

+ Holy Cross Lutheran Church +

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The Baptism of Our Lord

January 12, 2025

Divine Service, Setting One

As We Gather

Today is the first of the bookends that mark the Epiphany season—the Baptism of Our Lord and His Transfiguration. In common is the command from God to "listen to Him." We begin our journey of listening to the Lord, learning from those who went before, acknowledging the revelation of the Lamb of God in baptismal water, and looking to Him, the Word made flesh. In His Baptism, our Lord was not washed because He was unclean but because we are. The Father saw the prophetic words of Isaiah fulfilled in the water of the Jordan, and He claimed Jesus as His own Son and our appointed Redeemer. "You are Mine," said the Lord to Jesus. Because He said those words to Jesus, they are now addressed to us—the people for whom Jesus was baptized.

399 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here



Text: Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a

- Behold my servant, whom | I uphold,* my chosen, in whom my | soul delights.
- **C** I will tell of | the decree:*

The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have be- gotten you.

- Ask of me, and I will make the nations your | heritage,* and the ends of the earth your pos- | session.
- You shall break them with a | rod of iron* and dash them in pieces like a potter's | vessel."
- P Now therefore, O | kings, be wise;* be warned, O rulers | of the earth.
- Serve the | LORD with fear,* and rejoice with | trembling,
- for his wrath is quickly | kindled.*

 Blessèd are all who take ref- | uge in him.
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit;
- as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

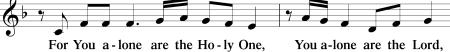
P Behold my servant, whom | I uphold,* my chosen, in whom my | soul delights.

Kyrie LSB 152

- \mathbf{P} In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord. $[\mathbf{P}]$
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- \mathbf{C} Lord, have mercy.
- P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- Lord, have mercy.
- Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. P
- C Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis LSB 154







You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



Salutation and Collect of the Day

- \mathbf{P} The Lord be with you.
- 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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 43:1–7

The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 43.

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."

- **R** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle Romans 6:1–11

The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 6.

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.

- **R** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse LSB 156



Holy Gospel

Luke 3:15-22

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



P 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.



407 To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord



- 5 To His disciples spoke the Lord, "Go out to ev'ry nation, And bring to them the living Word And this My invitation: Let ev'ryone abandon sin And come in true contrition To be baptized and thereby win Full pardon and remission And heav'nly bliss inherit."
 - All that the mortal eye beholds Is water as we pour it. Before the eye of faith unfolds The pow'r of Jesus' merit. For here it sees the crimson flood To all our ills bring healing; The wonders of His precious blood The love of God revealing, Assuring His own pardon.

6

But woe to those who cast aside

This grace so freely given;

And to despair be driven.

Their pious acts do not avail,

Eternal death their portion.

And they are lost forever,

They shall in sin and shame abide

For born in sin, their works must fail.

Their striving saves them never;

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Elizabeth Quitmeyer, 1911-88, alt.

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Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

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.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Blessed Lord, You wonderfully foreshadowed the promise of Baptism in the passing of Your people through the Red Sea and Jordan River. In Christ and by His Baptism, You have kept Your Word and made Baptism the water of new life. Give us Your Holy Spirit, that we would walk as the new and holy people You have declared us to be. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- We give You thanks that You call and gather the baptized into Your Church. Prosper the good work of preaching the Gospel and administering the life-giving Sacraments. Bless Matthew, our Synod president; Michael, our district president; Shawn, our circuit visitor, and all pastors and church workers, that their ministry would be faithful and fruitful. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

- Preserve the family, especially all Christian homes. Turn husband and wife toward one another in love, equip fathers and mothers for their holy duty as teachers of the faith, and preserve all children in the saving faith and certain promises of their Baptism unto life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- C hear our prayer.
- We give You thanks for standing with us in times of weakness, illness, despair and death. Give us every aid of Your Holy Spirit, that we may endure these afflictions and find comfort in the healing wounds of our Savior. [We especially remember ______ and ask for their healing and relief according to Your will.] Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P O Lord, as You have joined us to Christ's death and resurrection in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, so feed us His body and blood for forgiveness and life in the Sacrament of the Altar. Give to Your baptized children who partake of the Supper today tender hearts that confess their need and rejoice in Your gifts. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord God, heavenly Father, You manifested Yourself with the Holy Spirit in the fullness of grace at the Baptism of Your dear Son. With Your voice, You directed us to the One who has borne our sins, that we may receive grace and forgiveness. Keep us, we implore You, in the true faith. Since we have been baptized in accordance with Your command and the example of Your Son, strengthen our faith by Your Holy Spirit and lead us to everlasting life and salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

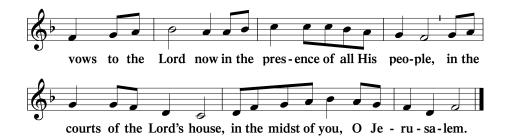
Sit

Offering

601 All Who Believe and Are Baptized

Stand





Welcome to our Visitors

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths 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 with 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, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any 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 or an elder.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15–35; 26:26–29; and 1 Corinthians 11:17–34.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 160

- **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.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- 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, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161





Prayer of Thanksgiving LSB 161

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.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer LSB 162

P 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 Words of Our Lord

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."

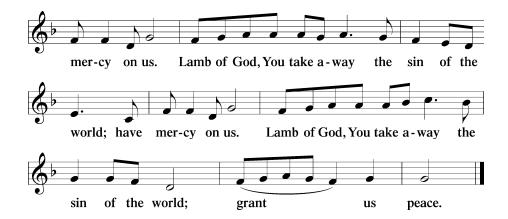
Pax Domini LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei LSB 163





Sit

Distribution

600 Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering



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Tune: attr. Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510–61
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602 The Gifts Christ Freely Gives



5 The gifts are in the feast,
Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine
Is food from Calvary.
The body and the blood
Remove our ev'ry sin;
We leave His presence in

His peace, renewed again.

Text: Richard C. Resch, 1947

Tune: Charles J. Dale, 1842–1912, alt.

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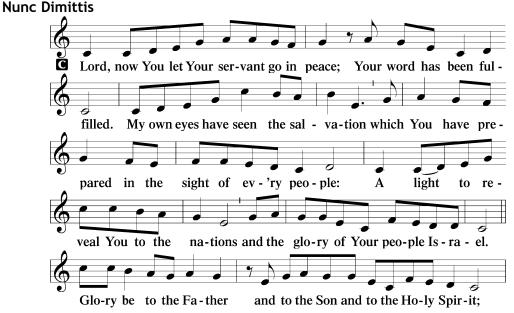
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All glory to the One
Who lavishes such love;
The triune God in love
Assures our life above.
His means of grace for us
Are gifts He loves to give;
All thanks and praise for His
Great love by which we live!

Stand



LSB 165





as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your onlybegotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction LSB 166

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.

 \mathbf{C} Amen.





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Announcements

Adult Sunday School at 9am on Sunday mornings is studying Deuteronomy.

The **Flowers** that beautify our altar this morning are given to God's glory for Serena Huston's birthday.

The Ladies Bible Study meets Wednesdays at 10am studying 2 Kings.

Church Council next meeting is Jan 12 at 8am.

The next Men's Breakfast and Bible Study is Sat. Feb 8 at 9am.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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