

January 17, 2021
Worship Order
Baptism of our Lord Sunday
9:30 AM Worship

PRELUDE Come, All You People, Come and Praise the Most High – Gondo
Zach Truskowski, Conga drums

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WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP *based on Psalm 29*
Give to our God, O heavenly beings,
Give to our God glory and strength.
**Give to our God a glorious name;
worship our God in holy splendor.**

The voice of our God is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over mighty waters.
**The voice of our God is powerful;
the voice of our God is full of majesty.**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
Our God breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
**God makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

The voice of our God flashes forth flames of fire.
**The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
Our God shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of our God causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare;
and in God's temple all say, "Glory!"
**The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
Our God sits enthroned as ruler forever.**

May our God give strength to the people!
May the Lord bless us with peace!

HYMN ELW 304 Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized

Christ, when for us you were baptized,
God's Spirit on you came,
as peaceful as a dove, and yet
as urgent as a flame,
as urgent as a flame.

God called you, "My beloved Son";
you are God's servant true,
sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n,
God's holy will to do,
God's holy will to do.

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GREETING

The mercy of God whose voice is upon the waters,
the love of Christ whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
and the grace of the Spirit whose goodness cascades over all creation,
be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE ELW 455 Crashing Waters of Creation

Crashing waters at creation,
ordered by the Spirit's breath,
first to witness day's beginning
from the brightness of night's death:

Cleansing water once at Jordan
closed around the one foretold,
opened to reveal the glory
ever new and ever old.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Genesis 1:1-5

Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for us. God created and continues to create new life.

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

Text: John 6:68, adapt. Lutheran Book of Worship
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GOSPEL Mark 1:4-11

Mark’s gospel reports the story of Jesus’ baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. 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 just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Pastor Becky Schanely

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

People of God, we desire to be refreshed, renewed and changed. Let us listen again to God's calling our names to encourage us and strengthen our resolve to be God's people in faithfulness and peace-loving justice.

Let us pray. O God,

we hear your voice and we see the way of Jesus set before us. But it's hard, dear God, to try again and again to live up to our baptismal vows and maintain our resolve to be your people in the world. In repentance we ask you to forgive us. Set us once again on a holy path that leads to you. Amen.

Friends, God hears our prayers and sets before us the way of Jesus. God calls us and gives us enough grace and mercy to follow the way.

Thanks be to God.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Have a small bowl of water ready to use in blessing those in your household at the appropriate time.

Our God created new life forms and brought them up from the waters of chaos, embraced them, and called them good. Jesus, baptized in the river Jordan by John the Baptist, became living water for us and embraces all of us. Jesus embraces those who are poor, oppressed, marginalized and all others who come seeking. We follow Jesus with our baptism, marking a starting place for new life and new ways of being. We join Jesus in love and service.

Let us prepare our hearts and minds to see, feel, and hear again the vows of baptism.

Do you renew and affirm the promises made at your Baptism?

I do.

Do you recognize the call of God to be God's people always?

I do.

Do you embrace the way of Jesus in faith and ministry?

I do

Do you accept the nurture of the Holy Spirit who renews your spirit each day?

I do.

Do you accept and embrace others who seek a liberating faith in God?

I do.

In renewing your baptismal vows, remember your baptism as a mark of acceptance and welcome into the care of Christ's church where you may begin again your Christian faith and life.

O God, we rejoice in your grace, given and received. We thank you that you claim us, that you wash us, strengthen us, and guide us, that you empower us to live a life worthy of our calling. In the way of Jesus, make us as water in a dry and thirsty world. Establish us to be places of refreshment. Root us and nurture us in love, that with all your people, that we may rightly and justly serve you. Fill us with your fullness that our lives may overflow in service and love. Amen.

BAPTISMAL HYMN – ELW 453 Baptized and Set Free

During the singing of the hymn, touch your finger to the water and make the sign of the cross on your forehead. If you are worshipping with others, make the sign of the cross on each other's foreheads with water. As you do so, speak or remember the words:

Child of God, you are claimed by God's love forever. Amen

We are people created,
chosen by God.
Then we're washed, ever gently,
in mercy and love.
Sin has power no more.
Jesus opened the door
to a fountain bringing healing,
and wholeness and more.

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956
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CLOSING PRAYER

Faithful God, bless us in our baptismal calling to be engaged in the ministry of showing hospitality to others. We offer the gifts that we have been given to be used not for conquest and dominance, but for liberating the poor and hurting people who pray for our liberation as well as their own. Receive and multiply our gifts for life-giving ministry. **Amen.**

MUSICAL OFFERING Baptized in His Name – Schmid
Kathy Fitser, Soprano

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

O God, give strength to your people.

Give us your blessings of peace.

Almighty and most merciful God, you are the mighty Voice from heaven, you are our beloved Savior, you are the descending Dove. We give you thanks for all your goodness and tender mercies, and we ask you to accept our prayers for the sake of your mercy, today and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter † keep you in peace.

Amen.

HYMN ELW 866 We Are Marching in the Light of God
Zach Truskowski, Conga drums

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.

We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.

We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)
we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)
we are praying in the light of God.

We are singing in the light of God,
we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing in the light of God,
we are singing in the light of God.

We are singing (singing, we are singing, singing,)
we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing (singing, we are singing, singing,)
we are singing in the light of God.

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Siyahamba – arr. Horwarth and Titus
Zach Truskowski, Conga drums

Tune: South African Traditional

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Mark Your Calendar

Monday, Jan 18 OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, Jan 20 at 7:30PM Confirmation

Sunday, Jan 24 at 9:30AM 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Tuesday, Jan 26 at 7:30PM – Book Club (Zoom)

Friday, Jan 29 from 2-7PM – BLOOD DRIVE

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

Worship Attendance 1/10/2021 – Zoom - 49 households		
Giving Amounts	Total received between 12/27/20-1/9/21	Amount Needed between 12/27/20-1/9/21
General Fund	\$10,290.00	\$11,217
Building Fund	\$728.50	
<p><i>Weekly average is based on the 2021 budget. A weekly building fund amount needed is no longer reported as the building fund has been used for the mortgage, which has been paid off. All other building expenses are included in General Fund budget and giving.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The above numbers include electronic giving. Mint duty is being done every other week for the time being.</i></p>		

Capital Campaign Activity Update	
Capital Campaign Contributions Pledged	\$ 260,000.00
Capital Campaign Contributions received between 12/27/20-1/9/21	\$346.00
Capital Campaign Contributions received to date	\$ 248,906.15

ST. JOHN'S LEADERSHIP

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Tony Aleide, President
 Elaine Keller, Vice President/ Staff Support
 Shelia Hercek, Secretary/Member Engagement
 Bob Conrad, Finance
 Lindsay Detwiler, Worship and Music
 Kristie Faust, Marketing & Communication
 John Hovanec, Property
 Barry Long, Worship and Music
 Lynsey Quinn, Faith Formation
 Joyce Foesig, Outreach
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