



The Messenger

International Lutheran Church

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A NOTE FROM PASTOR CARL

THE REVELATION OF THE SON

And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased' (Mark 1:11 ESV). The transition from Christmas to Epiphany is marked by continuous revelation. What was announced as good news on the hillsides of Bethlehem - the birth of God as Man - is now reversed as this Man Jesus is declared to be the Son of God! Jesus' baptism in the Jordan not only marks the beginning of His public ministry, but it is also the good news that our baptism is into His beloved relationship with the Father.

Here at International Lutheran Church, we will be reading through the Gospel of Mark this Epiphany season. Mark starts his gospel by clearly defining the focus of his message: *"The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God"* (Mark 1:1 ESV). Jesus' identity as the Son of God is revealed again and again from the beginning to the end. In this way Mark helps us to confess with the centurion at the cross, "Truly this man was the Son of God" (Mark 15:39 ESV).

But the identity of Jesus as the Son of God is more than just a doctrinal statement. This is good news for us, because this Jesus was born, lived and died for us. His unity with the Father and the Spirit incorporates us into the family of God as we are connected to Him in our baptism. Baptism, even Jesus' baptism, was no ceremony. Our baptism connects to Jesus in such a way that His death becomes our death, His life becomes our life, just as in His baptism, everything of ours became His.

Why do we baptize today? It is because in baptism we are connected to Him who has overcome our sin and death. He has had victory over Satan and now stands alive forever. In baptism into Jesus we are promised and

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

ANYTIME Worship Service
(to be available online prerecorded)

7:00 p.m. Bible Study - (regularly scheduled at
9:00 a.m.; to be available
online livestream)

THIS WEEK

Wed., 1/13 Bible Study
(to be available online livestream)

receive the forgiveness of sins, eternal life and salvation, and the same Spirit that descended upon Him in the Jordan. We are declared in baptism beloved children of God, not on our account but on His.

Our identity in the world today as beloved children of God is vital not only for us, but for all. God has chosen to make His name and glory seen and experienced in and through our lives. By the way we live - our words, our deeds - declare the grace of God as we are renewed each day in our identity in Him. In and through your life and mine, this mystery and glory is shown to all the nations. Let the world hear His voice as we step forth in Him each day.

Pastor Carl

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?

Every week, various people are involved in the worship service as readers and singers. Please let us know at seoulilc.volunteer@gmail.com if you would like to assist in one of these ways.

ONLINE ONLY SERVICES

All activities remain online only, either prerecorded or virtual. Check for announcements on the ILC website (www.ilcseoul.org), Facebook, and through *The Messenger*, electronic version.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

Bible studies and Sunday School resume this week. See the electronic version of *The Messenger* for specific topics.

FLOWERS

If you would like to purchase flowers for beside the altar in order to honor or gift to someone, the cost is ₩35,000 for a potted arrangement. Please write to seoulilc.volunteer@gmail.com with any questions or requests.



1/10: from Martin and Sun
*Lord, bless Young-mi's
family with Your love*

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

ONLINE GIVING

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN FAITHFULLY MAKING USE OF ONLINE GIVING.

Though we are not meeting in person, church operations still continue and to that end we encourage you to make use of offering your tithes and gifts via online giving. Giving in this way will be recorded for your personal end-of-year giving statement.

If you are unable or do not wish to give electronically, you may hold your offerings until we resume our normal worship schedule.

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READINGS

January 10: Baptism of Our Lord

OT	Genesis 1:1-5
NT	Romans 6:1-11
Gospel	Mark 1:4-11

January 17: Second Sunday after the Epiphany

OT	1 Samuel 3:1-10
NT	1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Gospel	John 1:43-51