

Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.

Baptism of the Lord

January 8, 2023

The asterisk () indicates to please rise in body or spirit.*

Silent Prayer of Preparation

God of life and new life, you are splendid and strong! Your voice thunders above the sound of loud waters. You sit enthroned above the floods of life. As Jesus heard you speak to him in his baptism, may we also hear you calling us your beloved. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our brother, we pray. Amen.

Gathering Music

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship

"Noel Basque"

Dom. P. Benoit, O.S.B. (1893-1979)

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: In the beginning, at creation, the Spirit hovered over the waters of the deep.

People: **In the waters of the flood, God cleansed the earth and humankind.**

Leader: God caused the waters to part so that Israel could cross from slavery to liberation.

People: **God formed Jesus in the waters of Mary's womb.**

Leader: Jesus taught us how to live by washing his disciples' feet in water.

People: **Drinking water from a well, Jesus met a Samaritan woman, the first person to recognize that he was the Christ.**

Leader: Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus, the Christ.

People: **God meant for Jesus to be the firstborn in a large family.**

Praise be to God!

***Hymn**

“Baptized in Water”

#482

The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession** (*in unison*)

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us and free us from sin. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life and live together in grace. Amen. (Silent prayer of confession.)

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Response**

“Gloria Patri”

#581

Ministry of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Children’s Sermon

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

Choir Anthem

“The Baptism of Jesus”

Austin Lovelace, 1980

When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John,
He did not come for pardon, but as God’s Holy One.
He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins,
To speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.
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 Holy One,
The hidden years had ended, the age of grace begun.

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

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 3:13-17

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon “Fulfilling All Righteousness”

Dr. Mark A. Johnson

The Response to the Word

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***Invitation to Offering**

***Response** “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (v. 6)

#108

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

(We will be receiving communion by coming forward to one of the two stations on each side of the communion table. Please exit the pew to the center aisle and return to your pew from the outside aisles. An elder or deacon will be available to bring communion to those who wish to remain seated. Gluten-free bread can be found on the communion table.)

***Invitation to the Lord's Table**

***Hymn of Invitation** "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart" #688

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly right ... the glory of your name:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: You are holy, O God of majesty ... Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**People: Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Pastor: Gracious God, pour out ... almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

The 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks and praise, O God, that you have fed us with your mercy and poured out your Spirit in this place. Continue to nourish and fill us each day, that we may live as your beloved people. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

The Sending of God's People

*Closing Hymn "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

#753

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Response

"We Are the Church"



I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to - geth-er!



All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church to - gether!

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*Postlude

"The First Noel"

arr. Mary McDonald

Pastors: Dr. Mark A. Johnson
Rev. Désirée Youngblood

Liturgist: Kelly Armfelt

Music Director: Thomas Lloyd

Organist: Carol Welk

Acolyte: Devin Griggs