

HEARTS @ HOME



A Worship Service for Your Household

Sunday January 10, 2021

Baptism of our Lord

RCL: Mark 1:4-11

+ GATHERING + *(*households can prepare a small bowl of water to use during this service)*

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us burth, our light and our salvation. **AMEN.**

+ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM +

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as your children, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **AMEN.**

+ PRAYER +

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.**

+ SCRIPTURE +

+ **Mark 1:4-11**

+ **Spark Story Bible:** Jesus' Baptism (Pages 242-245)

+ **Jesus Storybook Bible:** Heaven Breaks Through (Pages 200-207)

+ **Northwest Synod of Wisconsin App:** Click the 'Bible' tab at the bottom.

+ REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD +

Option 1: Click on your congregation's sermon video or live worship link

Option 2: Use the following questions for in-home conversation or personal reflection

Option 3: Use questions for reflection + **Coloring Sheet** (page 4)

Questions:

- + When and where were you baptized? Who were your sponsors? How do you celebrate your baptismal anniversary now?
- + Aside from your baptism, what faith milestones have been important in your life? How did you celebrate them?
- + Our baptism can be a springboard into a lifetime of vocations...how are you fulfilling your many vocations?

+ APOSTLES' 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 +

With all the people of God, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

- + We pray for the continued ministry of your church, gracious God, and for the ways you continue to connect us with you and with one another through music and prayer, justice work, conversations, faith practices, and education; we pray especially today for those who are preparing for baptism, that they may be a witness to your compassion and love. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + For those who continue to suffer from illness, addiction, loneliness, grief, and oppression, for those whose basic needs are not being met, for those who are unemployed or cannot make ends meet, and for any who struggle to see their worth, please grant them the comfort and assurance that can only come from you, merciful Christ. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + We pray for your glorious creation, simplistic with white winter wonder, hidden hibernations, and the playful nature of creatures who are unbothered by the chilly temperatures. Please continue to help us recognize our responsibility in the care for this earth in all its seasons. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + As we observe your world, incarnate God, we pray for peace among and within the nations, for cooperation and collaboration among leaders and countries, and for the strength to end war and violence; grant us the courage needed to be resilient and persistent in our efforts. Lord in your mercy, **AMEN.**
- + *Add your own prayers here...*

Loving God, we give all these prayers to you, trusting in your mercy and grace. **AMEN.**

+ OFFERING +

As people of faith we are called to continue strengthening the ministry of the church, even when we are physically distant. We invite you to prayerfully consider a gift to your congregation or the synod – as the body of Christ we work together to serve our neighbors.

+ LORD'S PRAYER +

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.**

+ BLESSING EACH OTHER +

Using your pointer finger, dip it in the bowl of water and make the sign of the cross on another's forehead or the back of their hand saying, **"You are a beloved child of God."**
Take turns until all in the household have been blessed.

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