

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 12 & 13, 2019

5:00 pm & 8:15 am



AS WE GATHER

Have you ever thought about how powerful fear and worry are in our lives? Fear takes hold. It ties us in knots and refuses to let us go. On our own, we're powerless to undo these "fear knots." Only Jesus has the power to release us from their captivity. "Fear not," He says to His redeemed people! "You are Mine," He refreshingly reminds us. Our worship on this Baptism of Our Lord Sunday brings us with Jesus to the baptismal waters, enabling us to hear the living voice of our God as He washes us clean and makes us His own. Fear may take its hold for a moment, but Jesus' hold is eternal. "Fear knots" may have their day. "Fear not" are saving words forever.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS - *We Prepare our hearts and minds for worship*



WELCOME

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN "Have No Fear, Little Flock" *LSB 735*

**Have no fear, little flock; Have no fear, little flock,
For the Father has chosen To give you the Kingdom;
Have no fear, little flock!**

**Have good cheer, little flock; Have good cheer, little flock,
For the Father will keep you In His love forever;
Have good cheer, little flock!**

**Praise the Lord high above; Praise the Lord high above,
For He stoops down to heal you, Uplift and restore you;
Praise the Lord high above!**

**Thankful hearts raise to God; Thankful hearts raise to God,
For He stays close beside you, In all things works with you;
Thankful hearts raise to God!**

(Please Stand)

INVOCATION

Pastor: At our Lord's Epiphany, we celebrate God in man made manifest.

Men: *Manifest to the Magi.*

Women: *Manifest to the Jews.*

Men: *Manifest to the Gentiles.*

Women: *Manifest to all nations.*

All: **Manifest to us! Manifest through us!**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 45:7, 17*

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:8-9*

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
People: **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.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son 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. *John 20:19-23*
People: Amen.

[OR]

Seminary Student: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. *John 1:12, Philippians 1:6*
People: Amen.

☩ WORD ☩

HYMN OF PRAISE “As With Gladness Men of Old” *LSB 397, v. 4 & 5*

**Holy Jesus, ev’ry day Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.
In the heav’nly country bright Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River Your voice proclaimed Him to be Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit.

People: **Lead all who are baptized in His name to be faithful in the hearing of Your Word and in the living out of their callings as Your children;**

Pastor: through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)



OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 43:1–7* (The Lord calls His own by name.)

⁴³ But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. ⁵ Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. ⁶ I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



EPISTLE *Romans 6:1–11* (We are baptized into Christ.)

⁶ 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

GOSPEL VERSE “O God of God, O Light of Light”

LSB 810, v. 1

**O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and King of kings:
To You in heaven’s glory bright The song of praise forever rings.
To Him who sits upon the throne, The Lamb once slain but raised again,
Be all the glory He has won, all thanks and praise! Amen, amen.**



HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 3:15–22* (Jesus is baptized in the Jordan River.)
The congregation is invited to read the words in bold

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁵ As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶ John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸ So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹ But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰ added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison. ²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “**You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.**”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 159

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

(Please Be Seated)



CHILDREN'S TIME “This Little Gospel Light of Mine”

v. 1

**This little gospel light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little gospel light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little gospel light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine all the time let it shine.**

HYMN OF THE DAY “To Jordan's River Came Our Lord”

LSB 405

**To Jordan's river came our Lord, The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,
The God from God, the Light from Light, The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.**

**The Savior came to be baptized--The Son of God in flesh disguised--
To stand beneath the Father's will And all His righteousness fulfill.**

**As Jesus in the Jordan stood And John baptized the Lamb of God,
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove, Descended on Him from above.**

**Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound Came God's own voice with words profound;
"This is My Son," was His decree, "The one I love, who pleases Me."**

**The Father's word, the Spirit's flight Anointed Christ in glorious sight
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall To save the world and free us all.**

**Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute; This man is Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan's stream, Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.**



SERMON

(Please Stand)



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For the calling of all people to faith, that the souls for whom Jesus Christ gave His life would be brought to repentance and saving faith through the proclamation of the Gospel throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Living Father, speak Your words of life!**

Pastor: For all pastors, teachers, and other servant leaders in Christ's Church, that their lives be shaped by the One who laid down His life in selfless sacrifice for others, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Serving Father, speak Your words of life!**

Pastor: For all who hear God's Word, receive His Sacrament, and live out their vocations in the church, home, workplace, and society, that their witness to Christ in word and action may touch countless hearts and lives, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Loving Father, speak Your words of life!**

Pastor: For all who labor in positions of leadership in our government, along with all who serve in the armed forces and other public safety professions, that the living voice of our God speak over land, over water, and over all who trust in Him, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Protecting Father, speak Your words of life!**

Pastor: For all who are ailing in body, mind, and spirit, [*especially* . . .], that the Lord would speak words and work wonders to deliver His healing and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Healing Father, speak Your words of life!**

(Special Petitions)

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

(Please be Seated)



GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

(Please Stand)



✠ SACRAMENT ✠

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Ascension in the confession that, as He says, our Lord gives not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. All those who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. [*2 Timothy 4:22*]

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [*Psalm 136*]

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: 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, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. His living voice speaks over our baptismal waters and now brings to us the nourishment our bodies and souls receive in His precious body and blood. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 161

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;
1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*)

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Please be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “Baptized into Your Name Most Holy” LSB 590

Baptized into Your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly, Among Your saints, Your chosen host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin, Your Spirit now shall live within.

My loving Father, here You take me To be henceforth Your child and heir.
My faithful Savior, here You make me The fruit of all Your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me When threat’ning clouds around I see.

My faithful God, You fail me never; Your promise surely will endure.
O cast me not away forever If words and deeds become impure.
Have mercy when I com defiled; Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.

All that I am and love most dearly—Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely; Help me Your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own Serve any will but Yours alone.

“Father Welcomes” LSB 605

Refrain: Father welcomes all His children to His fam’ly through His Son.
Father giving His salvation, Life forever has been won.

Little children, come to Me, For My kingdom is of these.
Life and love I have to give, Mercy for your sin. *Refrain*

In the water, in the Word, in His promise be assured:
Those who are baptized and believe Shall be born again. *Refrain*

Let us daily die to sin; let us daily rise with Him,
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord, Live in the peace of God. *Refrain*

“When All the World was Cursed” LSB 346

When all the world was cursed By Moses’ condemnation,
Saint John the Baptist came With words of consolation.
With true forerunner’s zeal The greater One he named,
And Him, as yet unknown, As Savior he proclaimed.

Before he yet was born, He leaped in joyful meeting,
Confessing Him as Lord Whose mother he was greeting.
By Jordan’s rolling stream, A new Elijah bold,
He testified of Him Of whom the prophets told:

**Behold the Lamb of God That bears the world's transgression,
Whose sacrifice removes The devil's dread oppression.
Behold the Lamb of God, Who takes away our sin,
Who for our peace and joy Will full atonement win.**

**O grant, dear Lord of love, That we receive, rejoicing,
The word proclaimed by John, Our true repentance voicing,
That gladly we may walk, Upon our Savior's way
Until we live with Him In His eternal day.**

(Please Stand)



BENEDICTION *Isaiah 60:1*

Pastor: Arise, shine, for your light has come,
People: **and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.**

Pastor: 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*

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

LSB 394

**Songs of thankfulness and praise Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
Manifested by the star To the sages from afar.
Branch of royal David's stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem:
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**Manifest at Jordan's stream. Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding guest In Thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in pow'r divine, Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil's might;
Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill;
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**Sun and moon shall darkened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning shine, All will see His glorious sign;
All will then the trumpet hear, All will see the Judge appear;
Thou by all wilt be confessed, God in man made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word—
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;
That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.**

POSTLUDE

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