

Worship Leader Edition
Baptism of Our Lord

January 7, 2024

8:30 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *{Front Center}*

+CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *{Front Center}* (Rob)

Screen

L: The coming of Christ was not, and is not, widely welcomed. Wherever there is epiphany there will also be darkness: the darkness of old superstitions and dogmas which refuse to fade away easily; the darkness of pride in the half truths that have masqueraded as wisdom; the darkness of entrenched evil that hates the light and tries to dispose of it; the darkness of apathy that cannot be bothered to open the shutters;

L: Most holy and loving God,

C: please forgive the darkness and pain we have inflicted on others, and restore your light within our own souls. Trusting your grace, we humbly ask, “Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.” Through Christ Jesus our Saviour. Amen!

L: My friends, Epiphany is good news! The Light comes not to sear and blind us but to save us. Jesus came into this world to save sinners. In His name, I declare to you: Your sins are forgiven!

C: Thanks be to God!

+OPENING HYMN

“In Christ Called to Baptize”

ELW #575

Verse 1

In Christ called to baptize,
We witness to grace
And gather a people
From each land and race.
In deep, flowing waters,
We share in Christ’s death,
Then, rising to new life,
Give thanks for each breath.

Verse 2

In Christ called to banquet,
One table we share,
A haven of welcome,
A circle of care.
Although we are many,
We share in one bread.
One cup of thanksgiving
Proclaims Christ, our head.

Verse 3

In Christ called to witness,
By grace we will preach
The life giving gospel;
God’s love we will teach.
By grace may our living
Give proof to our praise
In costly compassion
Reflecting Christ’s way.

Verse 4

Unite us, anoint us.
O Spirit of love,
For you are within us,
Around us, above.
Equip us for service
With gifts you bestow.
In Christ is our calling.
In Christ may we grow.

+GREETING *{Front Center}* (Becky Olson)

L: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

(Assistant may be seated if not cantoring)

+KYRIE *(cantor and congregation)*

ELW pg. 147/*Screen*

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

+HYMN OF PRAISE (*cantor and congregation*) “This Is the Feast” ELW pg. 149-150/*Screen*

L: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen

This is the feast of victory for our God.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY {*Front Center*} (*Becky Olson*)

L: Heavenly God, when Jesus was baptized by John in the wilderness, you claimed him as your son. Claim us as your children, inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING {*Lectern*} (*David Skinner*)

Acts 2:36-42

Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.’ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what should we do?’ Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.’ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, ‘Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.’ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia”

ELW pg. 151/*Screen*

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Please stand as you are able.

+THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-20

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight”’, John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And 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. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He 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. 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 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. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’ And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.’ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, ‘Follow me and I will make you fish for people.’

And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Come, Beloved of the Maker”

ELW #306

Verses 1, 2 & 4

Verse 1

Come, beloved of the Maker,
Come, behold the Firstborn One;
See reveals creation’s splendor
Crowned in glory like the sun.

"Follow me," Christ calls in welcome,
"Come from darkness into light."

Verse 4

There we too will burn and brighten,
God's resplendent work begun;
Glory will ascend and heighten,
Crowning us with glorious sun.

Verse 2

See the Morning star now beckon
To those bound to doubt and night;

+THE APOSTLES’ CREED {*Front Center*} (*Becky Olson*)

Screen

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 {*Front Center*} (*Becky Olson*)

Screen

After each petition:

L: Hear us, Oh God.

C: Your mercy is great.

+SHARING OF THE PEACE {*Front Center*} (*Beth Angerhofer*)

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

C: And also with you.

L: For all who are gathered, let us take a moment to welcome those around us with a greeting. For those of you online, please share a word of peace in the comment or chat. Most all as we go out into the world may we greet others as people of peace.

MEAL

INVITATION TO THE TABLE AND THE FONT

+THE GREAT THANKSGIVING/DIALOGUE AND PREFACE (*Rob*)

ELW pg. 152/*Screen*

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

+HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*brief intro*)

ELW pg. 153/*Screen*

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow’r and might, heav’n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION (*Rob*)

+THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Rob*)

Screen

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.

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISMS (*light candles for those baptized in 2023*)

Nora Hermann, Chessa Lange and Thomas Brown

L: On this Baptismal Sunday, I invite you to remember your baptism. You will be invited up to come to the font to receive a sign of the cross on your forehead or hand.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION/ALL ARE WELCOME

COMMUNION SONG

"Lamb of God"

ELW pg. 154/*Screen*

C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

TIME OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE (*On Screen*)

Screen

L: In this time of reflection and response you are invited to fill out your welcome card. Share any reflections, questions, or prayers on the back. Also, take this time to prepare your offering. For those gathered the collection plates are in the front and back, and there is a QR code in the bulletin to give electronically. For those on-line please go to our website stlukesbloomington.org there is a link to give at the bottom of every page. Enjoy this time.

CHOIR ANTHEM

"When Jesus Came to Jordan"
St. Luke's Choir

Fred Pratt Green

+POST-COMMUNION BLESSING (*Rob*)

L: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

+POST-COMMUNION PRAYER {*Front Center*} (*Becky Olson*)

L: We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use our gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord

C: Amen.

SENDING

+BENEDICTION

L: May the waters of God's grace surround you and uphold you. May your baptism strengthen you for the work ahead. And may the Spirit that descended upon Jesus at his baptism fall upon your shoulders as you seek to do God's will. In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit

C: Amen.

+SENDING HYMN

"Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized"

ELW #304

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.

Verse 3

Straightway 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 that likewise in God's service we
May perfect freedom find,
May perfect freedom find.

+Dismissal {Front Center} (Becky Olson)

L: Remember to walk wet as you serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE