

ILLUMINATING JESUS SERMON SERIES

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2022 5:00 PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022 8:15 AM

REV. MATTHEW CLARK

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REV. MATTHEW KOBS

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LOVED BY CHRIST

SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Word of Life Lutheran School

WEEKEND WORSHIP TIMES

5:00 pm Saturday Worship

8:15 am Sunday Worship

9:45 am Sunday School and Bible Class

11:00 am Sunday Worship (Contemporary Music)

ILLUMINATING JESUS

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 8 & 9, 2022 5:00 PM & 8:15 AM

AS WE GATHER

The “epiphany,” the showing forth or manifestation of Jesus as the Messiah, the Savior of the world, began with the coming of the Magi from the East. This “epiphany” now continues as our Lord’s active earthly ministry begins at the hands of His predecessor John the Baptist and His Baptism in the Jordan River. As the Holy Spirit comes upon His human flesh and the voice from heaven declares Him to be the Son of God, so our Baptism gives us “the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God” (John 1:12–13). To be thus “born again” is nothing less than to have heaven opened to us with the power of God’s gifts of faith, hope, love, and the perseverance to live as God’s children now albeit as “strangers and exiles on the earth” (Hebrews 11:13), yet as “fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God” (Ephesians 2:19). “I’m but a stranger here,” says the hymn, “Heav’n is my home” (*LSB* 748:1).

PRELUDE

Organ

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT *LSB* 411

(Please Stand)

INVOCATION *Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** Arise, shine, for your light has come!
C **Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.**
- P** All the nations shall come to the light of Christ.
C **Kings shall bring Him gifts.**
- P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.
C **The Light no darkness can overcome.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Through the Gospel, all people are fellow heirs of salvation and members of the same Body. Yet there have been times when we have failed to live in unity, when we have failed to treat our brothers and sisters in Christ with respect and love. Our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and ask for His forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

P Heavenly Father,

C **We confess that we are nature sinful and unclean. We confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have created division and discord. We have hidden the light of Christ from others. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us with the light of Christ, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy sent His Son, Jesus, into our world to shine as a light for all people, including You. Jesus has died for your sins and is risen for your righteousness. Therefore, 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. We are partakers of the promise. We are forgiven in Christ.**

(or)

A 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.

C **Amen. We are partakers of the promise. We are forgiven in Christ.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD

LSB 39, v. 1 & 27

As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before Thee, Whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

(Please Be Seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 43:1-7*

¹But 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.
²When 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.
³For 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.
⁴Because 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.
⁵Fear not, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you.
⁶I 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,
⁷everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Romans 6:1-11*

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We 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.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We 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. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So 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.**

(Please Stand)

GOSPEL VERSE: THE PEOPLE THAT IN DARKNESS SAT

LSB 412, v. 3

**To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n,
And on His shoulder ever rests All pow'r in earth and heav'n,
All pow'r in earth and heav'n.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 3:15–22*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John 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 with fire. ¹⁷His 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."

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But 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, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, ²²and 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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;**

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

(Please Be Seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE 8:15 AM 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 RIVE CAME OUR LORD LSB 405

SERMON

(Please Stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Response from LSB 400:1*

P Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Light of the world,
C **dawn on our darkness and lend us Your aid.**

P Lord, comfort all those who are suffering in the darkness of grief, [*especially* . . .]. Comfort them with the hope and promise of the resurrection to eternal life. Light of the world,
C **dawn on our darkness and lend us Your aid.**

P Lord, bless all pastors, teachers, church planters, missionaries, musicians, and servants in Your Church. Embolden them as they seek to reflect Your light to all the nations. Light of the world,
C **dawn on our darkness and lend us Your aid.**

P Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially* . . .]. Have mercy upon them, and heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Light of the world,
C **dawn on our darkness and lend us Your aid.**

- P** Lord, shine Your light of hope upon all those who are caregivers. Send them rest and peace, knowing that in You their labor is not in vain. Light of the world,
C **dawn on our darkness and lend us Your aid.**

(Special Petitions)

- P** Lord, we commend all of these things to Your caring hands, trusting in Your mercy to all people. Light of the world,
C **dawn on our darkness and lend us Your aid. Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

Your tithes and offerings shape the lives of people through the Gospel of Jesus Christ for now and eternity. Thank you for your generosity! "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

OFFERTORY AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD

LSB 397, v. 3 & 4

As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.

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.

(Please Stand)

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

We believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink. If you are a communicant member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, please feel free to commune with us. If not, please speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper.

How should we each examine ourselves before coming to Holy Communion?

- 1. Be aware of our sins and be sorry for them*
- 2. Believe in our Savior, Jesus Christ, and in His words in the Sacrament*
- 3. Intend, by the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as God's forgiven people walking in newness of life*

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

- P** Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

- 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, who became flesh and dwelt among us on earth, light in a dark world, so that we might dwell with Him in everlasting life and light. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

HYMN VERSE: AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD

LSB 397, v. 5

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.

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LORD'S PRAYER

- P** And now, in the words of our Lord, we are bold to pray:

- 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.**

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."

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."

PAX DOMINI

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

‡ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS ‡

GOD'S OWN CHILD, I GLADLY SAY IT	<i>LSB 594</i>
O MORNING STAR, HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT	<i>LSB 395</i>
JESUS, ONCE WITH SINNERS NUMBERED	<i>LSB 404</i>

(Please Stand)

DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ‡ in peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING SENTENCES

P Arise, shine, for your light has come!

C **Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.**

P All the nations shall come to the light of Christ.

C **Kings shall bring Him gifts.**

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

C **The Light no darkness can overcome.**

BENEDICTION

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.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE *LSB 394*

POSTLUDE *Organ*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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