

Welcome to
St. Luke's Lutheran Church (Obelisk)
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January 9, 2022
Baptism of Our Lord
First Sunday after Epiphany

P: Pastor C: Congregation

Thanksgiving For Baptism

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

P: 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.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

C: Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

P: At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

C: By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and

sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

P: 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.

C: Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

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

C: Amen.

Greeting

P: Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God, grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: 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.

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.”

Psalm: Psalm 29

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo-ry 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 LORD 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.

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.

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Your continued and weekly offerings are needed to continue the Little Church with a BIG Mission.



Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain

Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness

call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,

stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.

then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
 and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
 then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
 From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;

and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
 and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
 and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
 our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.

Refrain

"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
 then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
 when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
 With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.