

Baptism of Our Lord

January 10, 2021

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Stephanie*)

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (*Stephanie*)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

P: People of God, in the baptismal waters we travel with Christ from death to life. Our past, our sin, our failure, our doubt, and our shame are drowned and gone here.

C: You, O God, wash us clean.

P: Our fear, our confusion, our self-righteousness, our despair -- ALL are washed away by grace.

C: You, O God, wash us clean.

P: Our pride, our hypocrisy, and other people's opinions of us no longer have the power to define us.

C: You, O God, give us new life.

P: The Spirit lives and moves through us now, a great and joyful mystery, so we may bring love and mercy into the world as the body of Christ.

C: You, O God, give us new life.

P: Rejoice that God has claimed us in this baptismal grace, not by our own doing or believing but by God's mercy alone.

C: You, O God, give us new life.

P: And so, as we begin worship, we light a candle giving thanks to God for the gracious gift of baptism that joins us together in Christ by the Spirit's power. Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. We praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG

“Wade in the Water”

ELW #459

Refrain

Wade in the water,
Wade in the water, children,
Wade in the water,
God's a goin' a trouble the water.

Verse 1

See that host all dressed in white,
Wade in the water, children.
The Leader looks like the Israelite.
God's a goin' a trouble the water.

Refrain

Verse 2

See that band all dressed in red,
Wade in the water, children.
Looks like the band that Moses led,
God's a goin' a trouble the water.

Refrain

Verse 3

Look over yonder, what do I see?
Wade in the water, children.
The Holy Ghost a coming on me.
God's a goin' a trouble the water.

Refrain

Verse 4

If you don't believe I've been redeemed,
Wade in the water, children.
Just follow me down to Jordan's stream.
God's a goin' a trouble the water.

Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(Assistant)*

L: Heavenly Father, with joy and awe we praise you for claiming us as your sons and daughters, and for pouring your Holy Spirit upon us. Help us to prepare this earth for your glory, and shine your light on all your faithful children, for the sake of the one whose birth and baptism brought renewal and transformation to this world, Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING *(Pam Jackson)*

Acts 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He 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.' Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' Paul 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.' On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-22

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."' ' John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, added to them all by shutting up John in prison. Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

Verse 1

God I'm on my knees again
 God I'm begging please again
 I need You
 Oh I need You

Walking down these desert roads
 Water for my thirsty soul
 I need You
 Oh I need You

Chorus 1

Your forgiveness
 Is like sweet sweet honey on my lips
 Like the sound of a symphony to my ears
 Like holy water (on my skin)

Ending

Yeah it's like holy water on my skin
 Oh it's like holy water

Verse 2

Dead man walking slave to sin
 I wanna know about being born again
 I need You
 Oh God I need You

So take me to the riverside
 Take me under baptize
 I need You
 Oh God I need You oh

Bridge

I don't wanna abuse Your grace
 God I need it ev'ry day
 It's the only thing that ever really
 Makes me wanna change

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Assistant*)

C: 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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*Assistant*)

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

L: Christ our light,

C: we pray to you.

L: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Assistant*)

C: 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.

SENDING

SHARING OF THE PEACE (*Stephanie*)

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

BENEDICTION (*Stephanie*)

L: God most high, God with us, God poured out on us. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Verse 1

Christ, when for us you were baptized,
God’s Spirit on you came,
As peaceful as a dove, and yet
As urgent as a flame, as urgent as a flame.

Verse 2

God called you, “My beloved Son”;
You are God’s servant true,
Sent to proclaim the reign of heav’n,
God’s holy will to do, God’s holy will to do.

DISMISSAL (*Assistant*)

L: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Verse 3

Straight way and steadfast until death
You then obeyed the call
To serve with free and willing heart,
To give your life for all, to give your life for all.

Verse 4

Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord;
Your cross on us be signed,
That likewise in God’s service we
May perfect freedom find, may perfect freedom find.