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HE SAW THE HEAVENS OPEN AND THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCENDING ON HIM.

M A R K 1 : 1 0

"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 10, 2021

JANUARY 10, 2021 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Holy God, you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of + Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace. **Amen.**



Text: H. Francis Yardley, 1911–1990; Frank J. Whiteley, b. 1914, alt. Music: CHRISTE SANCTORUM, Paris Antiphoner, 1681 Text © 1969 H. Francis Yardley and Frank J. Whiteley

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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**



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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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

A reading from Genesis.

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.**

PSALM: Psalm 29

(Read responsively between men and women, beginning with the men)

¹Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength. ²Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name; worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness. ³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders; the LORD is upon the | mighty waters. ⁴The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice; the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor. ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees: the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon; ⁶the 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. ⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh. ⁹The 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!" ¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore. ¹¹O LORD, give strength | to your people; give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7

A reading from Acts.

In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptizes them, the Holy Spirit comes upon them and empowers them with gifts of the Spirit.

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Pastor Bill



HYMN OF THE DAY Baptized and Set Free (ELW 453)

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956 Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner

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Please stand if you are able.

Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

CREED

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

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. 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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (please respond) *P: let us pray. C: Have mercy, O God.*

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERTORY In the Bleak Midwinter Verse 3



Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830–1894 Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

OFFERING PRAYER

O God,

receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG Shine, Jesus, Shine (ELW 671) Shine, Jesus, Shine 671 Refrain Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo-ry; 0 6 blaze, Spir - it, blaze, hearts fire. set our on Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na tions with grace and mer - cy; O send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light! is shin - ing, 1 Lord, the light of your love in the midst of the on your king - ly bright-ness, 2 As we gaze SO our fac - es disdark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us, play your like - ness, ev - er chang-ing from glo - ry to glo - ry, set us free by the truth you now bring us. tell your sto mir - rored here, may our lives ry. Refrain O σ Shine shine on on me, me: shine Shine on me, on me:

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE 99 10 10 3 3 and refrain

Text and music @ 1987 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

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SERVING TODAY

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Lector	Wayne Dale
Attendance last Sunday	

Stewardship Thought - January 10, 2021 (Baptism of the Lord, Year B) "[Paul] said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.'" – Acts 19:2 As we celebrate the baptism of Jesus and recall our own initiation into God's family, we can be confident that God works within us, giving us the gift of the Holy Spirit, and equipping us to be faithful disciples who are well in body, mind, and spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the Glory of God and in loving honor of our daughter Kristen for her birthday and our daughter-in-law Chelsea for her 30th birthday given by Dad and Mom Mull.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

2021 Altar Flowers Chart—Kimberly will <u>not</u> be posting the new altar flowers chart as usual. INSTEAD, please call her to reserve your special Sunday! Flowers will now be **purchased from Royer's Florist in Chambersburg**. Please note the price will change to \$35. For the price of two flower arrangements, you can give glory to God with the beauty of His creation on the altar; commemorate a loved one; and if you choose, have your flowers given to someone who is homebound or recovering from surgery or illness.

Prayer requests for the following persons: for the families and friends of Carrell Saunier and Kimberly Overcash who died last week, Gertie Reichard, Joyce Wildeson, Manny Negron, Jerry and Peggy Tyson, Sue Ressler, Eva Stahl, David McEntire, Clayton Schwartz and the Quincy Village Residents, Amos Egolf, Dee Dee Fox, Jody Swartz, Quentin, Linda Small Naus, Lee Locke, Barbara Socks, Denise Bowen, Jack Hess, Sylvia Wenger, Patsy Wagner, Anne English, Millie Kulkusky, Jackson, Bonnie Hudson. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire. **Note:** At the beginning of each month, the Prayer Request List will start anew. If you would like to remain listed on the next month's list, or if you would like to have your name removed from the list before the end of the month, please call the office.

Glossy Magazines - The magazine recycling company's processing equipment for the Ronald McDonald House has been damaged and is in need of repair. Due to the pandemic, the repair is not possible for the foreseeable future; therefore, we are <u>not</u> collecting glossy magazines at this time.

Every January a new church directory listing the names, phone numbers, and addresses of all Solomon's members is published by the church office. If your contact information has changed since publication of the 2020 directory, please let Kimberly know as soon as possible. Thank you.

Power Packs: With school back in session, <u>the Power Packs program has now resumed</u>. Currently, eight families have been identified at New Franklin Elementary School in need of food assistance. You can donate vegetable or fruit cups like last year. Donations of cash are also welcome if you are unable to shop or attend church due to the pandemic.

Candy Fundraiser - We do have some candy left to sell so please call Zoe at 717-267-1777 (home) or 717-264-9598 (work). You can also call Kimberly at the Church Office: 717-267-2266.

Bulletin Announcement Forms are located in both pamphlet racks. Please submit all bulletin announcements to by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday for inclusion in the bulletin.

Council Minutes, Monthly Financial Statement and Committee Minutes are available in the library for anyone to read.

JANUARY 10, 2021 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Jesus is God's beloved, and so are we.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

Mark 1:4-11 Genesis 1:1-5 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 15:33-39 Ephesians 4:1-6 Galatians 3:19-29 Psalm 29 John 1:43-51 The baptism of Jesus God creates light Paul baptizes in Ephesus Death of Jesus Unity in the body of Christ The purpose of the law The voice of God in the storm Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." Mark 1:11 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, we thank you for Jesus, your Beloved Son and our Savior and for claiming us in baptism as your loved children now and always. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of tender care, as we are given strength from this meal, may we remember with joy that we are your beloved children through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord give you strength and bless you with peace. (Psalm 29:11)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What is a dramatic event you have witnessed or heard about?
- Have you experienced a baptism as a life-changing event? Explain.
- How was Jesus' baptism a life-changing event for the world?

HYMN OF THE WEEK *You are Mine*

DEVOTIONS *Read:* Mark 1:4-11.

taking faith home

Jesus' baptism is marked by dramatic events. Not only did Jesus go out to John in the wilderness, but so did "all the people of Jerusalem" (v. 5). John, who has a strong following acknowledges that Jesus, the one to come after John, is so much more important, that John is not worthy to untie Jesus' sandals. Jesus' own baptizing will bring with it the Holy Spirit, not just the call to repentance, as was the baptism of John. The Holy Spirit will make Jesus' baptism and the Christian baptism different (see Acts 19:1-7). Then, the most dramatic moment happens, the moment that defines Jesus' baptism as a cosmic shattering event: the heavens were torn apart and the Spirit of God came down, appearing like a dove. The tearing apart of the heavens will be matched by the tearing apart of the curtain in the temple at the time of Jesus death (Mark 15:38). Jesus' baptism is linked with the cosmic shattering event of his death that changes for all time our relationship to God. This is something that we participate in through our own baptisms, another earth-shattering experience filled with love that claims us as God's beloved children. Is being claimed by God in baptism earth shattering to you? Why or why not?

Pray: God of glory and might, help us to see and believe in your earth-shattering power and love for us and to see that love embrace us in the remembrance of our baptisms. Amen.

SERVICE

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?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

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.

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