

Baptism of our Lord

Sunday, January 17, 2021

Prelude

Improvisation on "When Jesus Came to Jordan"

Renewal of Baptism

P: Today, we give thanks for the gift of our baptism as we gather to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

Profession of Faith

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

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

P: 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?

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

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

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

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, Heavenly Father, 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.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn

ELW 305 "When Jesus Came to Jordan"

- 1 When Jesus came to Jordan
 to be baptized by John,
 he did not come for pardon
 but as the Sinless One.
 He came to share repentance
 with all who mourn their sins,
 to speak the vital sentence
 with which good news begins.

2 He came to share temptation,
our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation
to die upon the cross.

So when the dove descended
on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended,
the age of grace began.

3 Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make;
this very day invade us,
and ev'ry bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most:
to share the resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: 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 he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm Hymn: Gloria Canticle (Setting 5)

Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He 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.” ³Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴Paul 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.” ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

P: The Gospel according to St. Mark.

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

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, “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. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he 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 he 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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

ELW 453 "*Baptized and Set Free*"

- 1 We are people created,
chosen by God.
Then we're washed, ever gently,
in mercy and love.
Sin has power no more.
Jesus opened the door
to a fountain bringing healing,
and wholeness and more.

- 2 We are fed and we're nourished,
filled and refreshed.
Then our hunger returns and
again we are blessed.
For whatever the need,
God is greater indeed:
endless ocean, always deeper
than all of our need.

- 3 We are nourished by water,
all living things,
and by life that the Spirit
abundantly brings.
As we journey toward home,
may your presence be known:
precious river, ever-flowing,
now carry us home.

- 4 Now with praise and thanksgiving,
we join the song.
All are welcome! We gather
to sing loud and strong.
Not enslaved, but set free!
From now on, all will be
one in Jesus, one in water,
baptized and set free!

Prayers of Intercession

A: Remembering the Church, the world, and all those in need, let us offer our prayers to God. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Merciful God, creator and giver of life, you have called all people from darkness into light, from error into truth, from death into life. Grant grace to all who are baptized in you and bless us. Raise us by your Spirit. Revive us by your word. Form us by your hand. Bring us to the water of life and to the bread and cup of blessing, that with all your people we may bear witness to your grace and praise you forever through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

A: Blessed be God, who gave us the light of the world and who desires that all people should come to know Christ's love and grace. Fill our hearts with your radiance and truth that we might walk as children of light. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Praise to you, almighty God and Father, you proclaimed Christ your Son at his baptism in the waters of the Jordan. Make your church holy that we who have been born again by the power of the Holy Spirit may live as witnesses to your grace and love for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Lord God, through the ministry of your Son we have received grace upon grace. Bring light to those who dwell in darkness, joy to those in sorrow, hope to those in fear and despair. We pray especially for those we name before you: Dennis, Carol, Nancy, Pastor Steve Swanson, Renee, Vicki, Rhea, Lupe, Betty, Calina, Bob, and all those diagnosed with COVID-19. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Thanks be to God who calls us to witness in Christ's love in our community. We give you thanks for the ministries of our congregation, and the blessings of Concordia Church, Concordia Place and Concordia Day. Use our gifts for those you have called us to serve. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C: 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.**

Closing Anthem

ELW 720 “*We are Called*”

- 1 Come! Live in the Light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom
of the city of God

Refrain

We are called to act with justice,
we are called to love tenderly,
we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

- 2 Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
so hatred and blindness will be no more. *Refrain*
- 3 Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love. *Refrain*

Benediction and Dismissal

P: Almighty God,
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
and led the magi by a star,
bless you this day + through the Word made flesh.
Amen.

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Wade in duh Wadduh!" Spiritual arr. by William Farley Smith

Announcements

- Our Sunday services are now available each week beginning at 8am! You can find our services on our website at www.concordiafaith.org/worship. You can also access the weekly bulletin where you can follow along and participate with the service.
- We appreciate your continued gifts to Concordia Church! Remember, you may give in three ways:
 1. Text-to-give: Text "Concordia" to 73256 and follow the link you receive
 2. Give online at onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
 3. Send a check via mail to the church



Virtual Workshop Live Well, Be Well: Take Charge of Your Health

Take Charge of Your Health is a free workshop for people with ongoing health conditions. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be hosting workshops online through a video conference app called Zoom.

Learn how to build skills and gain confidence in managing your health and leading an active, fulfilling life. In this FREE 6 week workshop, we will cover:

- Coping with fatigue, pain, and isolation
- Communicating with family, friends, and health professionals
- Practicing good nutrition
- Evaluating new treatment options
- Goal setting and problem solving

Registration is required and necessary to obtain information on how to access the workshop. To register, call 800.757.0202.

**Thursdays,
January 21st
through
March 4th
10:00am to
12:30pm**

Online Access Information:
The workshop will be hosted using Zoom (<https://zoom.us>)

You will need Zoom access to participate in this workshop. If you need assistance setting this up, call Padraic Stanley, LCSW at 312-942-2089.

Pre-registration is necessary to receive workshop materials.