



Baptism of Our Lord

Sunday, January 10, 2021

Gathering in God's Presence

Prelude — “His Name So Sweet”

Setting by Richard Billingham

I've just come from the fountain, his name's so sweet. - African American Spiritual

Welcome

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

People of God, in the baptismal waters we travel with Christ from death to life. Our past, our sin, our failure, our doubt, and our shame are drowned and gone here.

You, O God, wash us clean.

Our fear, our confusion, our self-righteousness, our despair -- ALL are washed away by grace.

You, O God, wash us clean.

Our pride, our hypocrisy, and other people's opinions of us no longer have the power to define us.

You, O God, give us new life.

The Spirit lives and moves through us now, a great and joyful mystery, so we may bring love and mercy into the world as the body of Christ.

C: You, O God, give us new life.

Rejoice that God has claimed us in this baptismal grace, not by our own doing or believing but by God's mercy alone.

You, O God, give us new life.

And so, as we begin worship, we give thanks to God for the gracious gift of baptism that joins us together in Christ by the Spirit's power. Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

We praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Creator of the water
that makes the world so green,
That satisfies the thirsty,
and keeps us cool and clean,
We take from your creation
this gift we use each day;
You call us now to use it in
this most holy way.

As in the time of Noah,
the sea engulfed the land,
And through the Red Sea,
Moses led Israel 'cross the sand,
And to the Jordan waters,
Christ went and was baptized —
Your water has a power:
it changes all our lives.

May this your gift of water,
long springing from the earth,
Become for all new Christians
their fountain of rebirth.
Lord, wash away their sinning,
and give them life anew —
Pour out your Spirit on them,
that they may follow you.

God, through your gift of water,
your family we become;
You take away divisions;
in Christ you make us one.
Now send your Spirit on us
and give us work to do
That we may share with others
the love we have from you.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Hearing & Responding to Scripture

A Reading from Hebrew Scriptures — Genesis 1:1-5

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then 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.

Psalm Interpretation

“The Song the Earth Is Singing” based on Psalm 29

From *Spark Story Bible Psalm Book: Prayers and Poems for Kids*

A Reading from the Epistles — Acts 19:1-7

1While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. 2He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” 3Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” 4Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” 5On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—7altogether there were about twelve of them.

Gospel Acclamation — from *Liturgy of Welcome*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Hear God's

Word, God's wel - come to us! wel - come to us!

Gospel — Mark 1:4-11

The Gospel of the Lord according to the 1st chapter of Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

4John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. 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 just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. 11And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace
 2 In Christ called to ban - quet, one ta - ble we share,
 3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach
 4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,



and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
 a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.
 the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
 for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.



In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
 Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.
 By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
 E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.



then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
 One cup of thanks - giv - ing pro - claims Christ, our head.
 in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
 In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional
 Text © 1995 Pilgrim Press

Affirmation of Faith — Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the power of the Holy
 Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the
 dead.
 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. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they proclaim the forgiveness of sins, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God's goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the nations of the world and their leaders, for laborers busy both day and night, and for peacemakers amid strife, that God inspire all people to use their strength wisely, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the sick and those who provide medical care, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer, that God shower compassion, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the congregation gathered here, for students returning to school, for those seeking renewal in their daily work, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God**

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, that their witness inspire us in our baptismal vocations, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Offering

Please remember to give financially to support our ministry.

You can write a check and mail it to the church office or give online at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=283920>.

Sharing the Meal

The Great Thanksgiving and Preface

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

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

Sanctus — “Holy, Holy, Holy” from *Liturgy of Welcome*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly

One, God of po - wer, God of might. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly

God, You fill the earth with Your glo - ry and grace. Bles - sed

is the One who brings hope and wel - come to all. All

praise, glo - ry and ho - nor to You, our God! _____

2nd x: Fine

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Communion

*Please raise your bread up. The body of Christ given for you. Please eat the bread now.
Please raise up your glass. The blood of Christ shed for you. Please drink the wine/juice now.*

Departing to Serve God's World

Announcements

Epiphany Blessings

May this holy season be for each of us
a time of moving beyond what is "reasonable"
and toward the star of wonder;

moving beyond grasping tight to what we have
to unclenching our hands and letting go,
following the Light where it leads;

moving beyond competition toward cooperation,
seeing that all humans are siblings;

moving beyond the anxiety of small concerns
towards the joys of justice and peace.

May the transforming acceptance of Mary
and Joseph,
the imagination of the shepherds,
and the persistence of the magi
guide us as we seek the Truth,
always moving toward the Divine promise.
always aware God can be hidden in the
frailest among us,
always open to the unexpected flash of
Grace,
to the showing forth of that Love that
embraces us all.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Celebrate your baptism! Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sending Hymn — no. 453

"Baptized and Set Free"



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Acknowledgements

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"Thanksgiving for Baptism" by Pastor Michael Coffey and adapted by Pastor Jess.

<http://pastorjess.com/congregational-renewal-stories-and-resources/thanksgiving-for-baptism>

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Pastor/Presider: Pastor Bill Nelsen

Cantor: Emily Bruflat

Lector/Assistant: John Bipes

Psalm: McHugh Family

Announcements

Red Cross Blood Drive at First Lutheran: Tuesday, February 9th from noon until 6:00pm. This drive is by appointment only and you can call **1-800-Red Cross** or visit RedCrossBlood.org and to find our location and schedule an appointment.

2021 Simpson Forum - *Re-Visioning the Role of the Christian Community in Today's Society*. Change is certainly one of the great challenges of our time –in our lives and in our families, in our communities, in our world. In a series of lectures over 4 weekly Zoom meetings in January and February, the 2021 Simpson Forum will welcome 5 scholars to speak to the ever-changing role of the Church in our world. Registration for the series is \$10 at: <https://www.trinitystpeter.org/the-simpson-forum.html> or by calling Trinity Lutheran Church at 507-934-4786. The fee is waived for any students, but registration is required to be included in the sessions. Multiple viewers are permitted at each email site. Registration deadline is Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

Prayer Concerns: We are called to remember Tom Michels, Marie Benson, Dick Muesing, Abigail Christenson, Betty Gustafson, Elgene Lund, Tom Stenson, Chuck Petry, Paul Assen, Paul Baumgartner, Bob Cady, Marion Peterson, Joan Williams and one another in prayer. We lift-up prayers of healing for all others in our personal prayers this week. We also pray for the families of Jim & Karen Wendroth, Charles Hendrickson, and Mort & Dorothy Eliason as they mourn the loss of loved ones.