



“²²...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.”

Luke 3: 22

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Baptism of Our Lord – January 10, 2016

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Rev. Robert Zimmerman, Pastor

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*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION

The Baptism of Our Lord – January 10, 2016

This past Wednesday, January 6, marked the Feast of the Epiphany, when the Church remembers the visit of the wise men to Jesus, and more broadly, the revelation of Jesus to the world. This morning's prelude and postlude, as well as our Gathering Song, reflect on the Epiphany.

This Sunday, we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord cannot help but recall our own and all baptismal blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as daughters and sons, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters...the rivers...fire." On this day the heavens open again, for this assembly, and we receive the gift of the beloved Son of God in bread and wine.

PRELUDE: *Brightest and Best of the Stars* – Robert A. Hobby

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us
 even when we were dead in sin,
 and made us alive together with Christ.
 By grace you have been saved.
 In the name of + Jesus Christ,
 your sins are forgiven.
 Almighty God strengthen you with power
 through the Holy Spirit,
 that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG #302: *As with Gladness Men of Old

***GREETING**

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

***KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

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

Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

*GLORY TO GOD

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son.

Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring them home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

¹But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—

⁷everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29



The voice of the LORD is up - on the wa - ters.

¹Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.
²Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.
³**The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;**
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.
⁴**The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;**
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor. R
⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce-|dars of Lebanon;
⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.



⁷The voice | of the LORD

bursts forth in | lightning flashes.

⁸The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;

the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh. R

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.

And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned a- |bove the flood;

The LORD sits enthroned asking for- | evermore.

¹¹O LORD, give strength | to your people;

give them, O LORD, the bless- |ings of peace. R

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14–17

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The cantor sings the Alleluias, and all repeat them.



Verse (cantor): A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." (Matt. 3:17)

GOSPEL READING: Luke 3:15–17, 21-22

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John 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. ¹⁷His 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."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and 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."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON
SERMON**

HYMN OF THE DAY#304: *Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized

***PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?
I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?
I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
**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.**

***AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit:

the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Giving thanks for the gift of baptism and the gifts of grace in the world, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

For your church on earth, that your Spirit guides your children. Unite us in our common call to live out your justice and stand with our siblings of every faith community. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For this world, which you redeemed, that the powerful in all nations foster its health and care for all its creatures. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give your people of every land the tools and strength to care for one another. Give passion to strive for justice to your people. Bless all countries with the courage to follow what is wise and good. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lift up the poor and oppressed, ease the troubled minds and hearts of those in turmoil, and surround those who are ill with the comforts of good medicine and good friends, signs of your healing. We pray especially for Frieda, Raymond, Wanda Jean, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Fred & Jane, David & Ellen, and all those we remember aloud or in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide those preparing for baptism, their sponsors, and this assembly so that we all live into the promises made in baptism. Lead us all to scripture, the holy supper, and toward justice and peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for the lives of the faithful departed and for the assurance of the same resurrection by our baptism into Christ's death. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all of your beloved for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN #407: O Living Breath of God

(All stand for the final stanza as the gifts are brought forward)

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills
were gathered together to become one bread,
so let your church be gathered together
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom,
for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

Amen.

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
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**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Blessed are you, O holy God:

you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our darkness

and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,

his preaching and healing,

his dying and rising,

and his promise to come again,

we await that day when all the universe

will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,

that, refreshed with this heavenly food,

we may be light for the world,

revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church,

both now and forever. **Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table.

Feast on God's abundant life for you.

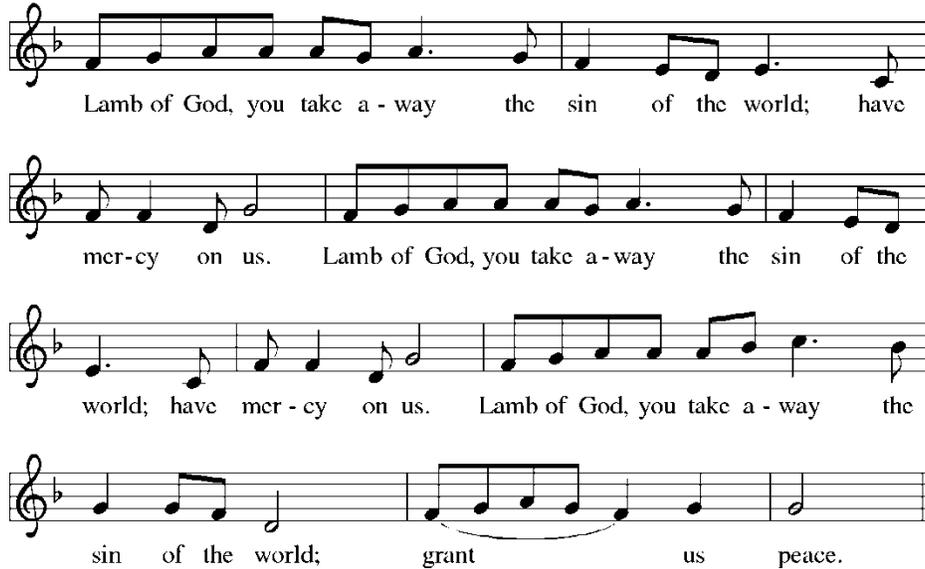
COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The area of cups bordered by green tape has grape juice.

COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN #800: *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.

Amen.



*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Lord, now you let your ser - vant go in peace; your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -
veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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 your gifts to build one another up,
and in everything reflect your glory
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*BLESSING

God Almighty send you light and truth
to keep you all the days of your life.
The hand of God protect you;
the holy angels accompany you;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG: *We Know that Christ Is Raised



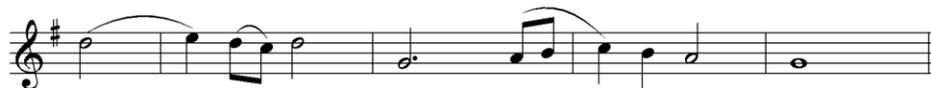
We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Em-
 We share by wat - er in His sav - ing death. Re-
 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. The
 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows as



- braced by death He broke its fear - ful hold; and
 - born we share with Him an Eas - ter life as
 Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God. Bap-
 Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood. The



our de - spair He turned to blaz - ing joy.
 liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
 - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
 u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



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

Text: John B. Geyer
 Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams
 Text © John B. Geyer

SINE NOMINE

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Epilogue on "As with Gladness Men of Old"* – William H. Harris

The flowers this week are given by Ruth Ann Tully and John Tully for the glory of God.

8:00 am

Assisting Minister: Ruth Ann Tully

Communion Assistant:

Acolyte:

Lector:

Usher: Bob Davidson

Attendance Last Week: 76

Weekly Budgeted Need: \$ 2,755.44

(12/31/2015)

YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$ 142,672.68

YTD Receipts: \$ 4,669.00

YTD Actual Expense: \$ 142,444.97

(1/03/2016)

YTD Proposed Budgeted Exp. \$ 3,374.14

YTD Actual Expense \$ 567.43

(1/10/2016)

YTD Proposed Budgeted Exp. \$ 6,748.27

YTD Actual Expense \$ 3,517.43

10:30 am

Assisting Minister:

Communion Assistant:

Acolyte:

Lector:

Usher:

Attendance Last Year: 54

Last Week's Giving: \$4,669.00

YTD Receipts: \$4,669.00

Sally Foster

Victoria Lydon

Carolyn Jarrett

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