

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 7th, 2024



MARTIN LUTHER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
St. Louis, MO
Pastor Seth Georgson
314-914-6457

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Stand.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *Amen.*

Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

CW 294



Bap - tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther,
I claim a place, though weak and low - ly, A - mong your



Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
saints, your cho - sen host, Bur - ied with Christ and dead to



sin. Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.

M: I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

C: **Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.** (John 3:5,6)

M: Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us. (Psalm 51:5)

C: **But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.** (1 Corinthians 6:11)

My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me To be hence -
 My faith - ful Sav - ior, there you let me The fruit of

forth your child and heir.
 all your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it, com - fort

me When threat - 'ning clouds a - round I see.

M: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

My faith - ful God, you fail me nev - er; Your pro - mise
 Oh, cast me not a - way for - ev - er If words and

sure - ly will en - dure.
 deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I come de -

filed; For - give, lift up, re - store your child.

M: Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (*Ephesians 5:25-27*). Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

All that I am and love most dear - ly— Re - ceive it
 Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly, And help me

all, O Lord, from me.
 your own child to be! Let noth - ing that I am or

own Serve an - y will but yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

THE WORD

First Lesson ----- Isaiah 49:1-6

Listen to me, you coastlands.
Pay attention, you faraway peoples!
The LORD called me from the womb.
When I was inside my mother, he mentioned my
name.
He made my mouth like a sharpened sword.
He hid me in the shadow of his hand.
He made me a polished arrow.
He concealed me in his quiver.
He said to me, "You are my servant Israel,
in whom I will display my glory."
But I said to myself, "I have labored in vain.
I spent my strength and came up empty, with
nothing.
Yet a just verdict for me rests with the LORD,

and my reward is with my God."
But now the LORD,
who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to turn Jacob back to him,
so that Israel might be gathered to him,
so that I will be honored in the eyes of the LORD,
because my God has been my strength—
the LORD said:
It is too small a thing that you should just be my
servant
to raise up only the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the ones I have preserved in Israel,
so I will appoint you to be a light for the nations,
so that my salvation will be known to the end of
the earth.

Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 2

CW p.65

Second Lesson ----- Acts 16:25-34

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. Instantly all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains came loose. When the jailer woke up and saw that the prison doors were opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, because he thought that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted with a loud voice, "Don't harm yourself, because we are all here!"

The jailer called for lights, rushed in, and fell down trembling in front of Paul and Silas. Then he

brought them outside and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to everyone in his home. At the same hour of the night, he took them and washed their wounds. Without delay, he and all his family were baptized. Then he brought Paul and Silas into his house and set food before them. He rejoiced, because he and his whole household had come to believe in God.

C: Hear God's own voice from heav'n a - bove: "You are my
 Son, the one I love. With you, my Son, I
 am well-pleased, In you my wrath at man's ap - peased."

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Stand.

Gospel ----- Mark 1:4-11

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him. They were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. He preached, "One more powerful than I is coming after me. I am not

worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals! I baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love. I am well pleased with you."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day ----- To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

CW 89

Sermon ----- Mark 1:4-11

Jesus Is Baptized to Be the Eternal Christ

Stand.

We Praise You, O God

Te Deum



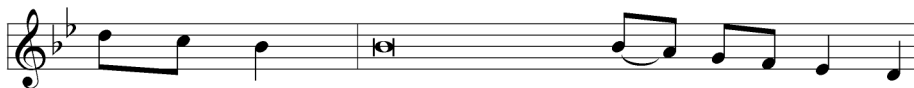
C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



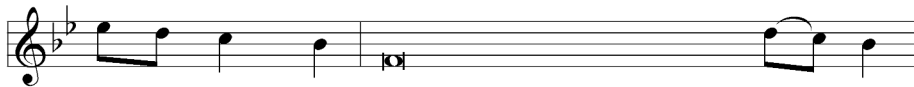
cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of



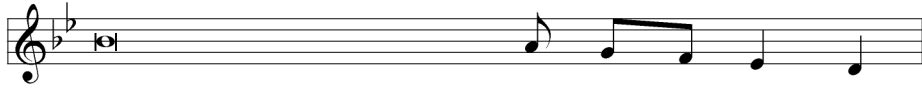
heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



proph - ets praise you. The white-robbed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



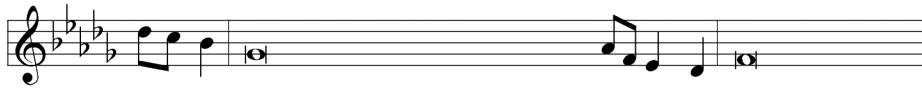
Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,



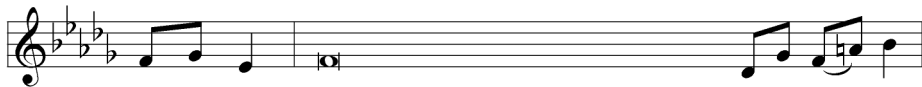
and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin. You overcame the



sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.



You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.



Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of



your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

Be seated.

Offering

Stand.

Prayer of the Church

The minister offers the petitions and the congregation responds with "hear our prayer."

M: Heavenly Father, You revealed Your Son in the wondrous Epiphany in the Jordan. So also You have revealed Your name and blessing to us in Holy Baptism, declaring us Your beloved heirs. Grant that we may daily die to sin and rise to newness of life, living with joy as Your baptized children. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: O Lord, bless all places where Your people teach and learn. Guide teachers and students, that together we would marvel at Your creation and appreciate the depth of Your wisdom. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Lord God, grant that all those baptized into Christ would receive the boldness of Your servant John to lead faithful and pure lives in this world, ever mindful of our promised heavenly inheritance. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

- M: Almighty Lord, Your Son, Jesus, is the Christ and the true King of this world. Grant great humility to the rulers of the nations, especially President Joseph Biden and Governor Michael Parson, that they would submit to the preaching of His Holy Word for the sake of their own souls and for the good of Your holy people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Give comfort and relief to those who are sick, depressed, tired, confused or in any need [*especially* _____]. Watch over expectant mothers and children in the womb and newly born and bring them to the life-giving waters of Holy Baptism. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: O Lord, in Holy Baptism You have opened the heavens to Your children. Grant that all those baptized into Your Son would worthily receive the heavenly feast of His body and blood for their salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Eternal God, You have made us Your own people by Baptism and granted us Your Holy Spirit to confess Christ in word and deed. We remember with thanksgiving those who went before us, who passed the faith on to us and who now rest in Christ from all their labors. Since we have died with Christ through Baptism, grant that we would be raised with Him also. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Almighty Father, as Your Holy Spirit hovered over the face of the deep, You uttered Your Word and the world was created. In the waters of Holy Baptism, You have spoken our names and declared us righteous. You have drawn us to Jesus, the light of life, and saved us. Let His light now shine through us, that others may see our good works and give glory to You; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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



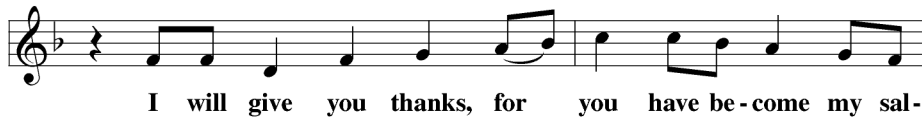
C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus



Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



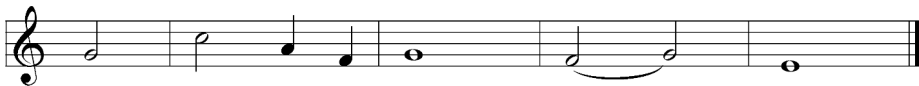
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only members would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions, please speak with the pastor.

During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:

Hymn ----- All Christians Who Have Been Baptized

CWS 736

Hymn ----- Hail to the Lord's Anointed

CW 93

THANKSGIVING

Stand.

Thank the Lord



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



Be seated.

Hymn ----- Christ, Your Footprints Through the Desert

CWS 709

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