



# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Reverend Ronald Bright	Pastor
The Reverend Reholma McCants	Pastor Emeritus
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Neil Ackerman	Worship Assistant
Neil Ackerman	Lector

Missionaries: The Rev. Dr. Jonathan and Deaconess Cheryl Naumann

Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website listed above. Video recordings of our weekly services can be viewed on our You Tube channel, *Christ Lutheran Forest Hills Pa*. Services are live-streamed on our Facebook page.

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## The First Sunday after the Epiphany

### The Baptism of Our Lord

January 10, 2020

#### ORDER OF SERVICE

##### PRELUDE

God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven

James Mansfield

##### RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

##### OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

O Morning Star

Hymnal p. 395

O Morning Star, how fair and bright!  
You shine with God's own truth and light,

Aglow with grace and mercy!  
Of Jacob's race, King David's son,  
Our Lord and master, you have won  
Our hearts to serve You only!  
Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, All victorious,  
Rich in blessing! Rule and might o'er all possessing!

Come, heav'nly Bridegroom, Light divine,  
And deep within our hearts now shine;  
There light a flame undying!  
In Your one body let us be  
As living branches of a tree,  
Your life our lives supplying.

Now, though daily Earth's deep sadness  
May perplex us And distress us,  
Yet with heav'nly joy You bless us.

Lord, when You look on us in love,  
At once there falls from God above  
A ray of purest pleasure.

Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood  
Refresh our souls with heav'nly food.

You are our dearest treasure!  
Let Your mercy Warm and cheer us!

O draw near us!

For You teach us God's own love  
through You has reached us.

Almighty Father, in Your Son  
You loved us when not yet begun  
Was this old earth's foundation!  
Your Son has ransomed us in love  
To live in Him here and above:

This is Your great salvation.

Alleluia! Christ the living,  
To us giving Life forever,

Keeps us Yours and fails us never!  
O let the harps break forth in sound!  
Our joy be all with music crowned,  
Our voices gladly blending!  
For Christ goes with us all the way—  
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!  
His love is never ending!  
Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation!  
Tell the story! Great is He, the King of Glory!

What joy to know, when life is past,  
The Lord we love is first and last,  
The end and the beginning!  
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,  
Transport us to that happy place  
Beyond all tears and sinning!  
Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness!  
We are yearning For the day of Your returning!

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## INVOCATION

*The sign of the cross (†) may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism*

P: In the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C: who made Heaven and Earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*(We take a moment of silence before the Lord as we call to mind how we have not properly loved Him, ourselves, or other people.)*

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C: I, a poor miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **KYRIE**

Hymnal p.186

P: Merciful God, we humbly implore You to cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your church that we, being instructed by the doctrine of the blessed apostles, may walk in the light of Your truth and finally attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**A: (sung) Lord, have mercy upon us;  
Christ, have mercy upon us;  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

Hymnal p. 187

P: Glory be to God on high,

**C: and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.  
We praise Thee, we bless Thee,**

we worship Thee, we glorify Thee,  
we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.  
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

#### COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *(sung)* **And with thy spirit.**

P: Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River, You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(sung)* **Amen.**

#### FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1–5

L: The first reading for the Baptism of Our Lord is from chapter one of Genesis.

*God creates the heavens and the earth.*

*Following the reading...*

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALMODY

### Psalm 29

L: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,

**C: ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

L: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name;

**C: worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.**

L: The voice of the Lord is over the waters;

**C: the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over many waters.**

L: The voice of the Lord is powerful;

**C: the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

**A: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

L: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,

**C: ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

## SECOND READING

Romans 6:1–11

L: The second reading is from chapter six of Romans.

*We are baptized into Christ's death and resurrection.*

*Following the reading...*

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please rise)*

P: Alleluia, alleluia.

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life.

*1 Samuel 3.9; John 6.68*

**A: (sung) Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**P:** The Holy Gospel is according to St. Mark, chapter one.

**C:** *(sung)* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

*Jesus is baptized by John.*

*Following the reading...*

**P:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** *(sung)* **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED<sup>2</sup>**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**To Jordan's River Came Our Lord**

Hymnal p. 405

**To Jordan's river came our Lord,  
The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored  
The God from God, the Light from Light,  
The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.**

**The Savior came to be baptized  
The Son of God in flesh disguised  
To stand beneath the Father's will  
And all His righteousness fulfill.**

**As Jesus, in the Jordan stood**



**And John baptized the lamb of God,  
The holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,  
Descended on Him from above.**

**Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound  
Came God's own voice with words profound:**

**"This is My Son," was His decree,  
"The one I love, who pleases Me."**

**The Father's word, the Spirit's flight  
Anointed Christ in glorious sight  
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall  
To save the world and free us all.**

**Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;  
This man is Christ, our substitute!  
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,  
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.**

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## **SERMON<sup>3</sup>**

## **VERSE**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence,  
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,  
and uphold me with Thy free Spirit. Amen.**

## **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER**

**Rick Kern**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P: Let us pray for ourselves, the church, and the world.**

*Following each petition:*

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

P: Almighty God, send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts that He may rule and direct us according to Your will, strengthen us in all our temptations, afflictions and sorrows, defend us from all error, and lead us into all truth that we might continue steadfast in faith, may increase in all good works and in the end join You in Your everlasting kingdom of glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: *(sung)*And with thy spirit.**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

**C: *(sung)*Thanks be to God.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with His favor and (†) give you His peace.

**C: *(sung)*Amen. Amen. Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN**

**All Christians Who have been Baptized**

Hymnal p. 596

**All Christians who have been baptized,  
Who know the God of heaven,**

**And in whose daily life is prized  
The name of Christ once given:  
Consider no what God has done,  
The gifts He gives to ev'ryone  
Baptized into Christ Jesus!**

**In Baptism we now put on Christ—  
Our shame is fully covered  
With all that He once sacrificed  
And freely for us suffered.  
For here the flood of His own blood  
Now makes us holy, right, and good  
Before our heav'nly Father.**

**O Christian, firmly hold this gift  
And give God thanks forever!  
It gives the power to uplift'  
In all that you endeavor.**

**When nothing else revives your soul,  
Your Baptism stands and makes you whole  
And then in death completes you.**

**So use it well! You are made new—  
In Christ a new creation!  
As faithful Christians, live and do  
Within your own vocation,  
Until that day when you possess  
His glorious robe of righteousness  
Bestowed on you forever!**

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## **POSTLUDE**

**Postlude on "Lobe den Herren"**

**John S. Dixon**

<sup>1</sup>*The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." John 20:22-23. We take heart that the absolution proclaimed by the pastor is as from the Lord Himself.*

<sup>2</sup>*It is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.* Romans 10:10. Our response to the Word of God that has just been read is our confession of faith in the one, true, triune God.

<sup>3</sup>Martin Luther teaches us about hearing the Word: “Know, therefore, that you must be concerned not only about hearing, but also about learning and retaining it in memory, and do not think that it is optional with you or of no great importance, but that it is God’s commandment, who will require of you how you have heard, learned, and honored His Word.” (Large Catechism) *Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!* Luke 11:28

## **OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ONLINE VIEWERS**

For those worshipping with us online and those sheltering in place, we encourage you to bring your tithes and offerings to the church office open M-F mornings from 9-12, or mail your check in to church, or for those who bank online, simply instruct your bank to send us a check in the mail.

We all owe God our tithes and offerings and we encourage everyone to continue in the joy that is found in faithful financial stewardship.  
Thank you.

*Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.*