



# Christ's Hope & Light Revealed

## Baptism of Our Lord

January 10, 2020

*At the time of Jesus' baptism, some people opened their hearts; others closed them.*

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*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

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Prelude

*Like A River Glorious*

Announcements

Call to Worship

Holy God—in this precious hour, we pause  
and gather to hear your word—  
to do so, we break from our work responsibilities  
from our play fantasies;  
we move from our fears that overwhelm  
and from our ambitions that are too strong.  
Free us in these moments from every distraction,  
that we may focus to listen,  
that we may hear, that we may change. Amen.

- Walter Brueggemann

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.**

As we give thanks for the washing we receive in baptism, we trust that our sins are washed away, and we make time for silent confession...

*Pause for silent confession.*

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.

**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.**

## Opening Song

*Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized*

Red ELW 304 vv.1,2,4

**Christ, when for us you were baptized, God's Spirit on you came,  
as peaceful as a dove, and yet  
as urgent as a flame, as urgent as a flame.**

**God called you, "My beloved Son"; you are God's servant true,  
sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n,  
God's holy will to do, God's holy will to do.**

**Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord; your cross on us be signed,  
that likewise in God's service we  
may perfect freedom find, may perfect freedom find.**

# Prayer of the Day

God of truth, Through John you challenged your people to repent. Move us also to put aside the things that get in the way of truly serving you, for the sake of Jesus our savior.  
**Amen.**

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*God speaks to us in scripture, preaching & song*

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*John the Baptist prepared those in the wilderness for Jesus' coming.  
Once baptized, people would need to decide... were they ready for change or resistant to it?*

## Invitation to the Word

**Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,  
set us free by the truth you now bring us.**

**Shine on me, shine on me:  
Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;  
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!**

## Scripture Reading

Luke 3:1-22

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'" <sup>7</sup>John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." <sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, "What then

should we do?" <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup>Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup>He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." <sup>18</sup>So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. <sup>19</sup>But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup>added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

<sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Message

## Special Music

*Shall We Gather at the River*

## Apostles' Creed

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

**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.**

**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.**

# Prayers

*Sung before all prayers*

**Let my prayer rise up, like incense before you,  
the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.**

We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

You invite us to open our hearts to your message of transformation, but it is still up to us to do so. Give us courage to take the plunge into a life of service, with all its surprises and challenges.

God of power, **Hear our prayer.**

Show us how to serve you in our jobs, responsibilities and leisure so that our daily lives reflect the restored relationship which we have with you.

God of power, **Hear our prayer.**

Your creative might could raise children from stones. Teach us to regard all that you have made with awe, and likewise to care for it with diligence and love.

God of power, **Hear our prayer.**

Not every disease or ailment is visible, nor is sickness always a physical experience. Heal those things which plague our minds and spirits as well as our bodies, and restore us to wholeness in you. Be with those whose names we bring before you today...

God of power, **Hear our prayer.**

With all your saints we praise you, in this life and the next, remembering the amazing things you have done for us.

God of power, **Hear our prayer.**

*Other petitions may be offered.*

Receive our prayers and shed light on our path as we seek to walk in your ways and bring glory to you through your son Jesus, our Lord. **Amen.**

## 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 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.**

# Abundant Living Gratitude Moment

## Sharing God's Peace

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

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*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

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## Blessing

May God fill you with hope and illumine the darkness with the light of Christ. Amen.

## Sending Song

***Baptized in Water***

Red ELW 456 vv. 1, 3

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:  
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,  
faithfully now God's praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
marked with the sign of Christ our king:  
born of the Spirit, we are God's children;  
joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

## Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

*On Jordan's Stormy Banks*



## *Hope & Light*: A Community Art Project

*“The time after Epiphany celebrates God’s incarnation and Jesus’ revealing glory. In this time, we discover Christ’s presence in our lives and share that good news with the world.”*

As the season of Epiphany approaches – January 10 thru February 14 - you are invited to participate in creating a piece of artwork that symbolizes God’s revealing of hope and light in our lives, community & world.

### *Here is how it will work:*

- Each week you will be directed at the end of worship to reflect on a question that the pastors will present. You will then design, on your own time, 2 pieces of the puzzle that represents your thoughts – a scene, color schemes, abstract designs, words etc. – however you are moved.
  - You can use markers, pens, crayons, collage, glitter etc. – whatever medium you would like.
    - ***If you would to participate, please call the church office and we will make arrangements to deliver a bag of supplies (puzzle pieces) to you.***
- At the end of the season, during the week of February 14<sup>th</sup> we ask that you bring back your designed puzzle and place them in the basket in front of the church office.
  - *If you are unable to return your puzzle, please call the church office and we will make arrangements to pick up your puzzle.*
- Some puzzles will be given to those who are homebound as a symbol - a reminder - of God’s hope. All other puzzles will then be created to make a collective piece of art that reflects, as a community, our hope and light. **When all of these individual lights come together as one we can rest in what is and will be revealed in Christ for all of us. Our hope and light becomes even brighter!**
- The finished artwork will be displayed in the Narthex to welcome us back when the time comes when we gather together in-person.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Novess [knovess@holyshepherd.com](mailto:knovess@holyshepherd.com) or 720.854.5365.



## **Participants**

- Pastors: Courtney Steitz, Michael TeKrony
- Assisting Minister: Linda TeKrony
- Prelude/Postlude: Jordan Ortman
- Liturgy leaders: Ron Skabo, Del Felton, Tanja Warnick, Joan Meister-Bridges
- Liturgy Music: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues
- Opening Song: Brenda Gleason
- Special Music: Jordan Ortman
- Sending Song: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues
- Photographs: Winston Herbert, Michael TeKrony, Amy Evancheck