

The Baptism of Our Lord
January 10, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.
Service of Holy Communion



ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer before worship:

Everlasting God, fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all through Him who is the true Light and the bright Morning Star, Jesus Christ our Lord, whose Epiphany we celebrate. Amen.

Prelude “To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord” (setting by Mark Knickelbein)
 “When Jesus Came to Jordan” (English folk tune, adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams)

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to be born for you and to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Opening Dialogue

L In holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life.**

L By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ.

C **As we live with Christ and with his people, we grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God.**

L For all who are baptized into Christ and anointed by his Spirit:

C **Let our mission and ministry be a light to the nations!**

L May almighty God keep us all in the covenant of our Baptism to life eternal!

C **Amen. Let it be so.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

C **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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are

baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody *(read responsively)*

Psalm 29

L Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**C Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.**

L The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over many waters.

**C The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

L The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**C He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

L The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

**C The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

L The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

**C The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**

L May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Please join in reading aloud the highlighted portion of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.

^[1] What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ^[2] By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ^[3] Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ^[4] **We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.** ^[5] For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ^[6] We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ^[7] For one who has died has been set free from sin. ^[8] Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ^[9] We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ^[10] For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ^[11] So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:4-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows

P Holy Baptism is the means by which our heavenly Father creates new sons and daughters. In the waters of Baptism we are joined to the death and resurrection of our Lord. Born again by water and the Spirit, we are made members of the Body of Christ. Living in fellowship with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God. I call upon you, therefore, to renew the solemn vows and promises of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced the devil and all his works and ways, and were made members of Christ's Church.

P Do you reaffirm your renunciation of all the forces of evil, the devil and all his empty promises?

C **I do.**

P Do you believe in God the Father?

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in God the Son?

C **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 into hell. 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.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

P Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

C **I will with God's help.**

P Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

C **I will with God's help.**

P Will you seek to serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

C **I will with God's help.**

P Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

G I will with God's help.

P Brothers and sisters, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

G We live and serve in the light and love of Christ.

P May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in his grace to life eternal, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

G Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Celebrating God made manifest to all nations, let us pray for all creation, the whole church, and all who are in need.

Today, as we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus, we pray especially for all those baptized during 2020:

Ivy Eloise Trosch, Frances Louise Olsen, Hannah Mays Romeo, Coralynn Marie Vest, Colton Ryan Flaherty, Eliseo Stefano Coello Palmisano, Wesley Howard Butler, Aubrey Nicole Rasdorf.

*Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer.
During the Epiphany season each petition ends with the phrase:*

*"Lord, in your mercy." Please respond by saying "**Hear our prayer.**"*

The prayers end with the words:

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting that your mercy is offered freely to all people; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

G Amen.

*Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord,
saying,*

*"Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the
bond*

of peace." (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3)

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

L Let us pray:

Loving God, you sent your only Son to live among us, bringing us your grace and truth. As we prepare to receive the gift of Christ's presence once again, all we have to offer is what you have given us. Receive all that we have and all that we are to your glory and for your service, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

Preface for Baptism of Our Lord

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, ever more praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C Holy, holy, holy, Lord,

Lord God of pow'r 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

G Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

C **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 forever and ever.
Amen.**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

C **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**
**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**
**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

Distribution

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to

distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

Distribution Music

"To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord" (setting by Charles Callahan)
"There's a Voice in the Wilderness" (setting by Roberta Rowland-Raybold)
"To the Jordan's Flowing Waters" (Scott and Kathy Donlan Tunseth)
"Down Galilee's Slow Roadways" (Hal H. Hopson)

Dismissal

Post-Communion Collect

L Let us pray:

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

[Psalm 103:1]

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

C Amen.

Postlude

"O Sing of Christ" (setting by Ellen Coman)

Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Meehan
Lay Assistant	Tish Nordvall
Pianist	Susan Gobien
Ushers	Fred Esposito Jim Lofgren
Altar Care	Cathy Long
Arrival and Check-In	Sarah Finger
AV Team	Mark Gilbertson
Sanctuary Cleaning Team	Barbara Pate

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Please visit our website at www.sjlc.com for devotional readings for use in the week ahead or to learn more about our life together as a congregation.

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