



# Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan

MARK 1:9

## Complete Worship Folder

January 7, 2024 – 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

January 10, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

## ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Julie Bailey, Pastor

Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday Worship 7:00pm

## **Baptism of Our Lord**

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### Welcome and Announcements

#### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our rock and refuge, ... **we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

P: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

**C: Amen**

Hymn: "God, Whose Almighty Word" (ELW 673)

God, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard  
and took their flight: hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light.

Christ, who once came to bring, on your redeeming wing,  
healing and sight; health to the troubled mind,  
sight where illusions blind; oh, now to humankind  
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy dove,  
speed forth your flight; move on the water's face  
bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light.

Holy and blessed three, glorious Trinity,  
Wisdom, Love, Might: boundless as ocean's tide,  
rolling in fullest pride, through the earth, far and wide,  
let there be light.

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#### Greeting

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

**C: And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P: 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.**

Children's Message (10:30 a.m.)

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the 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. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7

<sup>1</sup>While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>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." <sup>3</sup>Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." <sup>4</sup>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." <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—<sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation: "Jesus, What a Wonderful Child" (ELW 297)

Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child.  
Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek, and mild;  
new life, new hope the child will bring.  
Listen to the angels sing:  
"Glory, glory, glory," let the heavens ring!

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the first chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." <sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "When Jesus Came to Jordan" (ELW 305)

When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John,  
he did not come for pardon but as the Sinless One.  
He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins,  
to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.

He came to share temptation, our utmost woe and loss,  
for us and our salvation to die upon the cross.  
So when the dove descended on him, the Son of Man,  
the hidden years had ended, the age of grace began.

Come, Holy Spirit, aid us to keep the vows we make;  
this very day invade us, and ev'ry bondage break.  
Come, give our lives direction, the gift we covet most:  
to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost.

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

The Prayers of the Children of God

Each petition ends...God of grace,

**Congregation responds...receive our prayer.**

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Offering

Offering Song: “We Give Thee but Thine Own” (ELW 686 *verse 1*)

We give thee but thine own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone,  
a trust, O Lord, from thee.

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Offering Prayer

A: Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

Thanksgiving

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.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and 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.**

Invitation to Communion / Distribution of Holy Communion

P: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

Communion Songs: “Baptized and Set Free” (ELW 453)

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!

“We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus” (ELW 451)

We are baptized in Christ Jesus,  
we are baptized in his death;  
that as Christ is raised victorious,  
we might live a brand new life.  
And if we have been united  
in a dreadful death like his,  
we will all be reunited, for he lives.

In the water and the witness,  
in the breaking of the bread,  
in the waiting arms of Jesus  
who is risen from the dead,  
God has made a new beginning  
from the ashes of our past;  
in the losing and the winning we hold fast.

Glory be to God the Father,  
glory be to Christ the Son,  
glory to the Holy Spirit,  
ever three and ever one;  
as it was in the beginning,  
glory now resounds again  
in a song that has no ending. Amen

Post-Communion Blessing

P: And now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray. Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

Blessing

P: God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✠ bless you and remain with you always.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Song: “We Know That Christ is Raised” (ELW 449)

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,  
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.  
Hallelujah!

We share by water in his saving death.  
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,  
as living members of our Savior Christ.  
Hallelujah!

The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.  
The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God.  
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One.  
Hallelujah!

A new creation comes to life and grows  
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.  
The universe restored and whole will sing:  
Hallelujah!

### Dismissal

A: As an open and progressive congregation,

**C: we boldly make Christ's vision known.**

A: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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