

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

United with Christ
January 10, 2021



AS WE GATHER

Today we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. Such a day is also a good time to remember our own Baptism. In Baptism, we are buried with Christ. We are united with Him in a death like His. In Baptism, we are also raised to new life as re-creations. As we are united to Christ in death, we will also be united with Him in resurrection when He returns and raises the dead.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

HYMN

“Thy Strong Word” LSB 578

- 1 **Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**
- 2 **Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**
- 3 **Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**
- 4 **From the cross Thy wisdom shining
Breaketh forth in conqu’ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!

△ 6 God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

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INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Genesis 1:1–2; Psalm 29:3–4

Vicar: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

People: **And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.**

Vicar: And God said, "Let there be light."

People: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters.**

Vicar: The voice of the Lord is powerful.

People: **The voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

Vicar: The voice of the Lord reveals Jesus as His Son.

People: **The voice of the Lord reveals we are His children too.**

CONFESSION

Vicar: In Holy Baptism, each of us was baptized into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. In Baptism, we were united with Christ. Yet, we have often lived as if we were entirely independent and autonomous. We have lived as if our identity were not in Jesus, but in our own selfish desires. Yet, our heavenly Father invites us to turn back to Him and ask for His forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

Vicar: Heavenly Father,

People: **we confess that we are by nature sinful and have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. On account of Jesus, forgive us, renew us, and unite us to Your name.**

DECLARATION OF GRACE

Vicar: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen. We are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

✘ WORD ✘

HYMN OF PRAISE

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies” LSB 816

- 1 From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator’s praise arise;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung
Through ev’ry land by ev’ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- △ 3 All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Text: Public domain

SALUTATION

Vicar: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Vicar: Let us pray. Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River, You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 1:1–5

(God creates the heavens and the earth.)

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The 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. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Vicar: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

Psalms 117:1–2a; 96:8

Vicar: Praise the LORD, all nations!
People: **Extol Him, all peoples!**
Vicar: For great is His steadfast love toward us,
People: **and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.**
Vicar: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;
People: **bring an offering, and come into His courts!**

EPISTLE

Romans 6:1–11

(We are baptized into Christ's death and resurrection.)

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 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. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We 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. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Vicar: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Mark 1:11b

People: Alleluia. You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased. Alleluia.

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:4–11

(Jesus is baptized by John.)

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And 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. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And 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. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"All Who Believe and Are Baptized" LSB 601

- 1 All who believe and are baptized
Shall see the Lord's salvation;
Baptized into the death of Christ,
They are a new creation.
Through Christ's redemption they shall stand
Among the glorious, heav'nly band
Of ev'ry tribe and nation.
- 2 With one accord, O God, we pray:
Grant us Your Holy Spirit.
Help us in our infirmity
Through Jesus' blood and merit.
Grant us to grow in grace each day
That by this sacrament we may
Eternal life inherit.

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SERMON

HYMN

“Baptized into Your Name Most Holy” LSB 590

- 1 **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.**
- 2 **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 threat'ning clouds around I see.**
- 3 **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.**
- 4 **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.**

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APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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. 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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Take My Life and Let It Be” Sts. 1, 5 LSB 783

- 1 **Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
- 5 **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.**
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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Vicar: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

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.

BENEDICTION

Vicar: 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

“God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It” LSB 594

**1 God’s own child, I gladly say it:
 I am baptized into Christ!
 He, because I could not pay it,
 Gave my full redemption price.
 Do I need earth’s treasures many?
 I have one worth more than any
 That brought me salvation free
 Lasting to eternity!**

**2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
 I am baptized into Christ!
 I have comfort even stronger:
 Jesus’ cleansing sacrifice.
 Should a guilty conscience seize me
 Since my Baptism did release me
 In a dear forgiving flood,
 Sprinkling me with Jesus’ blood?**

**3 Satan, hear this proclamation:
 I am baptized into Christ!
 Drop your ugly accusation,
 I am not so soon enticed.
 Now that to the font I’ve traveled,
 All your might has come unraveled,
 And, against your tyranny,
 God, my Lord, unites with me!**

**4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:
 I am baptized into Christ!
 When I die, I leave all sadness
 To inherit paradise!
 Though I lie in dust and ashes
 Faith’s assurance brightly flashes:
 Baptism has the strength divine
 To make life immortal mine.**

**5 There is nothing worth comparing
 To this lifelong comfort sure!
 Open-eyed my grave is staring:
 Even there I’ll sleep secure.
 Though my flesh awaits its raising,
 Still my soul continues praising:
 I am baptized into Christ;
 I’m a child of paradise!**

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