



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Greenville
Christ Lutheran Church, Sharon

The Baptism of Our Lord
January 10, 2021

Service of the Word

Significance of the Day: Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

Gathering

Prelude Incantation based on chants from the synagogue (Fedak)

Greeting and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism and Affirmation by the Assembly

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.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow. Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you. You are the fountain of resurrection.

Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.

Praise to you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us in this sacrament. Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation. Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us.

Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Affirmation of Baptism

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 deny 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.

(From the water you have prepared, wet your fingers to make the sign of the cross, or use the water to sprinkle yourself or each other.)

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.**

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.

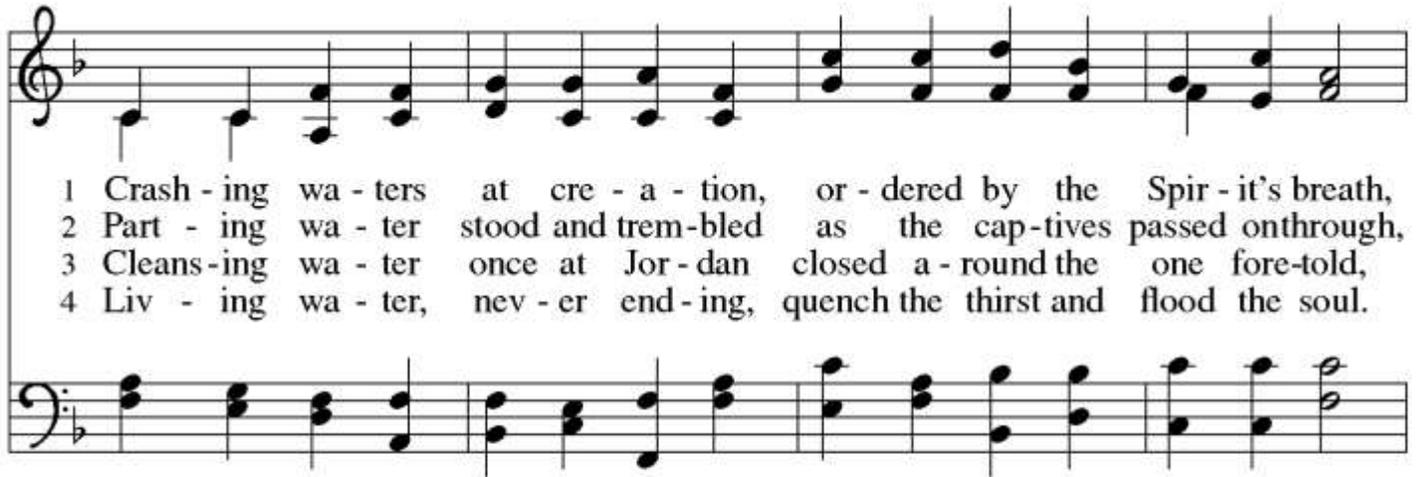
Let us pray.

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.

Opening Hymn

Crashing Waters at Creation



1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the Spir - it's breath,
2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem - bled as the cap - tives passed on through,
3 Cleans - ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the one fore - told,
4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.



first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright - ness of night's death.
wash - ing off the chains of bond - age — chan - nel to a life made new.
o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.
Well - spring, source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness, make us whole.

Apostolic 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.

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.

Word

First Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

A reading from Genesis:

1 In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 2 the 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. 3 Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

- 1 Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.
- 2 Ascribe 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.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;
- 6 the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.
- 7 The voice | of the LORD
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.
- 8 The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.
- 9 The 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!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as sovereign for- | evermore.
- 11 O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace.

A reading from Acts:

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

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia.

A voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved,
with whom I am well pleased.”

Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

(The reading of the Gospel.)

4 John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 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. 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 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. 8 I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 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. 11 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.

Hymn of the Day

When Jesus Came to Jordan



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.

Prayers of Intercession

A: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need, responding, “Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.”

(Brief silence)

A: For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they proclaim the forgiveness of sins. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Michael; our pastors, worship leaders, musicians, council members and teachers. Lord in your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

A: For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God’s goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made. Lord in your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

A: For the nations of the world and their leaders, for laborers busy both day and night, and for peacemakers amid strife, that God inspire all people to use their strength wisely. We pray for our president, Donald; our president-elect, Joe; our governor, Tom. Bring your healing upon our divided nation, helping us to recognize our common humanity. Lord in your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

A: For the sick and those who provide medical care, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer, that God shower compassion, Lord in your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

A: For the congregation gathered together but separate in their individual homes, for students returning to school, for those seeking renewal in their daily work, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace, Lord in your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

A: In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, especially Sally, Irene, Elsie, Bob, Donald, Evelyn and Jayna, that their witness inspire us in our baptismal vocations, Lord in your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

A: Are there others for whom we should pray?

P. Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Our Prayer for These Times

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown.

Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

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.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Finale on *Salzburg*

(Fedak)

Serving Today

Presiding Ministers Pastor Dennis Blausen, Christ Lutheran, Sharon
Pastor Brenda Martin, Holy Trinity, Greenville
Organist Maidene Hackett
Cantor Mary Beth Bradley

Acknowledgments

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Pastors in residence:

The Rev. Julia Fraser, chaplain at St. Paul Homes
The Rev. Brian Riddle, Thiel College Campus Pastor
The Rev. Martin Roth, retired pastor, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
The Rev. Dr. Curtis Thompson, retired, Thiel College

This Week at Holy Trinity

Sunday, January 10, 2021, *Baptism of Our Lord*

- 9:30 a.m. Virtual Liturgy of the Word
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday Church School/Confirmation
- Undecorate the Church***
- 1:00 p.m. Special Council meeting via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 5:15 p.m. Worship and Music
- 7:00 p.m. Parish Education Committee (Zoom)
- 7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion
- Council reports due today***

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

- 10:00 a.m. Stewardship Committee

Thursday, January 14, 2021

- 5:00 p.m. Officers' Planning Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee
- 8:00 p.m. Happy Hour (Zoom)

Saturday, January 16, 2021

NO Liturgy

Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 17, 2021, *2nd Sunday after Epiphany*

- 9:30 a.m. Virtual Liturgy of the Word
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday Church School/Confirmation
- 7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Monday, January 18, 2021, *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Office closed

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. Congregation Council
- 7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion
- Messenger articles due today***

Thursday, January 21, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. Happy Hour (Zoom)

Saturday, January 23, 2021

NO Liturgy

Congregational Meeting

Our annual congregational meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, January 31, 2021, at 11:15 a.m. This is the meeting at which we approve the annual budget.

We are planning for the meeting to be a hybrid of in-person and online attendance.

Most of you will join us via a Zoom computer link. We will post the link in our Holy Trinity Facebook group, and will also email to as many of you whose email addresses are in our computer system. If you have not received communications from us in either of those places and would like to receive the Zoom link, please let Tammy know in the church office.

For others who do not have computer access, you can join in-person in Brath Hall downstairs. Pastor Brenda will be there with the computer for those attending via Zoom.

Good Shepherd January Request

The Good Shepherd Center is our church community social service agency that supports the needs of many in the area. The Good Shepherd Center's request for Holy Trinity for **January is Pancake mix, syrup, and cereal.**

Please note there is an urgent need for toilet paper.

Donations may be dropped off at the church office or directly at the Food Pantry.

Please Pray For

Permission is necessary to add a person to the prayer list. Please ask before your call the office. Thanks.

Health and Healing:

Dennis (brother of Jim Martin)	Jim
Kelly (friend of Jill Murrin)	Nancy (friend of Linda Armstrong)
Earl and Carol (friends of Bonnie Long)	William J. (father of Catherine Mott)
Ronald (friend of Linda Bateman)	Brenda (sister-in-law of Betty K. Junk)
Carl (nephew of Betty K. Junk)	Lori
Bill and Katie (friends of Barbara Swartz)	Carl
Tammy (friend of Jill Murrin)	Paul
Betty K.	Dillon (friend of Ed Pitcher and Beth Harpst)
Hank (son of Henry and Ruth Heil)	Belle (granddaughter of Linda Bateman)
Kate (friend of Paul and Sue Bittler)	

Christ's comfort for those who grieve the death of:

The Rev. Donald Hake
Cynthia Richardson (mom of Ray and Cathy Richardson)
Evelyn Ramming
Sally Werner (friend of the congregation)
Bob Dorfeld
Jayna Spigelmeyer
Rick (friend of Betty K. Junk)

In Military Service

Specialist (SPC) Andrew McCall, Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colorado (son of Mark and Jane McCall, grandson of Karen McKay and the late Jim McKay)
Sgt. First Class Nicholas Carman, US Army, Frederiksberg, Virginia (grandson of Nancy Ullstrom)
Admiral Richard Childs, Assistant Surgeon General of the USA (nephew of Harvey Childs)
CDR Ryan Leary, USN, Operation Officer, 7th Fleet, Yokosuka, Japan (son of David and Judy Leary)
Tim Ross, Navy Special Forces, (grandson of Rae Johnson, nephew of Lori McEwen)
Ian McQuiston, US Air Force, Kuwait (friend of Betty K. Junk)