

*SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH*  
January 9 & 10, 2021 – Baptism of Our Lord

**Ministers: Every Member of Spirit of Grace**  
**Pastor Scott Hackler – Pastor Gary Benson**

*OUR VISION*

“To help our congregation and community know Christ and grow in faith, so we can run the race of life with grace, hope, peace, and joy.”

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP: “I Will Sing of My Redeemer”** ..... Fred Bornhoeft

**INVOCATION**

**P:** We worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit!

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN: “As with Gladness Men of Old”**

As with gladness men of old / did the guiding star behold; / as with joy they hailed its light, / leading onward,  
beaming bright; / so, most gracious Lord, may we / evermore be led by thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, / Savior, to thy lowly bed, / there to bend the knee before / thee, whom heav'n  
and earth adore; / so may we with willing feet / ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare / at thy cradle, rude and bare, / so may we with holy joy, / pure and free from  
sin's alloy, / all our costliest treasures bring, / Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt. Public Domain.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.  
Holy God,

**C: 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 those we share with all. We turn inward, failing to follow  
your outward way of love. 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.**

**P:** 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.

**C: Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE: “This Is the Day”**

This is the day, this is the day / that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made; / we will rejoice, we will rejoice / and be glad in it, and be glad in it. / This is the day that the Lord has made; / we will rejoice and be glad in it. / This is the day, this the day that the Lord has made.

Text: Psalm 118:24. Public Domain.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters of our baptism. 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.

C: Amen

**SPECIAL MUSIC: “For Those Tears I Died”**..... Mike & Carol Blackburn

**THE READING: Acts 19:1-7** ..... Barbara Lyes

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He 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.” Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” Paul 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.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—altogether there were about twelve of them.

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

**THE GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11**

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And 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. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And 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. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON: “Remember who you are!”** ..... *Pastor Scott Hackler*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “Baptized and Set Free”**

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.

We are fed and we're nourished, / filled and refreshed. / Then our hunger returns and / again we are blessed. / For whatever the need, / God is greater indeed: / endless ocean, always deeper / than all of our need.

We are nourished by water, / all living things, / and by life that the Spirit / abundantly brings. / As we journey toward home, / may your presence be known: / precious river, ever-flowing, / now carry us home.

Now with praise and thanksgiving, / we join the song. / All are welcome! We gather / to sing loud and strong. / Not enslaved, but set free! / From now on, all will be / one in Jesus, one in water, / baptized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956; Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A-706001.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**C: 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 into hell. 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 INTERCESSION**

### **THE LORD'S SUPPER: WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**P:** Let us pray: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he come to us in his holy supper.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P:** In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying; Take and eat: this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**P:** Lord Jesus, you teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

## **BLESSING AND PRAYER**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Let us pray,

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN: “Beautiful Savior”**

Beautiful Savior, / King of creation, / Son of God and Son of Man! / Truly I'd love thee, / truly I'd serve thee,  
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, / fair are the woodlands, / robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; / Jesus is fairer, / Jesus  
is purer, / he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, / fair is the moonlight, / bright the sparkling stars on high; / Jesus shines brighter, / Jesus  
shines purer / than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, / Lord of the nations, / Son of God and Son of Man! / Glory and honor, / praise, adoration, /  
now and forevermore be thine!

Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904. Public Domain.

## **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

Hymn vocalists: Ken Carnes, Phil Nelson, Sue Nelson, Sue Wilterdink

Audio & Lighting: Jim Miller

Producer & Editor: Jerry Huston

### ***RUNNING THE RACE***

“Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I  
press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in  
Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:13-14