

Christ the Rock Lutheran Church

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The Baptism of Our Lord January 10, 2021

Jesus Is Revealed as Our Perfect Substitute

God's Word for Today

“Why did Jesus need to be baptized? I thought baptism was for sinners.” That’s a common question among Christians. It does not make sense that our Savior, who was perfectly sinless, would need to be baptized. Why was he? Because a) the Father wanted him to, and b) Jesus came to be our perfect substitute. His baptism shows him to be just that. Even from birth he endured the effects of our sin. Jesus was not at all a sinner himself, but he was carrying our sickness and pain (Isaiah 53:4). He needed the assurance of God’s love, just as if he were a sinner himself. He needed strength. Jesus received such gifts in baptism, like we do.



DIVINE SERVICE I

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*

C: **Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Amen.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 49:1-6

1 Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.

2 He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver.

3 He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor."

4 But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God."

5 And now the LORD says— he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength—

6 he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

SECOND LESSON

Titus 3:3-8

3 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. **4** But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, **5** he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, **6** whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, **7** so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Mark 1:11b

Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:4-11

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

4 And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. **5** The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. **6** John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. **7** And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. **8** I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

9 At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. **10** Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. **11** And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN

“Baptized into Your Name Most Holy”

Christian Worship #294



1 Bap - tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O
 2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me To
 3 My faith - ful God, you fail me nev - er; Your
 4 All that I am and love most dear - ly— Re -



Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a
 be - hence - forth your child and heir. My faith - ful
 prom - ise sure - ly will en - dure. Oh, cast me
 ceive it all, O Lord, from me. Let me con -



place, though weak and low - ly, A - mong your saints, your
 Sav - ior, there you let me The fruit of all your
 not a - way for - ev - er If words and deeds be -
 fess my faith sin - cere - ly And help me your own



cho - sen host, Bur - ied with Christ and dead to
 sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it, com - fort
 come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I come de -
 child to be! Let noth - ing that I am or



sin. Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.
 me When threat - 'ning clouds a - round I see.
 filed; For - give, lift up, re - store your child.
 own Serve an - y will but yours a - lone.

OUR LORD GIVES US LIFE THROUGH BAPTISM

- I. WHAT WE WERE WITHOUT CHRIST
- II. WHAT WE HAVE BECOME BECAUSE OF CHRIST
- III. NOW LIVE IN THAT NEW LIFE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Heavenly Father, You have revealed Your Son to us 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,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Preserve Your Holy Church here and scattered throughout the world. Give steadfast faith to all Christians by the preaching of Your Word and through the Holy Sacraments, and send laborers into Your harvest. We pray especially that you would bless this afternoon's call meeting and give us a faithful new pastor to lead our efforts to share the Gospel. Enliven the love of Your saints to bear one another's burdens and to show mercy toward those outside of the Church. Quicken us in the hope of eternal life in Christ Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Preserve the family, especially all Christian homes. Turn husband and wife toward one another in love, equip fathers and mothers for their holy duty as teachers of the faith, and preserve all children in the saving faith and certain promises of their Baptism unto life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Preserve our nation, its leaders and those who serve for the good of our people and for their protection. Grant peace in our time, O Lord, for You alone fight for us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Give comfort and relief to those who are sick, depressed, tired, confused or in any need. Watch over all expectant mothers and their children that they may have a safe delivery and be brought also to the life-giving waters of Holy Baptism and Your name. We ask Lord, that you bring the worldwide COVID-19 crisis to an end and that you comfort all who are being afflicted by it. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Be with those who are near death that they may hear Your Son's Words of grace in their last hour and be confident in their Baptism, where You named them Your child.
Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, You manifested Yourself, with the Holy Spirit, in the fullness of grace at the baptism of Your dear Son and, with Your voice, directed us to Him who has borne our sins, that we might receive grace and the remission of sins. Keep us, we beseech You, in the true faith. Since we have been baptized in accordance with Your command and the example of Your dear Son, we pray You to strengthen our faith by Your Holy Spirit and lead us to everlasting life and salvation; 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 in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

M: 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.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Baptized in Water"

Christian Worship #297

**1 Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King: Heirs of salvation,
Trusting his promise, Faithfully now God's praise we sing.**

**2 Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King: One with his rising,
Freed and forgiven, Thankfully now God's praise we sing.**

**3 Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our King: Born of one Father,
We are his children; Joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

Service acknowledgements: Divine Service | Christian Worship Supplement © 2008 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Scripture readings, New International Version. **"Baptized into Your Name Most Holy"** Text: Johann J. Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. **Psalm 2** Refrain Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer. © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer (admin. Northwestern Publishing House). All rights reserved. Used by permission. **"We All Believe in One True God"** Text: Martin Luther Tune: © 1999 Sarah Lambrecht gypsykutz@yahoo.com **"Baptized in Water"** Text: Michael Seward, b. 1932. © 1982 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission. **"Hail, O Savior of Every Blessing"** Text: Basil Woodd, 1760-1831, alt. Tune: Freylinghausen, Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, Halle, 1704, alt. Cover artwork by Ian M. Welch. Copyright 2013 Ian M. Welch. All Rights Reserved. paramentics.com