

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

January 9 and 10, 2021

5 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m. Sunday



THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

United with Christ

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 ✂

Prelude

“Baptized into Your Name Most Holy”

Paul Manz

Pastoral Greeting

Opening Hymn

“Baptized into Your Name Most Holy”

LSB 590

Verses 1, 3-4



1 Bap-tized in - to Your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
3 My faith - ful God, You fail me nev - er; Your prom - ise sure - ly
4 All that I am and love most dear - ly— Re - ceive it all, O



Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,
will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er
Lord, from me. Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly;



A - mong Your saints, Your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and
If words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I
Help me Your faith - ful child to be! Let noth - ing that I



dead to sin, Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.
come de - filed; For - give, lift up, re - store Your child.
am or own Serve an - y will but Yours a - lone.

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Invocation

Opening Sentences Genesis 1:1–2; Psalm 29:3–4

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

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

Pastor: And God said, “Let there be light.”

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

Pastor: The voice of the Lord is powerful.

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

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

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

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: 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.

Pastor: 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.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for you. In Baptism, you were united to Christ in both His death and resurrection. You were buried with Him, but also raised to walk in newness of life. 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.

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

☩ **WORD** ☩

Epistle: Romans 6:1-11
(Dead to sin, alive to God.)

What shall we say, then?
Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?
By no means!
We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?
Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were



baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of

the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin-- because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

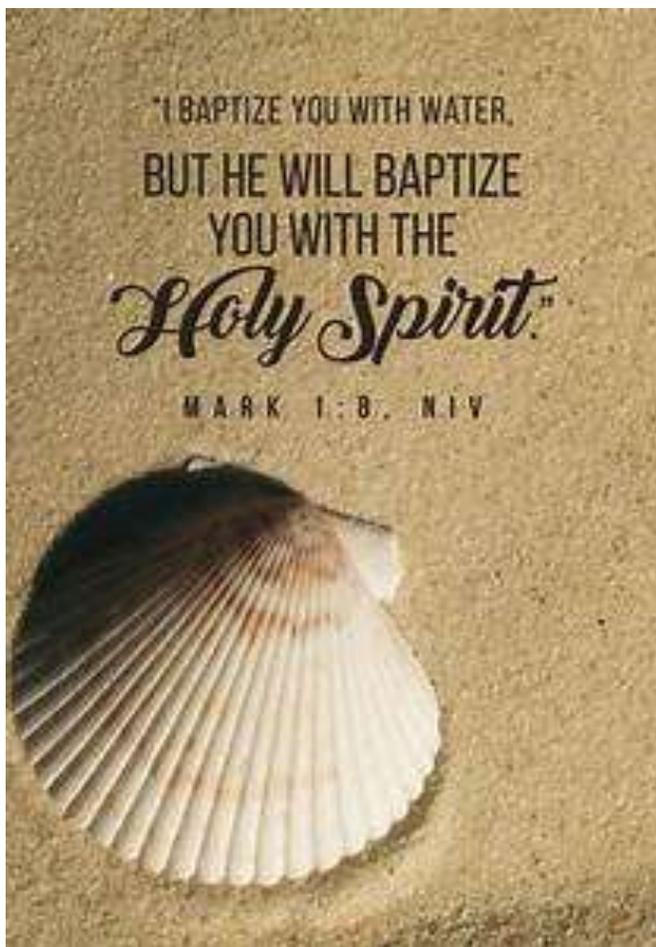
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

(The Baptism of Jesus.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Like, the 1st Chapter.

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



And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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



1 You are be - lov - èd in the Lord And
 2 Re - nounce the dev - il's works and ways; His
 3 God goes be - hind you as a shield Pro -
 6 Dear child of God, your cares com - mit To



in His name bap - tized; You have, ac - cord - ing
 prom - is - es are lies. He tempts God's peo - ple
 tect - ing you from harm; To Him each dead - ly
 God, the Lord of all; He will sus - tain and



to His Word, Been taught and cat - e - chized.
 all their days To faith - less com - pro - mise.
 foe must yield Be - fore His might - y arm.
 not per - mit His righ - teous ones to fall.

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Sermon "What Defines You?"

Pastor John Larson
 TEXT: Romans 6:1-11

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 *Offerings will be collected at the back, in the Narthex.*

☩ HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION ☩

The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with "Amen!", a word of affirmation and belief.



☩ SACRAMENT ☩

Preface (Divine Service, Setting One)

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.**

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

"O Blessed Spring "

LSB 595

Verses 1-2, 4-5



1 O bless-ed spring, where Word and sign Em - brace us
2 Through sum-mer heat of youth-ful years, Un - cer - tain
4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, We breathe our
5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, Be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: Here Christ en - joins each one to
faith, re - bel - lious tears, Sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
last, re - turn to dust; Still held in Christ, our souls take
this blest mys - ter - y: That Word and wa - ter thus re -



be A branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
rain, The boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
wing And trust the prom - ise of the spring.
vive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

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"We Know that Christ is Raised" (Pastorale)

Michael Burkhardt

General Communion Blessing

Benediction (Divine Service, Setting One)

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.



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in His sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.



Em-braced by death, He broke its fear - ful hold;
 Re - born, we share with Him an Eas - ter life
 The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the Church of God.



And our de - spair He turned to blaz - ing joy.
 As liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
 Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.



Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia!

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Congregational Concerns

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude "We Know that Christ is Raised"
(and Row by Row Dismissal)

Sue Wallace

Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Pastor John Larson
 Michael Zehnder