



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 10, 2021

After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

14531 Old Olga Road

Fort Myers, FL

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM

Sunday School & Bible Class: 11:30 AM

Church Office: **(239) 694-3878**

E-Mail: bethlehemlc@gmail.com

Rev. Karl P. Glander, Pastor

Pastor's Cell Phone: **(239) 293-1489**

Pastor's E-Mail Address:

pastorkarlglander@gmail.com

Linda Kirsch, Church Secretary

The baptism of Jesus took place using water. Water is essential to life. It is important that rivers, lakes, and oceans stay clean but they can get and have been contaminated by people's actions.

What are some things we can do to help keep our waters clean and free of pollution?

The "Baptism of our Lord Sunday" is a time to recall our own baptisms. This week in your home, light a candle, perhaps your own baptismal candle. Dip your fingers into a bowl of water and mark the sign of the cross on your forehead or the

foreheads of one another. As you mark the sign of the cross, give this blessing:

Say: You are God's beloved child.



IT IS GREAT TO HAVE YOU IN WORSHIP WITH US TODAY!

Here at Bethlehem Lutheran, we believe in the teachings of the Bible as taught by Jesus and the apostles and strive to live our lives in accord with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are all fellow sinners who live together in the mercy and grace of Jesus. Jesus is the heart and center of all that we say and do as we serve Him and live in Christian love with one another.

If you would like to learn more about this church, or are looking for a church family, please talk to our pastor or one of the ushers or elders. They would be happy to talk with you! Regardless of whether you join or not, we welcome you and your family to worship with us any time!

Should you have something we could privately pray about for you this week, we invite you to let our pastor or one of our members know so we can seek the Lord's face together.

Come visit us again sometime soon and may the Lord richly bless you!

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 10, 2021

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

405 TO JORDAN'S RIVER CAME OUR LORD

(Stanzas 1–3)

- 1 To Jordan's river came our Lord,
The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,
The God from God, the Light from Light,
The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.

- 2 The Savior came to be baptized—
The Son of God in flesh disguised—
To stand beneath the Father's will
And all His righteousness fulfill.

3 As Jesus in the Jordan stood
And John baptized the Lamb of God,
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,
Descended on Him from above.

(please rise)

✠ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO ✠

PIn the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and
of the Holy Spirit.

CAmen.

PIf we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.

CBut if we confess our sins, God, who is
faithful and just, will forgive our sins and
cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-
examination.)*

PLet us then confess our sins to God our Father.

CMost merciful God, we confess that 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 You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

P 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.

(please be seated)

✠ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ✠

INTROIT

Psalm 29

Ascribe to the LORD Glory

P Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

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

P The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over many waters.

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

P The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

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

P The voice of the LORD
flashes forth flames of fire.

C The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

P The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare,
and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

C The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

P May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

(please rise)

KYRIE

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Amen.

♪ GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ♪

**C1 To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

2 To You, O sole-begotten,

**The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—**

**3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
“Amen!” our glad reply.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

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.

☩ Amen.

(please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 1:1–5

The Beginning of Creation

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.

The Six Days of Creation

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.

EPISTLE

Romans 6:1–11

Dead to Sin, Alive to God

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.

(Please Rise)

♪ ALLELUIA AND VERSE ♪

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

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."

The Baptism of Jesus

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."

PThis is the Gospel of the Lord.

C**Praise to You, O Christ.**

(please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

405 TO JORDAN'S RIVER CAME OUR LORD

(Stanzas 4–6)

- 4 Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound
Came God's own voice with words profound:
"This is My Son," was His decree,
"The one I love, who pleases Me."
- 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.

SERMON

"What Baptism reveals"

... Pastor Karl

(please rise)

APOSTLES' CREED

**☞ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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.**

**I 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. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in Your mercy

C Hear our prayer.

(please be seated)

OFFERING

♪OFFERTORY RESPONSE♪

(please rise)

805 PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

△ 1 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

(please be seated)

CLOSING HYMN

924 LORD, DISMISS US WITH YOUR BLESSING

- 1** Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us; O refresh us,
Trav'ling through this wilderness.

- 2** Thanks we give and adoration
For Your Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
To Your truth may we be found.

- 3** Savior, when Your love shall call us
From our struggling pilgrim way,
Let not fear of death appall us,
Glad Your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
Reign with You in endless day.

BENEDICTION

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 Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

This Week's Calendar



TODAY, SUNDAY – JANUARY 10, 2021
11:30 a.m.



WEDNESDAY – JANUARY 13, 2021
10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Class

Special News & Notes



SUNDAY – JANUARY 17, 2021

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

11:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday school



Sunday, January 17th, 2021 Church council will meet at 12:30 p.m., right after Adult Bible class.



Sunday, January 31st, 2021 Each board will present it's planned programs and activities for the year.



Flower Calendar: The 2021 Flower Chart is up in the narthex. The flowers decorating the chancel at Bethlehem are placed there as an act of worship and devotion to glorify

God. They are also, an expression of the beauty and goodness of God. Members of the congregation may donate altar flowers as an expression of thanksgiving to God, in remembrance of departed loved one, on the occasion of a special event, such as a baptism, birthday, wedding anniversary, or simply to praise God. If you wish to donate flowers for use on the chancel, the cost is \$40.00 for two vases, if you would like to just purchase 1 vase at \$20.00 that's okay, but please put up there 1 vase and someone can sign up with you for the other. It is also tax deductible. Please place money in an envelope marked flowers in the offering basket.



Your **offering envelopes** have arrived and are on the table in the narthex, please pick them up.

Volunteer Sign Up: People are needed every Sunday to make our worship special. Please consider helping in one or more ways to make others feel welcome at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Please sign up in the fellowship hall if you would like to serve the Lord!

Birthday Greetings!! 1/15: Edison Johnson, 1/16: George Fornoff; Randy Schlueter

Stewardship & Attendance

Monthly Giving

Offerings: \$11,801

Expenses: \$9,695

Weekly Attendance

Worship Service – 47



The Flowers at our altar this morning were given to the *Glory of God* by the Johnson's for their anniversary that was on the 5th and Edison's birthday.

Prayer Chain: Life presents challenges to all of us, but sometimes those challenges can feel like it's just too much. If you are experiencing situations, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual, you may give your prayer requests to Linda Kirsch 239-693-5026 or e-mail: jlkirsch3@comcast.net or call or email Linda if you would like to become a part of our Prayer chain. "Hear my prayer, O Lord; listen to my cry for mercy."



Rev. Karl P. Glander

Organist: Holly Bell

Elder: Paul Rugenstein

Altar Guild: Marty Jurs, Pam Rugenstein

Ushers: Darrell Erdman, Bob Jurs

Reader: Pam Rugenstein

Acolyte: Jake Stecklein