

Baptism of Our Lord



The Baptism of Our Lord

ELW Service of the Word

St. Paul Lutheran Church—January 10, 2021 – 10:00 A.M.

Introduction to the day

Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

PRELUDE

Das alte Jahr vergangen ist (The old year has passed away) J. S. Bach
As with Gladness, Men of Old Flor Peeters
How Brightly Shines the Morning Star Johann Christoph Bach
Johann Pachelbel

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.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

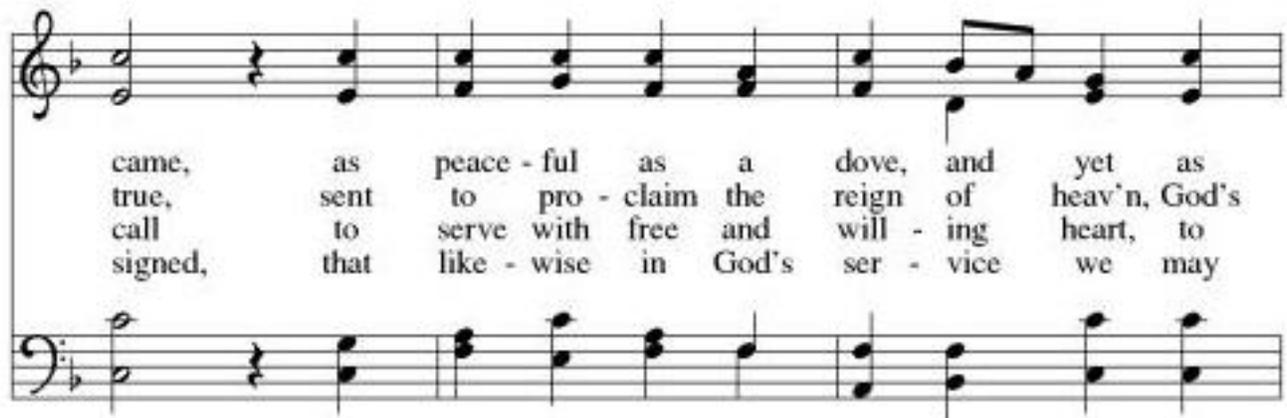
Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.
To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized



1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spir - it on you
 2 God called you, "My be - lov - ed Son"; you are God's ser - vant
 3 Straight - way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed the
 4 Bap - tize us with your Spir - it, Lord; your cross on us be



came, as peace - ful as a dove, and yet as
 true, sent to pro - claim the reign of heav'n, God's
 call to serve with free and will - ing heart, to
 signed, that like - wise in God's ser - vice we may



ur - gent as a flame, as ur - gent as a flame.
 ho - ly will to do, God's ho - ly will to do.
 give your life for all, to give your life for all.
 per - fect free - dom find, may per - fect free - dom find.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984, alt.

Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480-1561

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GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

FIRST READING

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. **Thank be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 29



Psalm 29:3

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- ¹Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.
- ²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**
- ³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.
- ⁴**The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor. R**
- ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;
- ⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**
- ⁷The voice | of the LORD
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.
- ⁸**The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh. R**
- ⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, "Glory!"
- ¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**
- ¹¹O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace. **R**

SECOND READING

Acts 19:1-7

In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptizes them, the Holy Spirit comes upon them and empowers them with gifts of the Spirit.

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. **Amen.**

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (from setting 3)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:4-11

The holy gospel according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

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.

SERMON

The Reverend Luther Zeigler

When Jesus Came to Jordan



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John,
 2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,
 3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.
 for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.
 this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond-age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,
 So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,
 Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.
 the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.
 to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune

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THE 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 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.

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 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 especially those on our prayer list and those whose names we offer now..., 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.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, that their witness inspires 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 EXCHANGE OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY SONG

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the next two lines. The music concludes with a double bar line.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;
praise him a - bove, ye heav' n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.
Music: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, plainsong mode IV
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THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Holy God,
Light of the universe, Teacher of truth, Giver of goodness,
we hear your Word in the Scriptures,
proclaiming to us your wisdom
and inviting us to follow your call.
For speaking this Word, we thank you, O God.

Your Word came among us in Jesus, our brother,
who preached your righteousness, healed the sick,
and revived the brokenhearted.
For giving us this Word, we worship you, O God.

By your Spirit bless all who receive this Word, that upheld by the mystery of the body of Christ, we
may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.
For sustaining us with your Word, we praise you, O God.

Blessed are you, holy God, around us, with us, and in us,
now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

BLESSING

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you,
that your lives may be a light to the world.
And may the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The First Noel

1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw ... a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that ... same star three ...
 4 This star drew near to the ... north - west, o'er ...
 5 Then en - tered in those wise ... men three, full ...

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in ... the east ... be - yond ... them far; and to the
 wise ... men came ... from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem ... it took ... its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly ... up - on ... their knee, and of - fered

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave ... great light, and so it con -
 king was their ... in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop ... and stay right ... o - ver the
 there in his ... pres - ence their ... gold, ... and

Repeat
 night that was so deep,
 tin - ued both day and night,
 star wher - ev - er it went, No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay,
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense,

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Praise God, Ye Christians, One and All

J. S. Bach

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY:

Presiding and Preaching: The Rev. Luther Zeigler

Reader: Andy Broe

Cantor: Ed Garner

Musician and Choir Director: Theodore Stoddard

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NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1123 Washington St., Gloucester, MA 01930

978-283-6550, office@stpaulcapeann.org

JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR RIGHT AFTER THE SERVICE

Beginning today, we'll be trying out a short, social gathering on Zoom immediately after the service. If you want to participate, just stay signed on to Zoom and Luther will join the Zoom call just as soon as the postlude concludes. If you don't have time, no worries, you can sign off at any time. Our hope is that this will be a way to interact on Sunday mornings beyond our shared worship. It may not be a real coffee hour, but we'll make it fun!

THE WORD IN SEASON

The booklets are available for pick-up any time. They are in a bin in front of the pre-school entrance. Please notify the office if you would like one dropped off or mailed.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting for St. Paul Lutheran Church is scheduled for Sunday, January 24th, via Zoom, immediately after the service.

OFFICE HOURS FOR PASTOR LUTHER ZEIGLER

Pastor Luther will be in the church offices every Wednesday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., and it available for individual visits from 10 a.m. to Noon and from 2-3 p.m.. He is happy to meet inside or outside, using all necessary precautions regarding distancing and wearing masks. Please call him (617-999-6419) or email him (luther.zeigler@gmail.com) if you would like to make an appointment. He is also always available for pastoral emergencies.

PRAYER LISTS

Please keep these people in your prayers for healing throughout the week: Heidi H., Pastor O., Roger K., Dan W., Caitlin G., Elaine V., Andrew G., Hope L., Amy P., Alane B., Daneen R., Sonny M., Mitch O., Tasha R., Willy G., Henry K., Jim W., Brian D., Ron M., Judith O., Rachael and Tyler, Verna

Armed services: Josh Coakley, Stephanie Norberg, Brian Misuraca, Christian DiGregorio, John Korpi III, Danny Hill, Rachel Misuraca Lewin, Zach Hafey, Liam Carney, and Tony Favalora

Please see the FYI emails for more information