

The Baptism of Our Lord

January 7, 2024

Light of Christ

As We Gather - A new season in the Church Year begins today. Following Advent hope and Christmas joy in the Savior born for us, we enter Epiphany, which can be summed up with words such as *revealing, shining forth, and manifestation*. The Word we hear today is fitting as epiphanies are things the Lord has done since the beginning of time. The first creation was light shining forth on the first day. From that day of creation to the fall into sin to the first promise of the Savior, God has shone His light and enabled His people to see and know what is needed. As the time was right for Jesus to begin His earthly ministry, it began with His Baptism. With John the Baptist in the Jordan River, the Lord reveals and shines forth the manifestation of the Word made flesh for us when He says: "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased" (Mark 1:11).

Offering and Registry of Worship Cards: Please fill out a Registry of Worship Card found in the pew racks. We ask that you print the names of every person in your family, indicating if they take communion. One side of the card is for members and the other side for guests. As the offering is collected, pass the cards to the center aisle so our ushers can gather them.

Saturday Worship: Offerings and Worship Cards will be received in the offering plates at the rear of the church either upon entering or when leaving. Thank you for your gift to the work of the Lord.

About Protecting the Healthy: To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.

Prelude and Meditation: Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

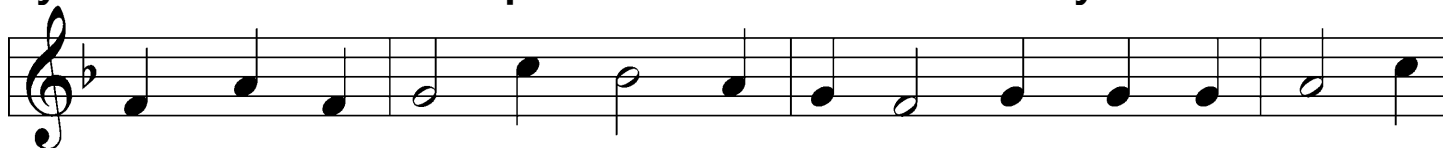
Prelude:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Greeting and Sharing of Peace *(stand)*

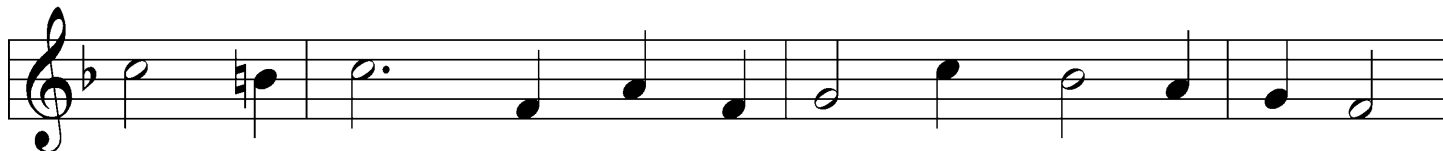
PREPARATION

Hymn of Invocation: Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

LSB 590 sts. 1–2



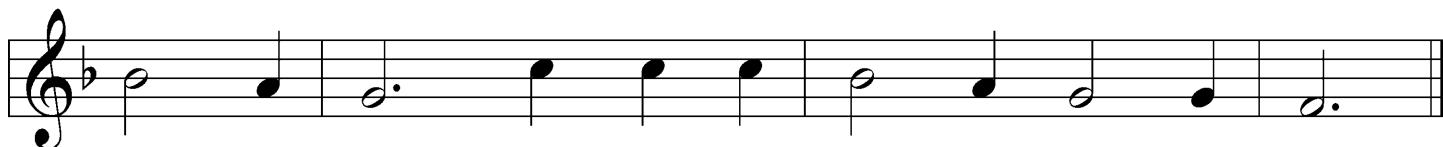
1 Bap-tized in - to Your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, here You take me To be hence-forth Your



Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,
child and heir. My faith - ful Sav - ior, here You make me



A - mong Your saints, Your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and
The fruit of all Your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it,



dead to sin, Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.
com - fort me When threat-'ning clouds a - round I see.

Text: Johann Jacob Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775
Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Affirmation of Our Baptism *Romans 6:4, 36; Acts 2:38; Titus 3:5–6; 1 Corinthians 6:1; Mark 1:1*

P We remember our Baptism with the trinitarian invocation, recalling and confessing before heaven, earth, and hell all that God has given us in our Baptism: victory over death and the devil, forgiveness of sin, God's grace, the entire Christ, and the Holy Spirit with His gifts. How do we rightly use our Baptism?

C We rightly use our Baptism when we live in repentance and faith in the triune God, who has made us His beloved children. (*Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation* [2017] Question 324).

P When Jesus was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan River, the Father declared Jesus as His Son with whom He is well pleased. In our Baptism, Paul wrote, we were joined to our Lord's death and resurrection, enabling us to walk in newness of life. We also learn in the Small Catechism, all centered on God's Word, the lasting gifts received in Baptism including the forgiveness of sins, rescue from death and the devil, and eternal life to all who believe this. Let us reaffirm our faith in what God has done for us through Holy Baptism.

P Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

C I do renounce them.

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

C Yes, I believe.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

C Yes, I believe.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

C Yes, I believe.

Hymn:**Baptized into Your Name Most Holy**

LSB 590 st. 3

3 My faith - ful God, You fail me nev - er; Your prom - ise sure - ly
 will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er
 If words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I
 come de - filed; For - give, lift up, re - store Your child.

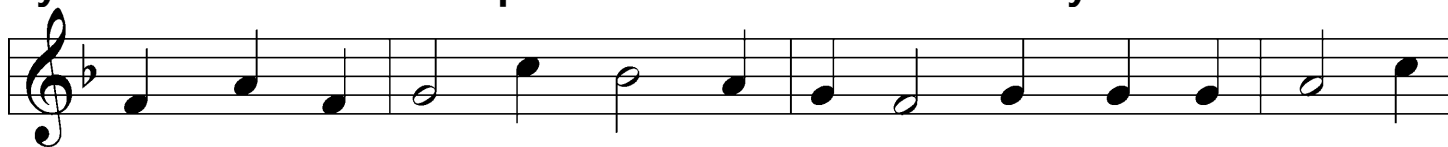
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Confession*Romans 6:1–2, 4*

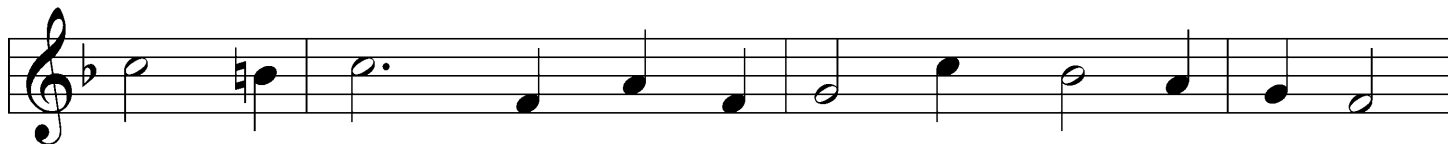
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God, our Father. In today's Epistle from Romans, the apostle Paul asks, "Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? . . . How can we who died to sin still live in it?"
- C** **We are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved God with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**
- P** "We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."
- C** **For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Hymn:**Baptized into Your Name Most Holy**

LSB 590 st. 4



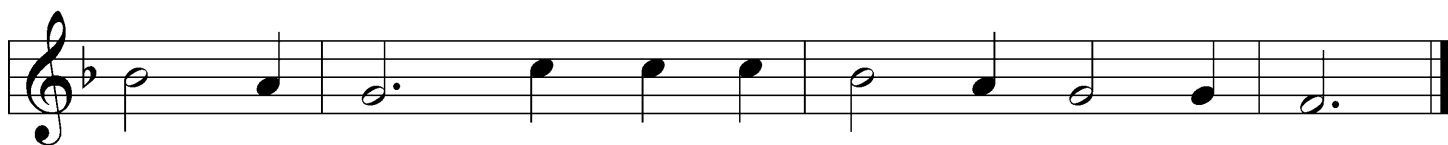
4 All that I am and love most dear-ly— Re - ceive it all, O



Lord, from me. Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly;



Help me Your faith - ful child to be! Let noth - ing that I



am or own Serve an - y will but Yours a - lone.

Text: Johann Jacob Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775
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*Stand***Absolution***Romans 6:6–7, 10–11, adapted*

- P** We know that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.
- C** **For one who has died has been set free from sin.**
- P** The death Christ died He died to sin, once for all,
- C** **but the life He lives He lives to God.**
- P** So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life † everlasting.

C Amen.

WORD

Introit

Psalm 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.

You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

Serve the LORD with fear,
and rejoice with trembling,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.

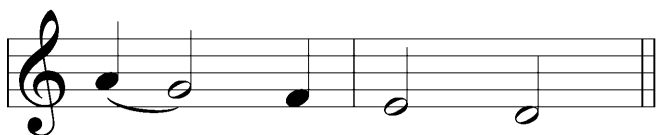
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

Kyrie

LSB 168

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



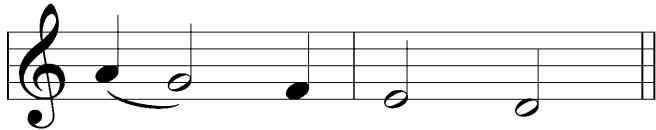
C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



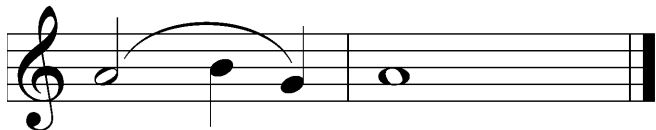
C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

C Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we
praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a - lone are the
Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord, You a -
lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1–5

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 29; antiphon: v. 3



¹Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly | beings,*
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

²Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*
worship the LORD in the splendor of | holiness.

³The voice of the LORD is over the | waters;*
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over many | waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD is | powerful;*
the voice of the LORD is full of | majesty.

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedars;*
the LORD breaks the cedars of | Lebanon.

⁶He makes Lebanon to skip | like a calf,*
and Sirion like a young | wild ox.

⁷The voice | of the LORD*

flashes forth | flames of fire.

⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the | wilderness;*

the LORD shakes the wilderness | of Kadesh.

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth

and strips the | forests bare,*

and in his temple all cry, | "Glory!"

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned o- | ver the flood;*

the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | ever.

¹¹May the LORD give strength to his | people!*

May the LORD bless his people | with peace!

Epistle

Romans 6:1–11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:4–11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to

him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

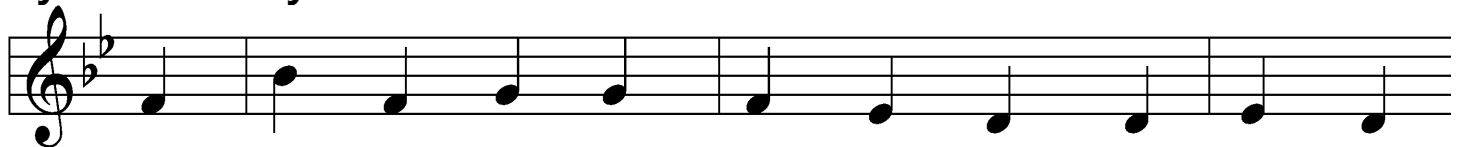
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

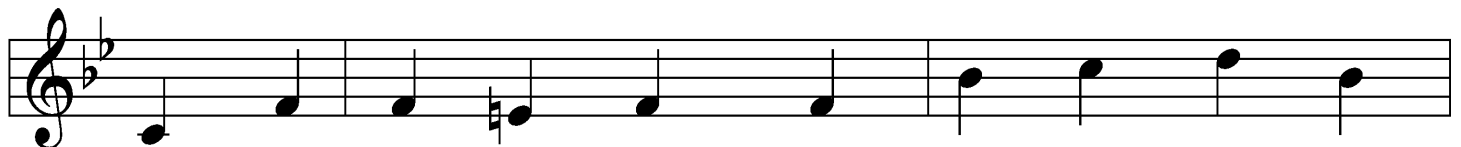
Hymn of the Day:

To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

LSB 405



1 To Jor - dan's riv - er came our Lord, The Christ, whom
 2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— The Son of
 3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood And John bap -
 4 Then from God's throne with thun - d'rous sound Came God's own



heav'n - ly hosts a - dored, The God from God, the
 God in flesh dis - guised— To stand be - neath the
 tized the Lamb of God, The Ho - ly Spir - it,
 voice with words pro - found: "This is My Son," was



Light from Light, The Lord of glo - ry, pow'r, and might.
 Fa - ther's will And all His righ - teous - ness ful - fill.
 heav'n - ly dove, De - scend - ed on Him from a - bove.
 His de - cree, "The one I love, who pleas - es Me."

Verse 5 & 6 on next page

5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight
Anointed Christ in glorious sight
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall
To save the world and free us all.

6 Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;
This man is Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

Text: James P. Tiefel, 1949, alt.

Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, 1690, Hamburg, alt.

Text: © 1993 James P. Tiefel. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000852

Tune: Public domain

Sermon:

"Newness of Life"

Romans 6:1–11

Stand

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord of all creation, You spoke all creation into being, beginning with light. In this Epiphany season and all our days, grant us faith to see the light of Your providing hand, the guidance of the light of Your Word, and our Savior as the light of the world. Help us to shine Your light of truth and grace to this dark world, that others may know You and rejoice in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord of all grace, though our many sins and shortcomings weigh heavy on our hearts, You come to us in Your means of grace and give new life. Help us to daily remember our Baptism and to daily rejoice in our identity as Your own children and part of Your family. With Christ as the head, bless this family of believers within Your Church that through worship and fellowship all may be blessed with encouragement, support, service, and a zeal for growing in and sharing Your Word. Bless all families and homes that parents and children may remain steadfast in faith, trusting in You above all things. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord of all comfort, following the Baptism of Jesus He would seek the lost, heal the sick, and show compassion to all. Enable us in boldness and confidence to proclaim the wonders of Him who has called us out of darkness and into Your marvelous light. Use our words and actions to be a blessing to others. For those who are sick and suffering, grant Your continued presence and healing according to Your will, [*especially...*]. Grant patience in trials, peace in afflictions, and hope in Your promises now and eternally. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

Additional petitions may follow.

P Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Installation of Congregational Officers

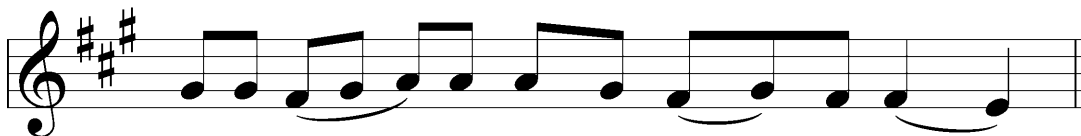
Choir Anthem: "When Jesus Came To Jordan"

Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings

Registry of Worship Cards – *Please pass your completed cards to the center aisle.*

SACRAMENT

LSB 177

Preface**P** The Lord be with you.**C** And al-so with you.**P** Lift up your hearts.**C** We lift them to the Lord.**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**Proper Preface**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

LSB 178



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Through Your means of grace You have claimed us as Your own through water and the Word in Holy Baptism. Through body and blood—in, with, and under bread and wine—You forgive our sins and nourish our faith. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

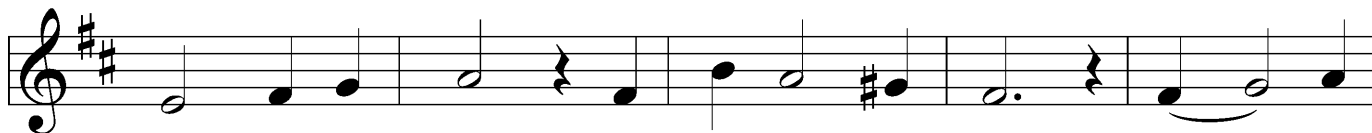
LSB 180



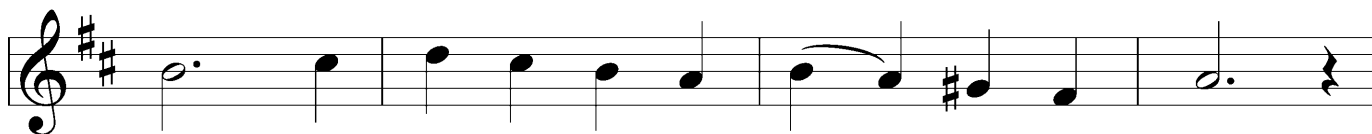
C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



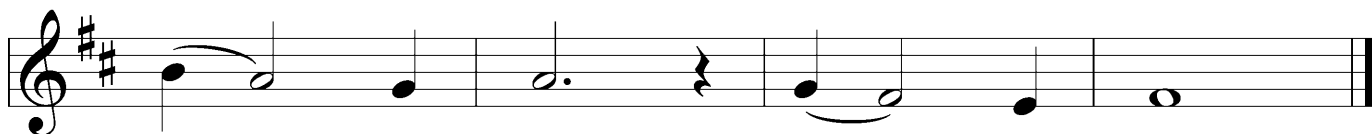
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

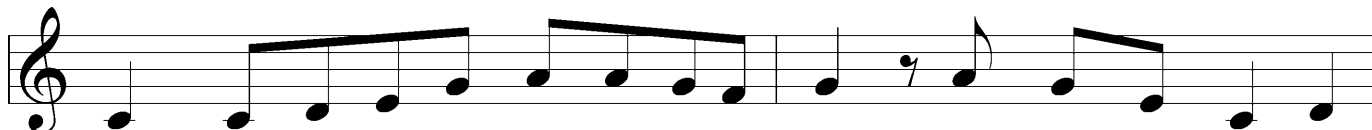
Sit

Distribution:

Distribution Hymns

LSB 596 **All Christians Who Have Been Baptized**

LSB 594 **God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It**

Nunc Dimittis

C Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -



pared 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.



Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
C for His steadfast love endures forever.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, gracious Father, who called and claimed as Your own in Baptism, we have been blessed together in fellowship at Your Table and filled by Your grace with sins forgiven and faith nourished. Buried with Christ and raised with Him in Baptism, enable us to walk in newness of life until we are called to dwell eternally with 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.

Closing Sentences

Romans 6:10–11, adapted

- P** The death Christ died He died to sin, once for all,
C but the life He lives He lives to God.

- P** So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Benediction

LSB 183

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



C A - - - men.

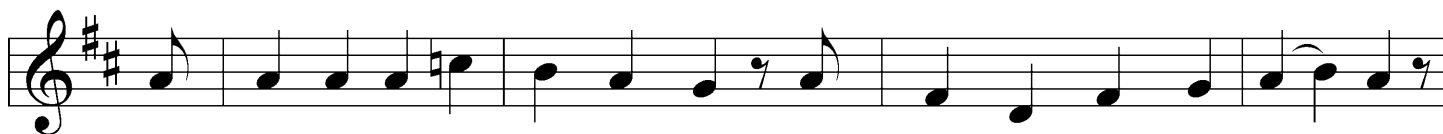
Closing Hymn:

All Who Believe and Are Baptized

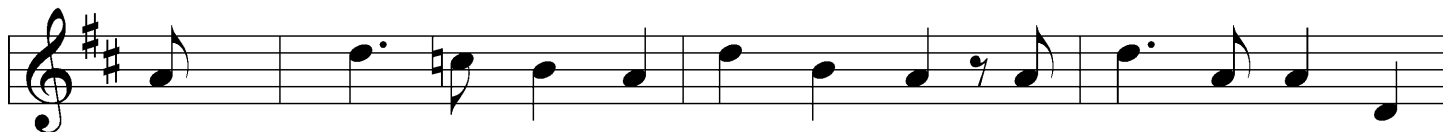
LSB 601



1 All who be - lieve and are bap-tized Shall see the Lord's sal - va - tion;
2 With one ac - cord, O God, we pray: Grant us Your Ho - ly Spir - it.



Bap-tized in - to the death of Christ, They are a new cre - a - tion.
Help us in our in - fir - mi - ty Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it.



Through Christ's re-demp-tion they shall stand A - mong the glo-rious,
Grant us to grow in grace each day That by this sac - ra -



heav'n - ly band Of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.
ment we may E - ter - nal life in - her - it.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.
Tune: Etlich Cristlich liden, 1524, Wittenberg
Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude:

Small Catechism quotation is from *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation* © 1986, 2017 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

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Acknowledgments

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LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist Elena Miraztchiyska

Saturday

Elder Lee Crapo
Lector Rick Smith/Gerie Slaten/Stacey Orellana
Audio Lee Crapo/Robin Fox/Taniqua Jackson

Sunday

Elder Steve Rosane
Lector Carlos Orellana
Greeter
Audio Kyle Welch
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/ Stream: Robin Fox
Altar Guild Debbie and Rick Smith

LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Pastor Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist Elena Miraztchiyska
Elder Lee Crapo
Lector Jon Lindstrom
Greeter
Audio Maria Hazzard
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX: / Stream: Robin Fox
Altar Guild Debbie and Rick Smith

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK

Saturday Worship Attendance.....	28
Sunday Worship Attendance.....	100
Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings	\$0
Simply Giving/Vanco.....	\$0
Paypal Offerings	\$0
Website (ShareFaith).....	\$0
Total of Offerings Received.....	\$0
Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts.....	\$0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH- Epiphany I/Baptism of Our Lord – Nothing and nobody comes into existence apart from the will and the Word of the Lord God Almighty (Genesis 1:3). This means God desires the survival of every human life from fertilization to forever. We court great danger if we go against this intent or counsel others to do so (Psalm 29:7-8). Instead let us receive neighbors as blessings and enjoy our Father’s favor (Mark 1:11)!

FLOWER SPONSOR – No Flower Sponsor this week.

BULLETIN SPONSOR – No Bulletin Sponsor this week.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (SUNDAY) – Team 1 is serving today; team 2 will serve next week. Everyone is invited. There is no charge and a freewill offering is voluntary.

COUNCIL MEETING – There will be a Council Meeting this Monday, January 8th at 6:30 pm.

NEW MEMBER CLASS - Starting Tuesday, January 9th, at 6PM during the month of January from 6 -8 pm by ZOOM or in person. For anyone interested in joining our congregation, have never had confirmation instruction in a Lutheran church or for those looking for a refresher about the key things of faith. Please contact the church office to register.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO TAKE DOWN DECORATIONS – Volunteers are needed to help with taking down the Christmas decorations. We will meet at 9 AM this Tuesday, January 9th. Any help would be appreciated.

MARY MARTHA MEETING – The Mary Martha's will meet this Wednesday, January 10th, at 9AM. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend.

PAPER PUMPKIN CLUB – The Paper Pumpkin Club is disbanding as of January 1. We will no longer be meeting at CLC in the Fellowship Hall on the 4th Thursday. You can still continue receiving the kit as long as you want. Call Carol if you have questions at 863-660-2426.

SATURDAY LECTORS NEEDED – If you would be willing to volunteer to serve as a lector during the Saturday Service, please contact the church office at 682-7802.

MARY MARTHA QUILTERS – The Mary Martha Quilters meet each Tuesday morning from 10 AM – Noon. Anyone who would like to join them is welcomed.

2024 FLOWER CHART - The new Flower Chart is posted in the Narthex. You can sign up for flowers for the new year. Please write your name and what occasion is being celebrated. If you would like real flowers, please let us know, otherwise they will be silk flowers. When you donate money for the flowers, please mark it for the Flower Fund. The monies in the Flower Fund pay for the Christmas and Easter flowers that are put in the church. If you have any questions, you can call me. Barbara Miller 863-858-5790

UNUSED HEARING AIDS: Unused hearing aids can be donated. Place them in the Munz mailbox in the church mailroom. Pastor Jerry Munz collects them and takes them to the Lakeland Hearing Center. If you want a tax receipt be sure to ask Pastor Jerry to get one for you.

DREAM CENTER VOLUNTEERS – Volunteers are needed to help check- in and sort items here at Christ Lutheran for the Dream Center. Please see or contact Robin Fox at 863-513-4774 to schedule a day and time to volunteer.

RECIPES WANTED - Mary Martha is collecting favorite recipes for the Church Cookbook. If you have a favorite recipe and would be willing to share it, please write it legibly, sign your name on it and put it in the box located in the Narthex. There is no limit to number of recipes you can submit.

CHURCH DIRECTORY – For those that are not aware, our church member directory is now available online. Please see the flyer sheets in the narthex for more information or email Kim Kaniecki at stewardship@clclakeland.org.

TRUSTEE VOLUNTEER DAY – Every Tuesday from 9 am – 1 pm. If you would like to help with the various needs of the church, come join us. A job, whether large or small can be found to help with. If you notice something you think needs attention, come let us know. Thanks for helping.

GREETERS NEEDED – Volunteers are needed to be Greeters in the Narthex to welcome guest and members as they enter for service. If you are interested, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board.

NAMETAGS – We would like to encourage all our members to please wear their nametags to church. If you can't find your nametag or don't have one, please sign-up for one on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church.

CHECK YOUR MAILBOX – Please check your mailbox in the narthex.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Mark 1:7 – “And [John] preached, saying, ‘After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.’” John is right — Jesus is immensely greater than any of us, yet behold how He came to serve! That is the upside-down, outlandish grace of God: the innocent Jesus takes our sinner's place. This is the greatest act of giving the world has ever known or will know: the Father gives His Son to die in the place of sinners.

