

## THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

God in Flesh Made Manifest

January 9 & 10, 2016

5:00pm & 8:00am

### AS WE GATHER

Each year the First Sunday after Epiphany takes us to the Jordan River, where Jesus is baptized. The Baptism of Our Lord is a reminder of the importance of Baptism in the life of every Christian: through drowning in Baptism we are born anew to eternal life. The experience we share in Jesus' Baptism unites us with Christ and gives us a whole new way of living for time and for eternity. All who believe and are baptized Shall see the Lord's salvation; Baptized into the death of Christ, They are a new creation. *LSB 601*

### WELCOME

#### MINISTRY MOMENT - Divine Connections

This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. (1 John 4:2-3a)

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

#### OPENING HYMN #409 "Hail, O Source of Every Blessing"

Hail, O Source of ev'ry blessing, Father of our human race!  
Gentiles now, Your grace possessing, In Your courts obtain a place.  
Grateful now, we fall before You, In Your Church rejoice to live,  
See Your glory and adore You, Thankful for the grace You give.

Once far off but now invited, We approach Your sacred throne,  
In Your covenant united, Reconciled, redeemed, made one.  
Now revealed to eastern sages, See the Star of Mercy shine,  
Myst'ry hid in former ages, Myst'ry great of love divine.

Hail, O all inviting Savior! Gentiles now their off'rings bring,  
In Your temples seek Your favor, Jesus Christ, our Lord and King.  
May we, body, soul, and spirit, Live devoted to Your praise,  
Glorious realms of bliss inherit, Grateful anthems ever raise.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

People: **Merciful Lord, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We admit that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; we have done those things which we ought not to have done. We have not always shaped our lives around the Gospel and have not always shared our faith as opportunity was given to us. We have not always been generous in sharing the bounty you have given us. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us to change what is sinful in our lives that each day we may grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of your holy name.**

Pastor: God has gathered His people from north and south, east and west, and to them says, "Fear not!" In His mercy He promises pardon, life, and salvation because of the atoning sacrifice of His beloved Son. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I announce to you the forgiveness of all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

People: Amen.

#### HYMN OF PRAISE #814

#### "O Bless the Lord, My Soul"

Stanzas 1-3, 6

O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all within in me join  
And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose favors are divine.

O bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mercies lie  
Forgotten in unthankfulness And without praises die!

'Tis He forgives thy sins; 'Tis He relieves thy pain;  
'Tis He that heals thy sicknesses And makes thee young again.

His wondrous works and ways He made by Moses known,  
But sent the world His truth and grace By His beloved Son.

## SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, in the Baptism of our Lord Jesus in the Jordan River you affirmed Him as your beloved Son. Help us, your beloved children, to live out each day in our baptismal grace as we await the joy of life in your eternal presence. This we ask for the sake of Jesus, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

### ✠ WORD ✠

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Isaiah 43:1–7* (The Lord has called Israel by name.)

But now, this is what the LORD says-- he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give men in exchange for you, and people in exchange for your life. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.' Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth-- everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

**EPISTLE** *Romans 6:1–11* (We are made to walk in newness of life in Christ.)

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.

**8:00 CHOIR ANTHEM** "Be Strong in the Lord"

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 3:15–22* (Jesus is baptized by John in the Jordan) The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Christ. John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them. But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison. When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

(Be seated)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**SERMON HYMN #394** "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" Stanzas 1,2,5

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
Manifested by the star To the sages from afar,  
Branch of royal David's stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem:  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;  
And at Cana wedding guest In Thy Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in pow'r divine, Changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word  
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;  
That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany  
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

**SERMON**

**“Manifest in His Baptism in the Jordan”**

Luke 3:15-22

(Rise)

**CATECHISM**

*The Third Article; The Small Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism*

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Pastor: The Word of God tells us that the Holy Spirit works through the Means of Grace, but we ask: “How can water used in Holy Baptism do such great things?”

**People: Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this Word of God in the water. For without God’s word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three, “He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.”**

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: As people created, redeemed and baptismally called by the Lord to be His children, let us pray to Him as dear children ask their dear father.

*After each petition:*

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

*At the conclusion of the prayers:*

Pastor: . . . one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**+ SACRAMENT +**

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

**THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

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

**People: Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI**

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.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

**HYMN #839 “O Christ, Our True and Only Light”**

O Christ, our true and only light, Enlighten those who sit in night;

Let those afar now hear your voice and in your fold with us rejoice.

Fill with the radiance of your grace The souls now lost in error’s maze;

Enlighten those whose inmost minds Some dark delusion haunts and binds.

O gently call those gone astray That they may find the saving way!

Let ev’ry conscience sore oppressed In you find peace and heav’nly rest.

Shine on the darkened and the cold; Recall the wand’rers to your fold.

Unite all those who walk apart; Confirm the weak and doubting heart.

That they with us may evermore Such grace with wond’ring thanks adore

And endless praise to you be giv’n By all your church in earth and heav’n.

**HYMN #590 “Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy”**

Baptized into Your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,

I claim a place, though weak and lowly, Among Your saints, Your chosen host.

Buried with Christ and dead to sin, Your Spirit now shall live within.

My loving Father, here You take me To be henceforth Your child and heir.

My faithful Savior here You make me The fruit of all Your sorrows share.

O Holy Spirit, comfort me When threat’ning clouds around I see.

My faithful God, You fail me never; Your promise surely will endure.  
O cast me not away forever If words and deeds become impure.  
Have mercy when I come defiled; Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.  
All that I am and love most dearly Receive it all, O Lord, from me.  
Let me confess my faith sincerely; Help me Your faithful child to be!  
Let nothing that I am or won Serve any will but Yours alone.

**HYMN #395 “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”**

O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God’s own truth and light,  
A-glow with grace and mercy! Of Jacob’s race, King David’s son,  
Our Lord and master, You have won Our hearts to serve You only!  
Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, All victorious,  
Rich in blessing! Rule and might o’er all possessing!

Come, heav’nly Bridegroom, Light divine, And deep within our hearts now shine;  
There light a flame undying! In Your one body let us be  
As living branches of a tree, Your life our lives supplying.  
Now, though daily Earth’s deep sadness May perplex us  
And distress us, Yet with heav’nly joy You bless us.

Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls from God above  
A ray of purest pleasure, Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood  
Refresh our souls with heav’nly food. You are our dearest treasure!  
Let Your mercy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!  
For you teach us God’s own love through You has reached us.

Almighty Father, in Your Son You loved us when not yet begun  
Was this old earth’s foundation! Your Son has ransomed us in love  
To live in Him here and above: This is Your great salvation.  
Alleluia! Christ the living, To us giving  
Life forever, Keeps us Yours and fails us never!

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Blessed are you, heavenly Father, for you have once again fed and  
nourished us at your Table through the body and blood of your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Continue to strengthen us through this gracious  
meal that, buried with Christ by Baptism into death and in fellowship

with one another, we may live resurrected and renewed lives in  
baptismal grace and show forth your love through acts of mercy.  
Support us in this life and bring us at last to the unending feast in your  
eternal kingdom, where you live and reign with the Son and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

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.**

**CLOSING HYMN #722 “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”**

Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life’s way:  
Direct, protect, and feed my From day to day.  
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;  
So take my hand , O Savior, And lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear,  
For You, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.  
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,  
For when Your hand is guiding, In peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,  
I know that You will strengthen My steps toward home.  
Then nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend;  
So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.

Preacher

Liturgist

Lector

Acolytes

Organist

Choir Director

Pastor Harold Bender

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Pat Graf

Abigail Fellenbaum, Zander Maxwell

Roger Gottschalk

Nancy Hoelke