

## Sunday in the Church Year THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

**Trek though the Bible**  
**The Covenant with Abraham**  
January 9, 2022



### AS WE GATHER

The “epiphany,” the showing forth or manifestation of Jesus as the Messiah, the Savior of the world, began with the coming of the Magi from the East. This “epiphany” now continues as our Lord’s active earthly ministry begins at the hands of His predecessor John the Baptist and His Baptism in the Jordan River. As the Holy Spirit comes upon His human flesh and the voice from heaven declares Him to be the Son of God, so our Baptism gives us “the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God” (John 1:12–13). To be thus “born again” is nothing less than to have heaven opened to us with the power of God’s gifts of faith, hope, love, and the perseverance to live as God’s children now albeit as “strangers and exiles on the earth” (Hebrews 11:13), yet as “fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God” (Ephesians 2:19). “I’m but a stranger here,” says the hymn, “Heav’n is my home” (*LSB* 748:1).

### ✘ PREPARATION ✘

**HYMN**      *LSB* 405      To Jordan’s River Came Our Lord

- 1**    To Jordan’s river came our Lord,  
      The Christ, whom heav’nly hosts adored,  
      The God from God, the Light from Light,  
      The Lord of glory, pow’r, and might.
  
- 2**    The Savior came to be baptized—  
      The Son of God in flesh disguised—  
      To stand beneath the Father’s will  
      And all His righteousness fulfill.
  
- 3**    As Jesus in the Jordan stood  
      And John baptized the Lamb of God,  
      The Holy Spirit, heav’nly dove,  
      Descended on Him from above.
  
- 4**    Then from God’s throne with thund’rous sound  
      Came God’s own voice with words profound:  
      “This is My Son,” was His decree,  
      “The one I love, who pleases Me.”

**5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight  
Anointed Christ in glorious sight  
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall  
To save the world and free us all.**

**6 Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;  
This man is Christ, our substitute!  
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,  
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.**

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### **INVOCATION**

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

**People:** **Amen.**

**Pastor:** With these words you are baptized into Christ and given the new birth of water and the Spirit.

**People:** **So shall we stand in faith without fear now and forever.**

### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Pastor:** Yet even as God's people in this world, when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find that we daily struggle against our weakness and sin that so easily besets us. Therefore, let us confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

**People:** **God our Father, though You have made us Your own possession by our Baptism into Christ, still we struggle to live as Your redeemed children in this fallen world. Therefore, we confess our sin and weakness to You and in repentance pray You of Your mercy to forgive our sins and grant us Your grace and strength.**

**Pastor:** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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

**People:** **Amen.**

### **HOLY GOSPEL**

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

**People:** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 3:15–22* (The heavens were opened.)

<sup>15</sup> As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is

in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>18</sup> So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup> But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup> added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: 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.**

### **✠ WORD ✠**

#### **PSALM 8**

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in / all the earth!\*

**You have set your glory above the / heavens.**

Out of the mouth of babes and infants,  
you have established strength because / of your foes,\*  
**to still the enemy and the a-/venger.**

When I look at your heavens, the work of your / fingers,\*  
**the moon and the stars, which you have / set in place,**

what is man that you are mind-/ful of him,\*  
**and the son of man that you / care for him?**  
Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly / beings\*  
**and crowned him with glory and / honor.**

You have given him dominion over the works / of your hands;\*  
**you have put all things under / his feet,**

all sheep and /oxen,\*  
**and also the beasts / of the field,**

the birds of the heavens, and the fish / of the sea,\*  
**whatever passes along the paths / of the seas.**

O / LORD, our Lord,\*  
**how majestic is your name in / all the earth!**

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son\*  
**and to the Holy / Spirit;**  
as it was in the be / ginning\*  
**is now, and will be forever. / Amen.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

“Lord I Need You”

**Lord, I come, I confess;  
Bowing here I find my rest.  
And without You I fall apart;  
You're the one that guides my heart.**

**Lord I need You, oh, I need You;  
Ev'ry hour I need You.  
My one defense, my righteousness;  
Oh, God, how I need You.**

**Where sin runs deep,  
Your grace is more;  
Where grace is found is where You are.  
And where You are, Lord, I am free;  
Holiness is Christ in me.**

**Lord I need You, oh, I need You;  
Ev'ry hour I need You.  
My one defense, my righteousness;  
Oh God how I need You.**

**So teach my song to rise to You  
When temptation comes my way.  
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You.  
Jesus, You're my hope and stay.**

**Lord I need You, oh, I need You;  
Ev'ry hour I need You.  
My one defense, my righteousness;  
Oh, God, how I need You.  
You're my one defense, my righteousness;**

**Oh, God how I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness;  
Oh, God, how I need You.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**    *Genesis 15:1-8, 18*

**15** After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." **2** But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue<sup>[a]</sup> childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" **3** And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." **4** And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son<sup>[b]</sup> shall be your heir." **5** And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." **6** And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

**7** And he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess." **8** But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?"

**18** On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your offspring I give<sup>[a]</sup> this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.

*Genesis 17:15-21*

**15** And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah<sup>[a]</sup> shall be her name. **16** I will bless her, and moreover, I will give<sup>[b]</sup> you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." **17** Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, "Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" **18** And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before you!" **19** God said, "No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac.<sup>[c]</sup> I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. **20** As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation. **21** But I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this time next year."

Lector:            This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:**        **Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE**        *Mark 1:11b*

**People:**        **Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!**

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

**People:**        **Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!**

**EPISTLE**      *Hebrews 11:8-20*

**8** By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. **9** By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. **10** For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. **11** By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. **12** Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born

descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

<sup>13</sup> These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. <sup>14</sup> For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

<sup>17</sup> By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, <sup>18</sup> of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." <sup>19</sup> He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. <sup>20</sup> By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

LSB 718 Jesus, Lead Thou On

- 1 Jesus, lead Thou on  
Till our rest is won;  
And although the way be cheerless,  
We will follow calm and fearless.  
Guide us by Thy hand  
To our fatherland.**
- 2 If the way be drear,  
If the foe be near,  
Let not faithless fears o'ertake us;  
Let not faith and hope forsake us;  
For through many\_a woe  
To our home we go.**
- 3 When we seek relief  
From a long-felt grief,  
When temptations come alluring,  
Make us patient and enduring.  
Show us that bright shore  
Where we weep no more.**
- 4 Jesus, lead Thou on  
Till our rest is won.  
Heav'nly leader, still direct us,  
Still support, console, protect us,**

**Till we safely stand  
In our fatherland.**

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## **SERMON**

**CREED**      *Nicene Creed*

**People:**    **I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the  
dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:**      Lord, in Your mercy,  
**People:**      hear our prayer.

## **OFFERING**

## **OFFERTORY**

“The Potter’s Hand”

Beautiful Lord, wonderful Saviour,  
I know for sure, all of my days are  
Held in Your hand;  
Crafted into Your perfect plan.

You gently call me into Your presence,  
Guiding me by Your Holy Spirit;  
Teach me dear Lord, to live all of my life  
Through Your eyes.

I'm captured by Your holy calling,  
Set me apart, I know You're drawing  
Me to Yourself;  
Lead me Lord I pray

Take me, mould me,  
Use me, fill me;  
I give my life to the Potter's hand

Call me, guide me,  
Lead me, walk beside me;  
I give my life to the Potter's hand.

Take me, mould me,  
Use me, fill me;  
I give my life to the Potter's hand

Call me, guide me,  
Lead me, walk beside me;  
I give my life to the Potter's hand.

CCLI Song # 2449771

✘ SACRAMENT ✘

**PREFACE**    *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor:        The Lord be with you.

**People:**      **And also with you.**

Pastor:        Lift up your hearts.

**People:**      **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor:        Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:**      **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**PROPER PREFACE**

Pastor:        It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. Therefore with angels and

archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS** LSB 195

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the  
Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**Pastor:** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

**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.

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

**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  $\times$  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  $\times$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### **PAX DOMINI**

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

**People:** Amen.

### **AGNUS DEI** LSB 198 **Agnus Dei**

**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
grant us Thy peace. Amen.

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

LSB 618 | Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

**1** I come, O Savior, to Thy table,  
For weak and weary is my soul;  
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able  
To satisfy and make me whole: Refrain

**ref** Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!

**2** Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning  
That sinners may salvation see  
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;  
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. Refrain

**3** Unworthy though I am, O Savior,  
Because I have a sinful heart,  
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,  
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: Refrain

**4** Weary am I and heavy laden;  
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;  
Receive me graciously and gladden  
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. Refrain

- 5 What higher gift can we inherit?  
It is faith's bond and solid base;  
It is the strength of heart and spirit,  
The covenant of hope and grace. Refrain**

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LSB 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

- 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
Praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide  
Flowing from His pierced side.  
Alleluia!**
- 2 Praise we Him, whose love divine  
Gives His sacred blood for wine,  
Gives His body for the feast—  
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.  
Alleluia!**
- 3 Where the paschal blood is poured,  
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go  
Through the wave that drowns the foe.  
Alleluia!**
- 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,  
Paschal victim, paschal bread;  
With sincerity and love  
Eat we manna from above.  
Alleluia!**
- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
You have conquered in the fight,  
You have brought us life and light.  
Alleluia!**
- 6 Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And Your saints in You shall rise.  
Alleluia!**
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,**

**Newborn souls in You to be.  
Alleluia!**

**D8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise.  
Alleluia!**

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**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE** Sent Forth by God's Blessing LSB 643 vs 1

**1 Sent forth by God's blessing,  
Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.  
The Supper is ended.  
O now be extended  
The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of His teaching,  
Receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
His grace did invite us,  
His love shall unite us  
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.**

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### **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

**Pastor:** Let us pray. All who are baptized into Christ, dear Father, You have made partakers in the very body and blood with which Your Son has redeemed us, taking away our sins. Keep us, Your sons and daughters, firm in faith and constant in love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION** *Numbers 6:24–26*

**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.

**People:** **Amen.**

### **HYMN** "We Know That Christ Is Raised" *LSB 603*

**1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
Embraced by death, He broke its fearful hold;  
And our despair He turned to blazing joy.  
Alleluia!**

**2 We share by water in His saving death.  
Reborn, we share with Him an Easter life  
As living members of a living Christ.  
Alleluia!**

**3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.  
The Spirit's power shakes the Church of God.  
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One.  
Alleluia!**

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