

**The Baptism of Our Lord**  
**January 10, 2021**  
*in the 168th Year of the Parish*  
**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**  
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**Our Mission: “To know Christ and to make Christ known.”**

**PRELUDE**                                *“Air” from “Water Music”*  
GF Handel (1685-1759)

## **WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY**

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

**C**     **Amen.**

**P**     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 holy baptism.

**P**     We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over 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 daughters and sons, 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.

**C**     **Amen.**

**P**     Remember your baptism and be thankful.

# HYMN

## *Crashing Waters at Creation*

### Crashing Waters at Creation



- 1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the Spir - it's breath,
- 2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem - bled as the cap - tives passed on through,
- 3 Cleans - ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the one fore - told,
- 4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.



first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright - ness of night's death.  
wash - ing off the chains of bond - age— chan - nel to a life made new.  
o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.  
Well - spring, source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness, make us whole.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: STUTTGART, attr. Christian F. Witt, 1660–1716; adapt. Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

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## REETING

**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.

## KYRIE

**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

**HYMN OF PRAISE** *Glory to God in the Highest*

**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**C** Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**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.

**C** **Amen.**

## INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

*Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.*

### THE FIRST LESSON.....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.

The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 29

1Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,

ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**2Ascribe 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.

**4The 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;

**6the 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.

**8The 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!"

**10The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;**

**the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

11 O LORD, give strength to your people;  
**give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.**

**THE SECOND LESSON.....Acts 19:1-7**

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

The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

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

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

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

4 John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 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. 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 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. 8 I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 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. 11 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.**

**THE SERMON**

**HYMN**

*When Jesus Came to Jordan*

## When Jesus Came to Jordan



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John,  
2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,  
3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.  
for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.  
this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - ry bond-age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,  
So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,  
Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.  
the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.  
to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000  
Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune  
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## **THE NICENE CREED**

**P** Living together in trust and hope we affirm our faith.

**C** 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;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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.

## **THE PEACE**



**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:** Let us pray/**Have mercy, O God.**

**OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray in the words our Savior gave us.

**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.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE BLESSING**

**P** Almighty God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit † bless you now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**HYMN**

*Go Whose Almighty Word*

## God, Whose Almighty Word



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard  
2 Lord, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,  
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,  
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the  
heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the  
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the  
wis - dom, love, might! Bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray,  
in - ly blind: oh, now to hu - man - kind let there be light!  
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place  
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide,

Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

**DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *“Minuet and Hornpipe” from “Water Music”*

GF Handel (1685-1759)

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**Prayer List:** Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Diane Damaska, Ruth Pile, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Bob Shaible, Doris Brown, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Gladys Knauss, Patricia Alexander, Diane Osbaugh, Joann Zeigler, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Pr. Frank Showers, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Esteban Mazer, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Cheryl Williams, Bernadette Jones, Gregg, Kay Poliska, Sarah Prevelige.

**LEADING US IN WORSHIP**

**LECTOR** Kathy Dancho

**CANTOR/SONG LEADER** Karen Mariano

**ORGANIST** Sam Robinson

***Our Stewardship (12/31/2020-1/06/2021)***

Regular Offering	\$3,819
Advent and Christmas	\$95
Initial Offering	\$25
Flower Memorials	\$30
Memorials	\$100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,069.00</b>

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**By action of our Congregational Council, all in-person worship services have been suspended until further notice. Virtual worship by way of video will continue to be offered through our web page and Facebook. Should be in need of pastoral care, please contact our church office.**

### **Concert Rescheduled:**

The Williamsport Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is offering to the community a live concert, Carols at the Organ, on Sunday, January 10, at Covenant Central Presbyterian Church, 807 West Fourth Street, Williamsport, at 3 p.m. Organists will be playing their favorite Christmas music to brighten this stressful Christmas season. Originally scheduled for January 3, it has been rescheduled for January 10 because of weather. All are welcome to come enjoy one of the largest pipe organs in Williamsport. The church is large enough to permit social distancing.

### **Commemoration this week:**

#### **Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, martyr, died 1968**

*Friday, January 15, 2021*

An American prophet of justice among races and nations, King was an eloquent preacher, a leader of the nonviolent resistance to race-segregated society, and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Born on this date, he was assassinated on April 4, 1968.