



BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
January 9, 2022

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Place for Everyone . . .

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The Rev. Linda Hostetter, Interim Pastor



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

*Peace to all who enter God's house for worship today.
We pray that all will find strength, security, and fellowship with God and with one another.*

*Congregation, please **stand/sit** as you are able.*

P Presiding Minister **C** Congregation **A** Assisting Minister

Welcome to our Visitors

*If you are a visitor, please see one of our greeters and fill out our gold visitor's slip.
We hope that you will come back and worship with us again!*

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Please stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, **+** one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

P Rejoice in this good news: In **+** Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: *Baptized in Water*

(blue hymnal #693 first & last verse)

GREETING

P From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

¹But now thus says the LORD,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious in my sight,

and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you;

I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—

⁷everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 29

/ *by whole verse*

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory
and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship
the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³The 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 powerful voice; the voice of
the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD
breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount
Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸**The voice of the LORD¹ shakes the wilderness; the LORD
shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The 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 above the flood; the LORD sits
enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD,
the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

GOSPEL VERSE



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John 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. ¹⁷His 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."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and 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."

GOSPEL RESPONSE

P The Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

(Silence for a time of reflection)

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Borning Cry*

(blue hymnal #770 first & last verse)

PROFESSION OF FAITH

P Brothers and sisters in Christ, it is appropriate on this day of the Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ that we remember and renew the vows once spoken at our baptisms—that time when we were washed of our sins and received the Holy Spirit to dwell within us. Let us boldly make our confession of faith before God, renouncing the sinful life of godless men and women and embracing the godly life of the Spirit-filled Christian.

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.**

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, 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.

C **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

A By the Holy Spirit, you gather your church and send it out in mission to share the good news of Jesus. Inspire your faithful people to be fervent in prayer and service, that all people know they are precious in God's sight. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You reveal your love and power through water and the Spirit. Guard rivers, seas, and all bodies of water from destruction and pollution. Secure access to clean water for all, and protect the land from drought and flood. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Establish among the nations the blessings of peace. Raise up leaders who will protect vulnerable people in their care. Strengthen advocates who risk reputation or retaliation for the sake of mercy and justice. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You protect us through the fires and troubled waters of this life. Assure us that we will not be cut off from you by illness or despair, anxiety or pain, confusion or weakness. Comfort all who are in need (*especially*). God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A We are joined in baptism to Christ and to one another. Bless those who are newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism. Help us to be faithful in fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and justice-seeking. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A You created each of your saints for your glory. We give thanks for those you have called by name into your eternal embrace. Comfort us in grief and release us from fear. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE COMMUNION MEAL


THE OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

Please stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN:

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light.

C Amen.

DIALOGUE

- ☐ The Lord be with you.
- ☑ **And also with you.**
- ☐ Lift up your hearts.
- ☑ **We lift them to the Lord.**
- ☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- ☑ **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

☐ In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

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 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.**

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

The elements were given as you entered.

☐ Please peel the top film and take your bread.
The body of Christ given for you.

☑ **Amen.**

☐ Open your cup by peeling back the foil.
The blood of Christ shed for you.

☑ **Amen.**

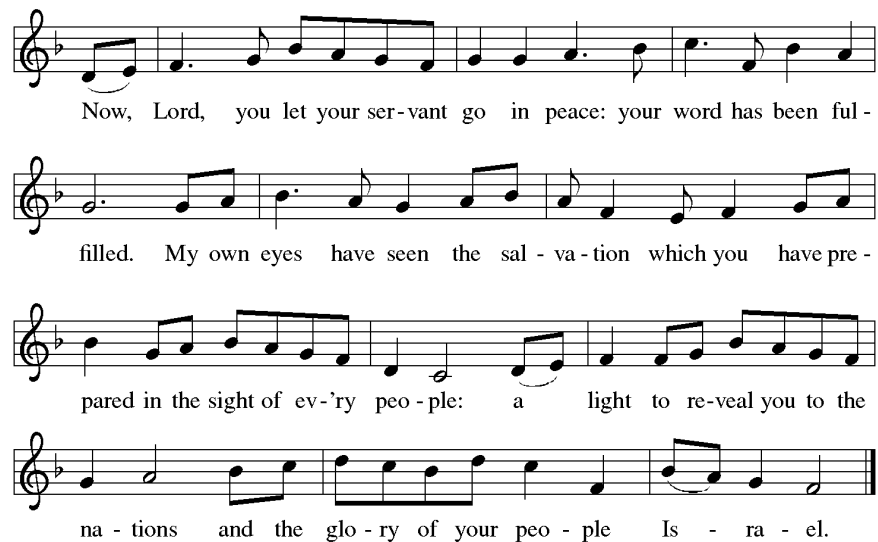
Please stand

BLESSING

☐ The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

☑ Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have prepared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

THE LITURGY OF SENDING FOR SERVICE

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

☐ Let us pray. We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

☑ Amen.

BENEDICTION

☐ God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, ✠ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.

☑ Amen.

SENDING HYMN:

Go, My Children, with My Blessing
(blue hymnal #721 first & last verse)

DISMISSAL

☐ Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

☑ Thanks be to God. We will!

POSTLUDE

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