

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Connected to Christ

January 12, 2020

AS WE GATHER

The First Sunday after the Epiphany takes us in mind and heart to the Jordan River, where Jesus is baptized. This day, observed each year in the Church, is a reminder of the importance of Baptism in the life of every Christian, for it is in dying with Christ through Baptism that we are born anew to eternal life. Although we may have not been baptized in the river Jordan, we share with our Lord the experience of being baptized. Through Baptism, we are connected to Christ and given a whole new way of living for time and for eternity. "But I am baptized!" Martin Luther would exclaim when life situations seemed overwhelming. Knowing that we live daily in baptismal grace makes the difference in our lives as well.

✠ Welcome and Announcements ✠

HYMN "Listen, God Is Calling" 833

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 71:19, 23*

Pastor: Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens.

People: You who have done great things, O God, who is like You?

Pastor: My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to You;

People: my soul also, which You have redeemed.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: People redeemed by the Lord, let us now make confession of our sins to God our heavenly Father.

People: **Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We repent of having sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have left undone those things we ought to have done; we have done those things we ought not to have done. We have not lived our lives fully in the baptismal grace with which we have been blessed. We have not completely shared the bounty You have given us as stewards of Your creation. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, forgive what is sinful in our lives, and grant that each day we grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.**

Pastor: God has promised pardon, life, and salvation because of the atoning sacrifice of His beloved Son. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

People: **Amen.**

(Share the peace of Christ with those around you)

HYMN OF PRAISE “Jesus Shall Reign” 832

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious God, in the Baptism of our Lord Jesus in the Jordan River, You affirmed Him as Your beloved Son. Grant that we, Your beloved children, always remain connected to Christ and live each day in our baptismal grace as we await the joy of life in Your eternal presence. This we ask for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.

People: **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 42:1–9* (The Chosen One of the Lord)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Romans 6:1–11* (We are created to walk in newness of life in Christ.)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Mark 1:11b*

Pastor: Alleluia. You are My beloved Son

People: with You I am well pleased. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 3:13–17* (Jesus is baptized by John in the Jordan River.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Blessed Spring" 595

SERMON "Connected to Christ" Romans 6:1-11

CATECHISM

The Third Article and Baptism

Pastor: The First Sunday after the Epiphany is traditionally celebrated as the day we commemorate the Baptism of Our Lord. Today we confess the words of the Apostles' Creed regarding the work of the Holy Spirit and also speak the words from Luther's Small Catechism regarding the work of the Spirit through Baptism.

People: 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.

Pastor: As the Holy Spirit works through the Means of Grace, we ask, "How can the water used in Holy Baptism do such great things?"

People: Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: (After each Prayer) . . . Lord in Your Mercy

People: . . . hear our prayer

OFFERING

✠ SACRAMENT ✠



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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–

20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: 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.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Revelation 22:20

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: **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.**

PAX DOMINI

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

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI “Just As I Am” 570 vs 1,2

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “What Feast of Love” (to the tune for “What Child Is This?”)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Lord God, heavenly Father, ruler of all things, You have again connected us to Christ through this blessed Meal. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having now received this Holy Sacrament, we die daily through Baptism and rise new and restored as we joyfully continue our earthly pilgrimage until that time when we are gathered into Your heavenly kingdom to share in Your blessings for all eternity. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

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.**

HYMN “Rock Of Ages” 761

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2019 Concordia Publishing House.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.