

Worship in the Home

Baptism of Our Lord, Year B

January 10, 2021



In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ. While we cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.

***** In preparation for today's service, you may fill a small bowl with water and have it ready with you for the Thanksgiving for Baptism*****

Prelude

Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

If you have water prepared, make the sign of the cross on your own forehead or take turns marking a cross on those who are gathered in your household.

Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint - ing soul;
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray...Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness God called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Psalm 29

Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And 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. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "After me the one who is more powerful than I is coming; the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but the one who is coming will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Homily

Reflection

Many people go out to John, confessing their sins and hoping his baptism will be the sign of a new age, an indication of God creating all things anew. We, too, hope for such a new beginning and we, too, have been baptized, confessing our sins. Jesus also is baptized, hidden among us sinners, joining us in longing for a new age. But, in the text, only he sees something utterly new: the torn-open heavens and the descending dove. Only he hears the voice of God declaring him the beloved Son. But we hear too! This voice over the waters comes here, where we are reading these texts. Jesus Christ, whose identity continues to be hidden in Mark's Gospel until he is finally hidden by the crucifixion, is revealed to us as living in the word and sacraments of the church, a word we today may hear in our homes. In encountering Jesus Christ, we see and hear the holy Trinity, the Voice from above the heavens, the Son in the water, and the descending Spirit, making all things new, as if the creation of Genesis 1 is all around us again, as if Noah's flood is finally over. Our baptism gathers us into the life of the Trinity, making us, like the ancient Christian Ephesians, witnesses to this new creation.



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John,
 2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,
 3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.
 for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.
 this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond - age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,
 So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,
 Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.
 the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.
 to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

Prayer of Intercession

On this Sunday of the baptism of our Lord, let us offer our prayers for all in need.

For the worldwide church; for those who minister in the church; for all who will be baptized this year; and for their godparents and sponsors: that the Holy Spirit will empower all the faithful for lives of service, let us pray. O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

For the waters of the earth; for the seas, the lakes, the rivers; for the wells that provide drinking water; and for the water that is piped into our homes: that God provide clean and nourishing water for all living things, let us pray. O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

For the nations of the world and their leaders; for international efforts to prevent war and reduce violence; for the armed forces; for police officers; and for peacemakers: that God inspire all people to work for the harmonious well-being of others, let us pray. O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

For students; for teachers and school administrators; for parents assisting their children in home schooling; and for young people who are finding a way toward graduation: that as the academic year resumes, God give resilience to everyone in the search for education, let us pray. O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

For all who are in trouble, want, or sickness; for those who are suffering with COVID-19; for medical workers; for people who are hungry or homeless, imprisoned or lonely; and for those we name here. . . .: that God grant health and wholeness to a world so filled with pain, let us pray. O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

For ourselves: that we rejoice in our adoption as members of God's family, and that now in this silence we bring to God our heart's requests, let us pray...O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

In gratitude for our beloved dead, we offer our praise for all the baptized who have accompanied us and supported us and taught us throughout our days; that at our end we join with them in everlasting joy, let us pray. O God, give strength to your people. **Give us your blessings of peace.**

Almighty and most merciful God, you are the mighty Voice from heaven, you are our beloved Savior, you are the descending Dove. We give you thanks for all your goodness and tender mercies, and we ask you to accept our prayers for the sake of your mercy and in the name of the one who taught us to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

ELW # 314

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Announcement

Postlude

<p style="text-align: center;">Installation of Leaders in the Congregation <i>Zoom ID 596-621-1441</i> <i>Passcode 8675309</i></p>
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The following people have been elected to positions of leadership: **Melissa Fetzer, Peggy Steinfurth, Beth Garner, Jane Fagans, Elaine Smith, Ed Kreider, Jean Sinal, Greg Haffling, Jim Barley, Peggy Freyer, and Kaye Burket.** We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these siblings in Christ will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (*1 Corinthians 12:4-7*)

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:

Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

Response of Council members: **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

Response of Congregation members: **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

I now declare you installed as council members of this congregation.
Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace,
that you may be faithful servants of Christ. **Amen.**

Benediction

God the creator strengthen all of us; Jesus the beloved fill us; and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep us in peace. **Amen.**

Schedule

Meetings

Tuesday, Council Meeting at 6:30 pm via Zoom

Online Worship

Sunday: Service of the Word Livestream 9:30 AM

Online Study

Tuesday & Thursday Morning & Evening Prayer 9 AM & 9 PM

Wednesday Holden Evening Prayer 7 PM with Bible Study immediately
after on Zoom

Serving God and Us Today

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Bill Brown

Our Audio/Video Tech – Jacob Orczeck

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to “Local Needs”

Prayers and Christian Sympathy go to the Richard Shaffer family upon his death on Sunday, January 3, 2021. Richard was Ruth Johnson’s brother and Annette Ritchey’s uncle.

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Shirley Acker, Carl & Dawn Alexy, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Clyde Claycomb, Betty Helsel, Doris Henderson, Gene Henry, Jere Hess, Gerald Hoover, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Nancy Uber, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns:, John Aljets, Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Helena Bassler, Greta Buchart, Diane Cappel, Todd Chipperfield, Dwight Ciccotelli, Greg Comer, Greg Dick, Brian Fleck, Jim Freyer, Donna Gearhart, Erika Hallam, Dan Hershberger, Audrey Hite, Jeff Hoenstine, Marilyn Horton, Amber Itle, Jenny, James Kelly, Darren Kreutzer, Kristen Malloy, Rick McIntyre, Ryder McDermitt, Betty McDowell, Carol Metzgar, Nathan, Jim Negley, Aunt Mica, Deb Peters, Alana Rhodes, Rebecca Romagnia, Paul Ruth, Barbara Smith, Drew Smith, Luther Steele, Michael Sutton, Joyce Taylor, Cindy Thomas, Carol Weyandt, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jacob Orczeck.

Specialist Training in the Army: Nathan Smith

Readings for the Week: Monday Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36. **Tuesday** Acts 22:2-16. **Wednesday** Isaiah 41:14-20. **Thursday** Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18. **Friday** (commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr., renewer of society martyr, 1968) Acts 13:16-25. **Saturday** 1 Samuel 2:21-25. **Second Sunday after Epiphany:** (commemoration of Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, c. 356; Pachomius, renewer of the church, 346) 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51.

Reflection text: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw. Portions from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, *All Creation Sings*, and sundaysandseasons.com © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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Video Technician Position

St. Matthew Lutheran Church is looking to hire an individual to fill the position of Video Technician effective January 1, 2021. The Video Technician will be responsible to video graph and livestream worship services on three Sundays per month with four Sundays and on four Sundays per month with five Sundays.

Applicants must be technically skillful and proficient with live streaming and video graphing, is capable of trouble shooting any technical problems, and is knowledgeable on appropriate and up-to-date equipment.

The video technician will be paid \$25 per service. The successful candidate will be trained on the existing equipment. If interested in the position, please call Pastor Traci or Jane Fagans or email the church office.