



St. John's Lutheran Church † Baptism of Our Lord January 10th Facebook Live

Welcome to worship as we turn the calendar to 2021! Today we celebrate The Baptism of Our Lord. This year we will focus on the story from Mark's gospel. In today's text we see that God is re-creating divine presence with the Spirit of God inhabiting the human form in Jesus. For us Christians, the Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus, naming us God's beloved children. The Spirit's work within us transforms us to join Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace. This year in Mark we will look for God's vision. Thank you for your partnership in the ministry at St. John's. Thank you so much for your prayers and financial gifts. We are all in this together for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

Prelude

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness (*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God, you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin— our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace. **Amen.**

Opening Song – ELW# 310 *“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”* v. 1 + 4

1 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 flesh made manifest.

4 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 flesh made manifest.

The Greeting and Prayer:

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

Word: Genesis 1:1-5 *Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for us. God created and continues to create new life.*

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.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11 *Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.*

The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 1st chapter. **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.**

Message: God's Beloved New Creation Pastor Julie Brenden

ELW - #308 "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!" v. 1 + 3

- 1 O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's own truth and light, aglow with grace and mercy! Of Jacob's line, King David's son, our Lord and Savior, you have won our hearts to serve you only! Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, all victorious, rich in blessing! Rule and might o'er all possessing!

- 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there falls from God above a ray of purest pleasure. Your word and Spirit, flesh and blood refresh our souls with heav'nly food. You are our dearest treasure! Let your mercy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.

Apostle's 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 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 (*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*)

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

A brief silence.

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 the new creation, and faithful stewards care for all God is doing, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the nations of the world and their leaders, we pray especially for our newly elected leaders as they begin their terms of office, that they serve the common good of all; 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 those providing essential services, and those of us who rely on their work; for the imprisoned, and those who show the incarcerated mercy; for the lonely, and those who provide companionship; for all who suffer or are in need of healing (*especially*), that God shower compassion, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For friends and people of St. John's gathered here in this online worship, for students returning to school, for those seeking courage and renewal in their daily work, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace, we pray especially that you shower your grace on a portion of St. John's people: let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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.

The Offering Prayer

O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as our Savior taught us:

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

Blessing

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✠ keep you in peace. **Amen.**

ELW - # 459 "Wade in the Water" v. 1, 3, 4

[A leader sings the words in parentheses]

Refrain

Wade in the water, wade in the water, children, wade in the water, God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.

- 1 (See that host all dressed in white,) God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.
(the leader looks like the Israelite.) God's a-goin'-a trouble the water. *Refrain*
- 3 (Look over yonder, what do I see?) God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.
(the Holy Ghost a-coming on me.) God's a-goin'-a trouble the water. *Refrain*
- 4 (If you don't believe I've been redeemed,) God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.
(just follow me down to Jordan's stream.) God's a-goin'-a trouble the water. *Refrain*

Sending

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

(A sign of peace is shared) (Comment your peace to one another.)

Postlude

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

- Reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, copyright 2006 & Lutheran Book of Worship, copyright 1978 Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #20510.
- Reprinted from *With One Voice* copyright © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #20510.
- Reprinted from *Worship & Praise* copyright © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #20510.
"All Rights Reserved" Used by permission. CCLI License # 1070784. With permission by OneLicense.net license A-703800.

Altar Flowers in memory of **Mildred Mai for her 100th Birthday** from her daughters.

Chancel Flowers in memory of **mother, Shirley Johnson**, by Dave & Paulette Fenske.

Coming up Sundays at St. John's:

Today, Sunday, January 10th - 8:15am worship Facebook Live
9:30am Sunday School on Zoom
10:30am Zoom Test for Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 17th 8:15am Worship Facebook Live
9:15am Communion Facebook Live
9:30am Curbside Communion (weather permitting)
9:30am Sunday School at Home
10:30am Worship TV "Together in God"
2:00pm Rooted – Sled & Skate at Pinehurst Park