



January 7, 2024

The Baptism of Our Lord

Rev. Ken Bersche

Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“Beautiful Savior”

- ♪ Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
- ♪ Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.
- ♪ Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.
- ♪ Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration Now and forevermore be Thine!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 537- Text: Munsterisch Gesangbuch, Munster, 1677, tr. Joseph A. Seiss 1823-1904
Tune: Silesian, 19th cent., setting: Service Book and Hymnal 1958; Public Domain.*

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Affirmation of Our Baptism

We remember our Baptism with the trinitarian invocation, recalling and confessing before heaven, earth, and hell all that God has given us in our Baptism: victory over death and the devil, forgiveness of sin, God's grace, the eternal life in Christ, and the Holy Spirit with His gifts. So I now ask you: How do we rightly use our Baptism?

We rightly use our Baptism when we live in repentance and faith in the triune God, who has made us His beloved children.

When Jesus was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan River, the Father declared Jesus as His Son with whom He is well pleased. In our Baptism, Paul wrote, we were joined to our Lord's death and resurrection, enabling us to walk in newness of life. We are also all centered on God's Word, the lasting gifts received in Baptism including the forgiveness of sins, rescue from death and the devil, and eternal life to all who believe this. Let us reaffirm our faith in what God has done for us through Holy Baptism.

Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

I do renounce them.

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

Yes, I believe.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits

at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

Yes, I believe.

Do you 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?

Yes, I believe.

Baptismal Hymn *Please Be Seated* “Baptized into Your Name Most Holy”

♪ Baptized into Your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly, Among Your saints, Your chosen host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin. Your Spirit now shall live within.

♪ My loving Father, here You take me To be henceforth Your child and heir.
My faithful Savior, here You make me The fruit of all Your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me When threatening clouds around I see.

♪ My faithful God, You fail me never; Your promise surely will endure.
O cast me not away forever If words and deeds become impure.
Have mercy when I come defiled: Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.

♪ All that I am and love most dearly, Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely; Help me Your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own Serve any will but Yours alone.

*Baptized into Your Name Most Holy-Text: Johann Jacob Rambach 1693-1735, tr. Catherine Winkworth 1827-78
Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel 1697-1775, setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain.*

Confession and Absolution

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.

1 John 1:8-9

Let us then confess our sins to God, our Father.

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, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We 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. *Romans 6:4*

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.

A Time of Silence

Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Alleluia!

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

Amen.

Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord God, buried with Christ by His Baptism into death, and assured of being raised with Him, fill us with Your Spirit that claimed as Your own child, welcomed into Your family, washed clean from our sins, given the gift of faith, and joined together with Jesus, we may walk in newness of life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn of Praise

“I Love to Tell the Story”

♪ I love to tell the story of unseen things above, Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love;
I love to tell the story because I know ‘tis true, It satisfies longings as nothing else can do.
~I love to tell the story! ‘Twill be my theme in glory,
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and His love.

♪ I love to tell the story Of our dear Savior’s birth. Of how the angel chorus
Announced with joyful mirth That little baby, Jesus, Was Christ the earth’s true Lord.
Of how the lowly shepherds On bended knees adored. ~I love to tell...

♪ I love to tell the story Of how He was baptized. How God’s great voice from heaven
Spoke loudly from the skies. How God the Holy Spirit Descended as a dove.
How Jesus heard His Father Proclaim to all His love. ~I love to tell...

♪ I love to tell the story Of how our Lord and friend. Rose up on Easter morning
And reigns in highest heav’n. The love of God the Father,
The Spirit, and the Son Has given us salvation The free gift Jesus won. ~I love to tell....

The Hymnal for Worship and Celebration, Hymn 297 -Text: St. 1: A. Catherin Hankey 1834-1911; St. 5-6&9: All God’s People Sing, Hymn 128 -Text: Jeffrey E. Burkart; Tune: William G. Fischer 1835-1912; Christian Copyright License International #1217384

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1–5

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The 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. This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn *Please Stand*

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

♪ Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 805 -Text: Thomas Ken 1637-1711;

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva 1551; Public Domain ; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:4–11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 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 when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

Children's Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

♪ Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

♪ Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

♪ Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.

♪ Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

♪ Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.

♪ Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 783-Text: Frances R. Havergal 1836-79;
Tune: William H. Havergal 1793-1870; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Proclamation of the Word

“Connected to Jesus: Our New Identity”

Romans 6:1–11

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand*

Each petition is concluded with the following:

Lord, in Your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Admonition to Communicants

Lord’s Prayer

Words of Our Lord

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Distribution Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

♪ Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father’s bidding,
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where You guide.

♪ Let us suffer here with Jesus And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness; Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter, We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy Shall give way to mirth here-after.
Jesus, here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.

♪ Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death He conquered death.
He will free us from destruction, Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with You I die, There to live with You on high.

♪ Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members; Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly, Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be, Life eternal grant to me.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 685 - Text: Sigismund von Birken 1626-81; ©1978 Lutheran Book of Worship;
Tune: Georg G. Boltze 18th cent.; Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Benediction

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

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

♪ Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own.
In My love’s baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing, You are My own.

♪ Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son’s story; Here you touched Him, saw His glory.
Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

♪ Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit’s power filled you; Here His tender comfort stilled you.
Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

♪ I, the Lord, will bless and keep you And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;
I, the Lord, will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 922 -Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda 1919-2008; ©1983 Concordia Publishing House;
Tune: Welsh 18th cent.; Setting: Ralph Vaughan Williams 1872-1958; Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Postlude