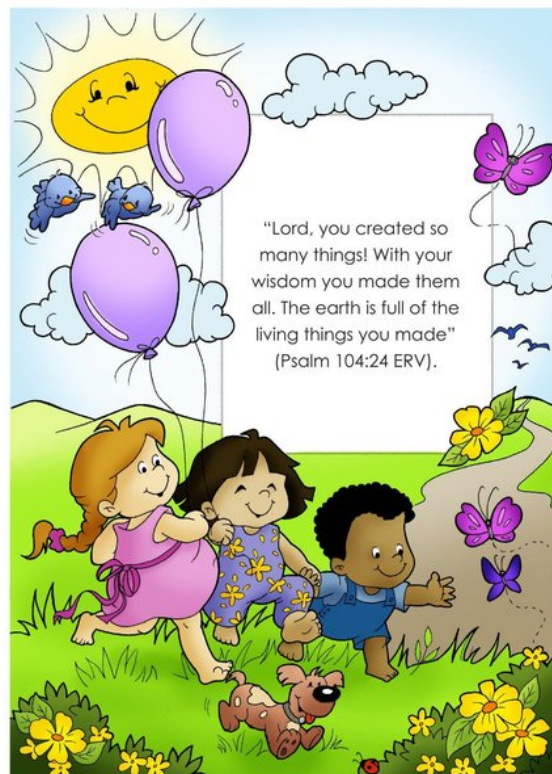
It has been suggested that a number of sources may have influenced Alexander's composition. The hymn may have been inspired by Psalm 104, verses 24 and 25: "Oh Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts".<sup>[4]</sup> The hymn may have been inspired as well by a verse from Samuel Taylor Coleridge's *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*: "He prayeth best, who loveth best; All things great and small; For the dear God who loveth us; He made and loveth all."<sup>[1]</sup> Alternatively, inspiration may have come from William Paley's *Natural Theology*, published in 1802, that argues for God as the designer of the natural world. For example, the hymn's second verse alludes to "wings" and verse 7 refers to "eyes". Paley cited wings and eyes as examples of complexity of design, analogous to that of a watch, with God as the Divine Watchmaker.<sup>[1]</sup>

## All Things Bright and Beautiful

All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful: The Lord God made them all.	The cold wind in the winter, The pleasant summer sun, The ripe fruits in the garden, He made them every one.
Each little flower that opens, Each little bird that sings, He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings.	The tall trees in the greenwood, The meadows where we play, The rushes by the water, To gather every day.
The purple-headed mountains, The river running by, The sunset and the morning That brightens up the sky.	He gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell How great is God Almighty, Who has made all things well.

—Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–1895)

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# MEOTA PARISH

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Prayer and Praise** January 25, 7 pm St. George's

Easter is early this year:

Pancake/Shrove Tuesday is Feb 13, 2024

Ash Wednesday is Feb 14, 2024

Good Friday is March 29, 2024

Easter Sunday is March 31, 2024

Lent activities are in the works- STAY TUNED



# Jesus is Baptized Word Search

F P Q U M C B O S E F L D T P  
S N E V A E H T C Y A O O F R  
X G U J L J S N E H T B V P E  
O S O I O U A N I I H M E D A  
B H E R C T O T B A E Y T H C  
N V D O N H M P I Q R S H C H  
E O L E W I L D E R N E S S I  
N E P O C I L B U P I U A T N  
K E T R I N I T Y H Y P W L G  
R A O B L W A T E R A V S T D

believe  
dove  
Father  
heavens  
honey  
John  
Jordon  
locusts  
open



preaching  
public  
repentance  
spirit  
symbol  
trinity  
wash  
water  
wilderness



# FUNNY BONES



Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

“

Lord, whether we're leaving behind a year of joy and blessing or trials and difficulties, we pause to give thanks. We thank you that you are always with us every single day of every single year. Please remind us of your presence in the year ahead, even when life is busy. We are so thankful that we serve a God who makes things new and gives us the grace of fresh starts and new beginnings. Be glorified in our lives this year. In Jesus' name, Amen.”

**HEATHER C. KING**

—woman's day—

ALLELUIA!!