St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

January 9th, 2022 8:30 am Service

Baptism of Our Lord Sunday

Worship Notes: Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

Prelude

Welcome to Worship

Pastor Sheila Rawn

Gathering

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Amen.

God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

If we walk in the light as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.

John the Baptizer hailed the Messiah, saying, "He will gather the wheat, but the chaff he will burn."

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

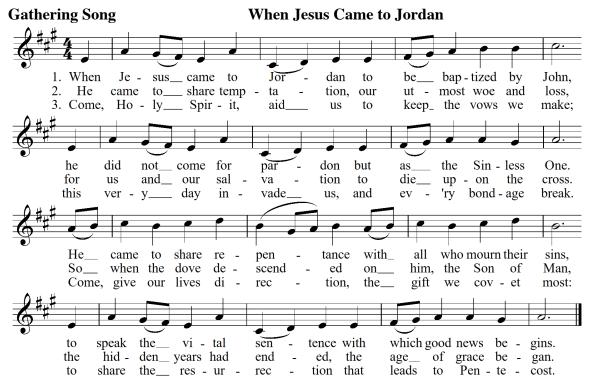
troubled and penitent we confess our sins to you. Let your mercy dawn upon us for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son, with whom you are well pleased. Within our hearts, and in our lives, let there be light; the light no darkness can overcome.

For his sake God hears your prayer. Jesus Christ is God's beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased. In his name we have been baptized.

We have seen the Lord's glory; we have heard the Lord's voice.

Walk, then, as children of light, in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



Tune: Ave Maria, Klarer und Lichter Morgenstern, 76 76 D M. v. Werkmeister, Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle, 1784

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Litany for the Baptism of our Lord Sunday

At your baptism, O Lord, the Holy Spirit rested upon you in the form of a dove.

At our baptism, love was declared to each of us.

The baptism of Christ in the Jordan marked the beginning of an amazing ministry of abundant love.

And our baptisms mark the beginning of our lives of faith.

On this day when our Lord Jesus was baptized, we remember all those who have been baptized in our church in the last year.

Elsie Eve Zanskas Jack Arthur Weins Charlie Hugh Jurss Graciana Marie Grady Jack Luebben Isla Ruth Whitnell Isabelle Linda Lucy Kuehl Ethan John Budnick Charlie Michelson **August Hart Smith** Jaxson James Trucksa Clementine Ann Seckar-Anderson Gianna Rose Nickel Aksel Vincent Georgeson Shay Violet Mauerman Vanessa Royal Szafir

Our God has called each of us children and disciples. Now may we live our lives in the name of the Lord!

Apostolic Greeting

Arise shine; for the Light has come!

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us!

We gather in the name in which we are baptized.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of the Day

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.

Amen.

Please be seated.

<u>Word</u>

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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 29

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

Let us read responsively from Psalm 29.

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord bursts forth in lightning flashes.

The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The 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!"

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.

O 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.



Alleluia! Glory Be



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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.

The holy gospel according to Luke, the $3^{\rm rd}$ chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord for you this day.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Sheila Rawn

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

#451 We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

[Prayer Cards will be collected during the Hymn of the Day]

Reaffirmation of Baptism

Sisters and Brothers in Christ, the promises of God's grace are signed and sealed to us in our baptism.

In baptism God promises by grace alone to forgive our sin;

to adopt us into the body of Christ, the church;

to send the Holy Spirit daily to renew and cleanse us;

and to resurrect us to eternal life.

This promise is made visible in the water of baptism. Water cleanses, purifies, sustains; Jesus Christ is living water.

Through baptism Christ calls us to new obedience:

to love and trust God completely; to forsake the evil of the world;

and to live a new and holy life.

I invite you now to remember God's promise, to turn away from all that is evil, and to reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ and your commitment to Christ's church.

Renunciations & Affirmations

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Christ calls us to continue in the covenant God made with us in holy baptism. Do you intend:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. People of God, as Christ's faithful disciple, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O holy and gracious God, for the gift of water.

In the beginning of creation your Spirit moved over the waters.

In the waters of the flood you destroyed evil.

You led the children of Israel through the sea into freedom of the Promised Land. In the river Jordan, John baptized our Lord and your Spirit anointed him.

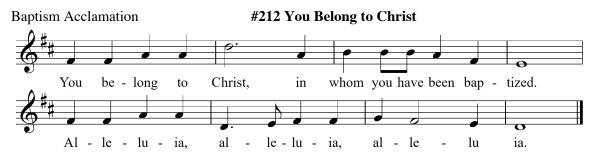
By his death and resurrection Jesus Christ, the living water, frees us from sin and death and opens the way to life everlasting.

We thank you, O God, for the gift of baptism. In the waters of baptism you confirm to us that we are buried with Christ in his death, raised to share in his resurrection, and are being renewed by the Holy Spirit.

Pour out upon us and on your whole church the gift of your Holy Spirit, so that all who have passed through the waters of Baptism might be dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus

To God be all honor and glory, dominion and power, now and forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[Rite of Sprinkling occurs during this Acclamation]



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Baptismal Charge

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. [Ephesians 4:1-2]

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

...God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Meal

Offering

My Son, the Beloved by David Blackwell – Senior Choir

Please stand as you are able.

Canticle of Thanksgiving

#456 Baptized in Water

Offertory Prayer

Surely, God, you show no partiality, for you have chosen us to be your servants, your children.

Filled with your Spirit, approved by your voice, saved by your Son, we are bold to come before you now. Accept these gifts. Accept our lives. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

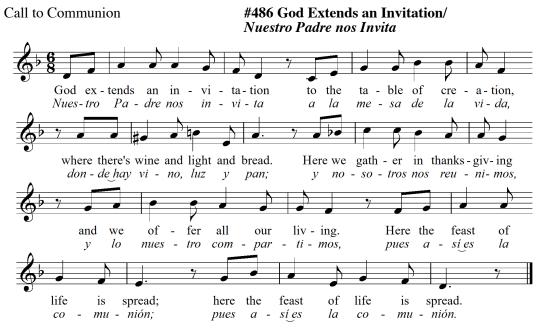
Invitation to Communion

Come to God's table.

There is a place and enough for all.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Please be seated.



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Communion Anthem

Thee We Adore by Ralph Johnson – Senior Choir

Communion Hymn

#454 Remember and Rejoice

Please stand as you are able.

Communion Response

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his light and grace.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing

God, who through water and the Spirit has made us beloved daughters and sons, strengthen you in your baptism. 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. Almighty God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

But 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 29

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

Now 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

As 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. 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 granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."