



Baptism of Our Lord January 9, 2022

Rev. Kelley L. Pedersen, Interim Pastor

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.

(*please stand as you are able)

(Congregation reads **bold** print)

Welcome & Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who creates us,
redeems us,
and calls us by name.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.**

**We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.**

**We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.**

**We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.**

**Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.**

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.**

Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:

In ✝ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

Amen.

***Hymn** "This is the Spirit's Entry Now" #448

***Greeting**

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

And also with you.

***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.

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.

¹But 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."

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)

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness 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!"

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹O 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.

¹⁴Now 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation -- p. 102**

***The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 3rd Chapter. Glory to You, O Lord**

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.

¹⁵As 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."

²¹Now 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."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Message

Hymn of the Day "Down Galilee's Slow Roadway" #916 ACS

***Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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.

A brief silence.

By the Holy Spirit, you gather your church and send it out in mission to share the good news of Jesus. Inspire your faithful people to be fervent in prayer and service, that all people know they are precious in God's sight. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You reveal your love and power through water and the Spirit. Guard rivers, seas, and all bodies of water from destruction and pollution. Secure access to clean water for all, and protect the land from drought and flood. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Establish among the nations the blessings of peace. Raise up leaders who will protect vulnerable people in their care. Strengthen advocates who risk reputation or retaliation for the sake of mercy and justice. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You protect us through the fires and troubled waters of this life. Assure us that we will not be cut off from you by illness or despair, anxiety or pain, confusion or weakness. Comfort all who are in need (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We are joined in baptism to Christ and to one another. Bless those who are newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism. Help us to be faithful in fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and justice-seeking. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You created each of your saints for your glory. We give thanks for those you have called by name into your eternal embrace (*especially*). Comfort us in grief and release us from fear. 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.

***Peace**

May the peace of God be with you all.

And also with you.

Offering

***Doxology #884**

***Offering Prayer**

Blessed are you, O God,
Sovereign of the universe.

You offer us new beginnings
and guide us on our journey.
Lead us to your table,
nourish us with this heavenly food,
and prepare us to carry your love
to a hungry world,
in the name of Christ our light.

Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise. We praise your name and join their unending hymn.

***Holy, Holy, Holy** p. 144

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer** p. 145

***Invitation to Communion**

Come to God's table.

There is a place for you and enough for all.

Communion (continuous)

Come forward in the center aisle, distancing as desired. Please cup your hands to receive the bread. Move to the right or left to receive the wine. Return to your pew via the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available in the container in front of the font.

Those who wish to be served at their seats or use the individual pre-packaged elements at their seats may stand to hear the words for individual distribution.

Distribution Hymns: 296 - What Child is this 510 - Word of God come down on earth

***Prayer after Communion**

We give you thanks, gracious God,
for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.

Send us to bring good news
and to proclaim your favor to all,
strengthened with the richness of your grace
in your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***Blessing**

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,
and who calls you by name,
✚ bless your going out and your coming in,
today and forever.

Amen.

***Sending Hymn** "God be the Love to Search and Keep Me" #1084

***Dismissal**

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

Thanks be to God.

Baptized believers sent into God's world to share God's love and grace.

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Welcome! May you be blessed as we worship together!

Pr. Kelley can be reached at 402-750-9944 (cell).

Sadie's New Hours Starting Wednesday:

Tuesday 12:50-4:00
Thursday 12:50-4:00
Friday 11:50-2:30
Some Mondays 11:50-2:30

Sadie can always be reached at 712-251-6457.

Nominating Committee Update:

We are striving to fill 2 open positions on the Board of Education (BOE).

These are 2-year terms and would serve mainly with the Kid's Zone ministry currently on Wednesday afternoons.

Please pray about this opportunity & reach out to the nominating committee with questions or nominations.

--Sherry Beaver, Patti Christiansen or Blake Stratton

There are hats and gloves on a table. Please take one if you know someone who is in need.

The Lutheran Disaster Response is currently accepting donations to assist with the wildfires in Colorado, which has devastated thousands of people with over 500 homes destroyed. You can donate by giving a check to the church and 100% of that money will be sent to the Lutheran Disaster Response to be used to assist those in need out in Colorado. Thank you.

This Week's Events: Jan 10-16

Mon. **Office Closed**
Mon. **Annual Meeting reports due; please drop off in the church office or email to tlchurchmoville@gmail.com**
Tues. 7:00pm **AA Meeting** (Contact person is Larry S., 712-251-4207)
Wed. 10:00am **Adult Bible Study** (If another time works better, please share that with Pr. Kelley.)
6:00-7:15p **Confirmation**
Sun. Jan 16 9:00am **Fourth Sunday of Christmas**

Upcoming Events:

Sun. Jan 23 TLC Annual Meeting Preview Discussion after worship
Sun. Jan 30 TLC Annual Meeting after worship

Worship Assistants for January:

Organist: Ruth Chartier Altar Guild: Dave & Patti Christiansen
Scripture Reader: Ann Hopp Offertory Accountants: Irv Martin & Roger Christiansen
Tech Assistants: Casey & Jill Stratton
Acolyte: Leah Cross Crucifer: Natalie Stamm

Birthdays: 9- Jennifer Brosamle, Steve Steffen; 12- Diane Drevs, William Nagel, Madison Ploen, Wes Zelmer; 13- Blake Stratton; 14- Nyomie Whaley; 15- Kaleb Dau, Jason Jepsen

Prayers

For those battling cancer: Denise Arpino-treatment; Doug Dahlke-Cancer has returned and seems to be spreading, is at home recovering from chemo; Brad Pautsch (Cindy Ploen's brother)-started his immunizations Michelle Stovie (Harry Kloewer's daughter)-chemo, PET scan at the end of October.

We also pray for Norma Thies-meeting with hospice; Carla Boggs; Jon Kleemeier-rehab at home; Barb Kunkel; Ed Kunkel (Barb's son)-heart and lung issues, hospitalized with Covid; Drake Malm; Tucker Malm (10-yrs old)-Crohn's, doing well at home while waiting for surgery; Kelly Martin; Paula Roling; Kereen Swanger-recovering from stroke; those in addictions/recovery; all who are grieving; victims of COVID-19, extreme weather and natural disasters, violence and domestic abuse.

On Ushers' Table:

- Children's bulletins
 - Lutheran Disaster Response - US Wildfires information, Haiti earthquake relief
 - 2021 January Devotional (large and small print available)
 - Seminal sheets for confirmation students
 - Survey for the Call Committee **Due Today**
 - Worship Helpers sign-up sheet
 - **Lakeside Bible Camp flyers (for anyone interested in going or being a counselor)**
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God's Work. Our gifts. Thank you to all who support our ministry!

Electronic giving	\$ 142.50
Mission Support	\$ 30.00
<u>General Fund</u>	<u>\$1,025.00</u>
Total	\$1,197.50

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