

† HOME SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER †
Baptism of Our Lord
January 10, 2021

PRELUDE

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

Benjamin Culli

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Father Welcomes

Refrain: Father welcomes all His children to His fam'ly through His Son.
Father giving His salvation, life forever has been won.

Little children, come to Me, for My kingdom is of these.
Life and love I have to give, mercy for your sin. Refrain

Let us daily die to sin; let us daily rise with Him,
walk in the love of Christ our Lord, live in the peace of God. Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C **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, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1-5

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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Acts 19:1-7

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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

P Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

C You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. (John 6:68)

GOSPEL

Mark 1:4-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

I Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.

I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

I love to tell the story of how, from heav'n above,
our Lord and Savior Jesus was sent to show God's love
to ev'ry sinful creature upon this earthly place,
how Christ, the gift from heaven, is God's great gift of grace.

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

I love to tell the story of how He was baptized;
how God's great voice from heaven spoke loudly from the skies;
how God the Holy Spirit descended as a dove;
how Jesus heard His Father proclaim to all His love.

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

SERMON

Rev. Scott Geminn

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Guided by Christ, who has been made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

P For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they proclaim the forgiveness of sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For all living things on earth, that God's goodness is revealed through creation, and for faithful stewards to care for all God has made. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For the nations of the world and their leaders, especially during this time of global pandemic; and for essential workers, first responders, health care providers and all who labor on our behalf by day and night. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For our nation, that God's providence may guard us as a united people from all evil; and that President-Elect Biden, Vice President-Elect Harris, and all our leaders may be strengthened and sustained in their care of this country. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For the sick and those who care for them, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for the bereaved and all who suffer, especially those on our prayer line and those we lift up either silently or aloud...(PAUSE). Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For our community of faith, including those here present and those whom we cannot see; for all students, faculty and staff returning to school; and for those seeking renewal in their work and volunteer activities, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace; Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Merciful God, hear these and all our prayers for the sake of the One who dwells among us, Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught 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.

CLOSING HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Go, My children, with My blessing, never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are My own.

In my love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.

Go, My children, with My blessing - you are My own.

I the Lord will bless and keep you and give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you and give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you and give you peace.

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.

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

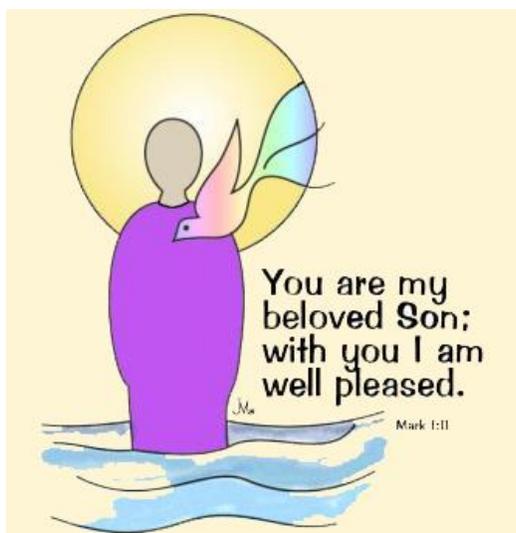
Go, My Children

Jim Vyhanek

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Special thanks to our additional participant in today's service:

Lector Kate Marino



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