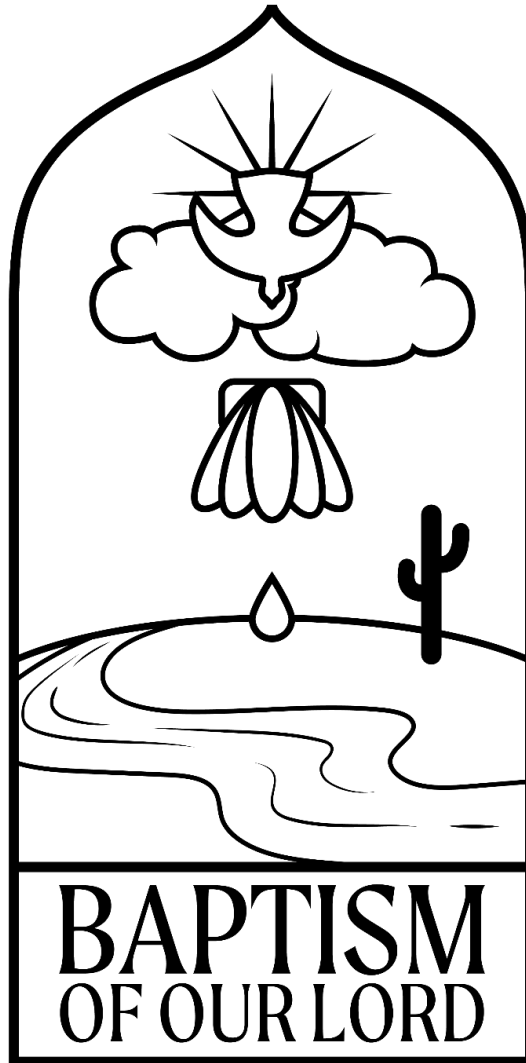


First Sunday after Epiphany

Baptism of Our Lord

January 12 and 13, 2025



Baptism Is the Cure for an Identity Crisis



198 Westridge Avenue, Burlington, Wisconsin
262-763-8229 | stjohnsburlington.org
Pastor Kirk Lahmann | Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a “Welcome to Worship” card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

Prepare for Worship

To prepare for worship, read through the service focus and the Scripture readings. Ponder the words of the Psalm of the Day. Spend time in prayer, using the prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal or on pages 255-258. For those intending to receive the Lord’s Supper, read through the “Christian Questions” on pages 295-296. Consider reading through portions of the Small Catechism on pages 286-293.

Seasonal Theme for Epiphany – Epiphany Moments

Epiphany is the season where we see Jesus begin his ministry, revealing the reason the Son of God came to earth. In this season we will come to understand that when we have Jesus in our lives, it does not always mean our reality drastically changes. It simply means that we see reality differently, and better. Jesus always provides an abundance of epiphany moments.

Today’s Focus for Worship – Baptism Is the Cure for an Identity Crisis

“Who is Jesus?” People thought he was “Mary and Joseph’s son” or “a carpenter from Nazareth.” While true, those answers do not adequately describe Jesus. But when Jesus was baptized, God the Father spoke, declaring Jesus’ true identity. Jesus was the dearly loved Son of God, chosen to be the Savior of the world. “Who are you?” someone asks. To answer that question, we must look to our baptism. There, just like he did with Jesus, our Father declares us to be his dearly loved child. May God grant us this epiphany moment!

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Preacher: Pastor Kirk Lahmann

Accompanist: Allison Sorensen

Acknowledgments

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Gathering Rite

on Holy Baptism



Stand

Invocation

Matthew 18:20; 28:19-20

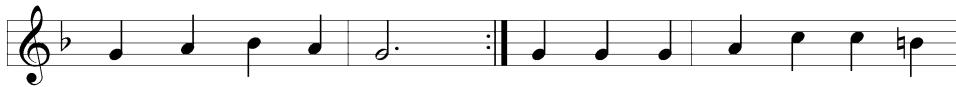
In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Gathering Rite Hymn

Baptized into Your Name Most Holy



Bap - tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther,
I claim a place, though weak and low - ly, A - mong your



Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
saints, your cho - sen host, Bur - ied with Christ and dead to



sin. Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.

Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God
unless they are born of water and the Spirit.

John 3:5-6

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
**But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the
name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**

Psalm 51:5
1 Corinthians 6:11



My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me To be hence -
My faith - ful Sav - ior, there you let me The fruit of



forth your child and heir.
all your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it, com - fort



me When threat - 'ning clouds a - round I see.

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

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.



My faith - ful God, you fail me nev - er; Your pro - mise
Oh, cast me not a - way for - ev - er If words and



sure - ly will en - dure.
deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I come de -



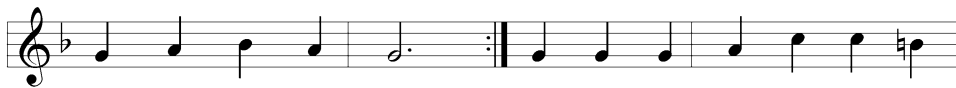
filed; For - give, lift up, re - store your child.

Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (*Ephesians 5:25-27*). 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 \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



All that I am and love most dear - ly— Re - ceive it
Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly, And help me



all, O Lord, from me.
your own child to be! Let noth - ing that I am or



own Serve an - y will but yours a - lone.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated



¹The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.”

²But Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me.”

The LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’”

³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate.”

⁴Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, “Do you come in peace?”

⁵Samuel replied, “Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me.” Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed stands here before the LORD.”

⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The LORD has not chosen this one either.” ⁹Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the LORD chosen this one.” ¹⁰Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The LORD has not chosen these.” ¹¹So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?”

“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.”

Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”

¹²So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”

¹³So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Great Are the Works of the LORD | 2-D

Refrain



Great are the works of the LORD. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Great are the works of the LORD.

Tone



Why do the nations / *conspire*
and the peoples / *plot in vain?*

The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together a- / *gainst the LORD*
and against his A- / *ointed. Refrain*

The One enthroned in / *heaven laughs;*
the Lord / *scoffs at them.*

He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, / *saying,*
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy / *mountain.” Refrain*

I will proclaim the / *LORD’s decree:*

He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your / *Father.”*

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

Tune and setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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Second Reading

Titus 3:4-8

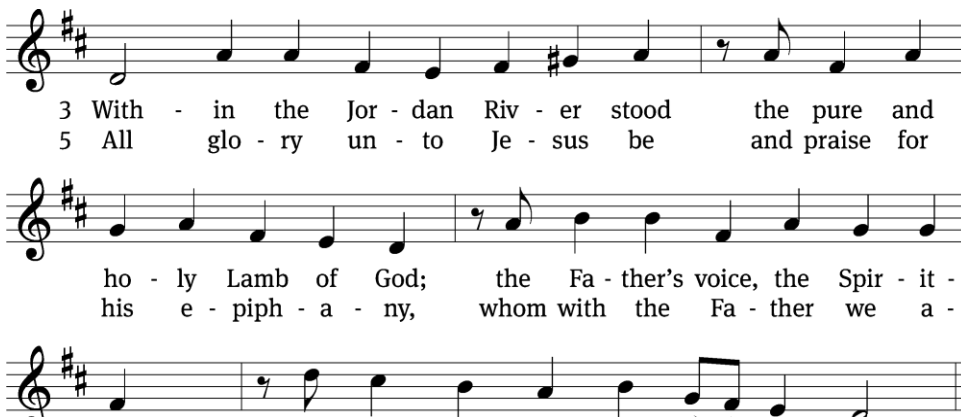
⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. ⁸This 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn Response

The Star Proclaims the King Is Here | 374:3, 5



3 With - in the Jor - dan Riv - er stood the pure and
5 All glo - ry un - to Je - sus be and praise for
ho - ly Lamb of God; the Fa - ther's voice, the Spir - it -
his e - piph - a - ny, whom with the Fa - ther we a -
dove, con-firmed the Sav - ior from a - bove.
dore and Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent., abr. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph Klug.

Stand

¹⁵The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

²¹When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

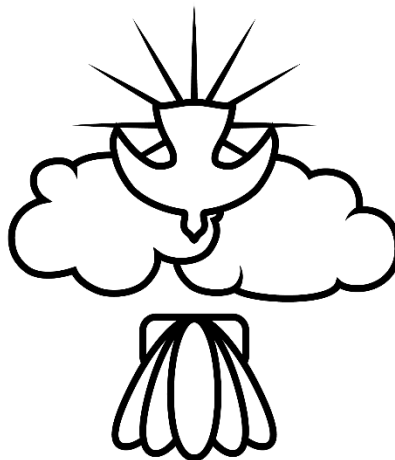
To Jordan’s River Came Our Lord | 377

Sermon

God Saves Us Through Baptism

Titus 3:4-8

Stand



We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church and Lord's Prayer

O God of all mercy, through the sacrament of Holy Baptism you adopted us as your dear children for time and eternity. You made your own Son our brother and Savior. You promised us a place in your eternal mansions. You give us boldness to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven.

You baptized us into your name and consecrated us to a life with you and for you. Therefore, set us apart as your chosen people so that we may proclaim your gracious name among us.

Hallowed by thy name.

Through baptism you brought us out of the dark kingdom of unbelief, sin, and death and brought us into Christ's kingdom of forgiveness, light, and life. Therefore, we ask that you would keep us in our baptismal grace and in your kingdom all the days of our life.

Thy kingdom come.

In baptism you accomplished your desire to save us. You released us from the control of Satan and bound us to follow your ways of truth and life now and forever. Convert all our desires so that we always seek and follow what you desire.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

In baptism you gave us your Holy Spirit and filled us with a confident trust in your abundant providence. Therefore, that we may receive from you all we need for body and life, we pray:

Give us this day our daily bread.

We praise you that in baptism you freely washed away all our sins by the blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Work powerfully in us so that we, too, forgive others as gladly and as abundantly as you have forgiven us.

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Graciously preserve us from all danger, doubt, and fear. Guard us from Satan's schemes, so that we never abandon our baptism but use it faithfully day by day.

Lead us not into temptation.

In Holy Baptism you sanctified our bodies and made them the temple of your Holy Spirit. Watch over our bodies so that no wickedness may come upon us.

But deliver us from evil.

Accept our praise and worship now and forever through the faith and trust that you gave to us in the sacrament of rebirth and renewal.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Offering

2 Corinthians 9:7

Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshipers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.

The Sacrament



Stand

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136:1

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en-ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na, ho -



san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,



bless-ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Matthew 26:26

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

John 1:29

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated

Holy Communion Distribution

St. John's Lutheran Church practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of St. John's, or members of a church in fellowship with St. John's, come forward for Communion. Our pastoral staff would be happy to set up a time to discuss this, and any teaching of Scripture, with you.

Distribution Hymns

Christ, Your Footprints through the Desert | 379

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It | 679

Hail to the Lord's Anointed | 384

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Lord Jesus Christ, in order to fulfill all righteousness, you were baptized by John in the Jordan. Clothe us with this same righteousness, that as your baptized people, we too may be called beloved children of your Father, and because of you, know he is well pleased with us; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing *Aaronic Benediction*

Numbers 6:24-26

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.

Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

All Who Believe and Are Baptized | 692

Epiphany Moments – Worship Series for Epiphany 2025

Epiphany of Our Lord – January 5 & 6	God’s Gift to All People
Baptism of Our Lord – January 12 & 13	Baptism Is the Cure for an Identity Crisis
Second Sunday after Epiphany – January 19 & 20	God Delivers More than We Ask, Not Less
Third Sunday after Epiphany – January 26 & 27	Rejection Is Not Proof of Failure
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany – February 2 & 3	Popularity Is Not Proof of Success
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany – February 9 & 10	The Least Qualified are the First Sent
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany – February 16 & 17	Blessings Are Cursed; Curses Are Blessed
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany – February 23 & 24	Love Your Enemies; Overcome Evil with Good
Transfiguration of Our Lord – March 2 & 3	Glory Is Hidden in Order to Be Revealed

