

SPIRIT OF GRACE
Baptism of Our Lord Service with Holy Communion
January 9, 2022

The congregation's part is in **bold**.

PRELUDE

We Gather Together

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

Blessed be God now and forever.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land.

Blessed be God now and forever.

In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God now and forever.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that those who are here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG CHRIST, WHEN FOR US YOU WERE BAPTIZED ELW 304



1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spir - it on you
2 God called you, "My be - lov - ed Son"; you are God's ser - vant
3 Straight-way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed the
4 Bap - tize us with your Spir - it, Lord; your cross on us be



came, as peace - ful as a dove, and yet as
true, sent to pro - claim the reign of heav'n, God's
call to serve with free and will - ing heart, to
signed, that like - wise in God's ser - vice we may



ur - gent as a flame, as ur - gent as a flame.
ho - ly will to do, God's ho - ly will to do.
give your life for all, to give your life for all.
per - fect free - dom find, may per - fect free - dom find.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.

Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

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.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

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."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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

Open your hearts and minds to the Good News as recorded in **Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.**

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor Peggy Rose

HYMN OF THE DAY

CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER

ELW 781

1 Children of the heav'nly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.

2 God his own doth tend and nourish,
in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them,
in his mighty arms he bears them.

3 Neither life nor death shall ever
from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
and their sorrows all he knoweth.

4 Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely
to preserve them pure and holy.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958
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AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

Alleluia! We have been claimed by Christ as children of God!

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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 defy 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.

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. Amen.**

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

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,
hear our prayer.

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,
hear our prayer.

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,
hear our prayer.

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 in need especially Ananda, bugs, Carol, Dana, Leila, and Peggy. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

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,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us pray together.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful God; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit, that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

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. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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 proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

*All are welcome at the table. It is God's Table and He gifts you with the finest He has.
Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Our communion elements are
prepackaged grape juice and wafer packets for your safety. Please enjoy the communion
music during this time and wear a mask if you choose to sing along.*

COMMUNION SONGS

TAKE ME TO THE RIVER

There's a place rich with life
Where every wave will purify
Take me there to be with You take me to the river

There's a place deep with hope
To saturate the weary soul
Take me there to be with You take me to the river
Lead my soul to quietness and trust
All I know is You will be enough

*Take me to the river
Pull me off the shore
Here within Your freedom
I have found my reason I am Yours*

As I wait within the swell
You sweep away what's of myself
Take me there to be with You take me to the river
Lead my soul to quietness and trust
All I know is You will be enough

*Take me to the river
Pull me off the shore
Here within Your freedom
I have found my reason I am Yours*

*Let the water rise
Far above my head
Baptize me in wonder
Spirit take me under once again*

Let the river flow let the water awaken my soul
From the dead come life arise arise

OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

*Open the eyes of my heart Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You*

To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy holy holy

Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
I want to see You

CCLI Song # 2298355

Paul Baloche

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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together.

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.

BLESSING AND 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

*In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Text © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Draw Me Close to You