

Listen

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.

Look

A conversation can be a tricky but rewarding thing. We can gain so much from talking with someone else, but it can also require much from us to participate fully.

1. What is a conversation you had recently that you really enjoyed and found value in?
2. What sort of things can you get out of a really great conversation?
3. What is required of you to have a truly fulfilling conversation?

Book

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

John's gift of prophecy makes him a beacon of hope to a people thirsting for some salvation. His presence is a reminder of Elijah which invokes the cultural memories of their scriptures and ancestors. Everyone wants him to be something he isn't though.

1. How would you characterize the messiah that John describes in his prophecy to the crowd?
2. What sort of characteristics do you associate with a dove?
3. How does this form of the dove foreshadow a different experience of Jesus than what people of that time were expecting?

Took

Being in a conversation with God can feel a little surreal at times. We talk, but we don't see or hear a physical manifestation of God's half of the conversation. The situation can easily feel very lonely and self-focused for us.

1. How can listening bring more fulfillment and strength in our conversations with God?
2. What are some ways you listen for what God is speaking to you?
3. What can you do this week to practice putting more listening into your prayer discipline?