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**Baptism of Our Lord**

“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.” *Romans 6:3-4*

**AS WE GATHER**

It has been said that every person has a Jesus-shaped hole in their heart that can only be filled by Him. Though what is stated is not a biblical reference, Scripture does affirm the condition of our hearts: “The heart is deceitful; . . . who can understand it?” (Jeremiah 17:9); “For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander” (Matthew 15:19). Though many try to fill that Jesus-shaped hole with things of the world that may seem to satisfy a short time, we are pointed to what fills our hearts with the things that last through our lives and eternally. As we observe the Baptism of our Lord, we are also called to remember daily our own Baptism. Through water and the Word, we have been filled with the things needful for our hearts of faith: forgiveness, identity, salvation, and hope.

**PSALM** 29

**+ PREPARATION +**

**INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**AFFIRMATION OF OUR BAPTISM** *Romans 6:4, 36; Acts 2:38; Titus 3:5–6;*

*1 Corinthians 6:1; Mark 1:11*

Pastor: We remember our Baptism with the trinitarian invocation, recalling and confessing before heaven, earth, and hell all that God has given us in our Baptism: victory over death and the devil*,* forgiveness of sin, God’s grace, the entire Christ, and the Holy Spirit with His gifts. How do we rightly use our Baptism?

**People: We rightly use our Baptism when we live in repentance and faith in the triune God, who has made us His beloved children.**

Pastor: When Jesus was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan River, the Father declared Jesus as His Son with whom He is well pleased.In our Baptism, Paul wrote, we were joined to our Lord’s death and resurrection, enabling us to walk in newness of life.We also learn in the Small Catechism, all centered on God’s Word, the lasting gifts received in Baptism including the forgiveness of sins, rescue from death and the devil, and eternal life to all who believe this. Let us reaffirm our faith in what God has done for us through Holy Baptism.

 Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

**People: I do renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

**People: Yes, I believe.**

Pastor: Do you believe 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?

**Pastor: Yes, I believe.**

Pastor: Do you 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?

**People: Yes, I believe.**

**CONFESSION** *Romans 6:1–2, 4*

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

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

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God, our Father. In today’s Epistle from Romans, the apostle Paul asks, “Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? . . . How can we who died to sin still live in it?”

**People: 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 God with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

Pastor: “We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

**People: 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.**

**ABSOLUTION** *Romans 6:6–7, 10–11*

Pastor: We know that our old selfwas crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

**People: For one who has died has been set free from sin**.

People: The death Christ died He died to sin, once for all,

**People: but the life He lives He lives to God.**

Pastor: So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your 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.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

**People: Amen.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**HYMN** *“As with Gladness Men of Old”* (*LSB* 397)

**COLLECT OF THE DAY** *(bulletin insert)*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Genesis 1:1-5 *(bulletin insert)*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** *(bulletin insert, below Collect of the Day)*

**EPISTLE** Romans 6:1-11 *(bulletin insert)*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** Mark 1:4-11 *(bulletin insert)*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

# THE NICENE CREED *(LSB*,back inside cover)

**HYMN** *“Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered”* (*LSB* 404)

**SERMON “*Don’t You Know?”***

# RETURNING OF OUR FIRST FRUITS

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*(after each petition):* Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

 **People: hear our prayer.**

**LORD’S PRAYER, SUNG** (*LSB*,front inside cover)

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**Divine Service and the Close Fellowship of Holy Communion**

*Our Lord speaks and we listen. His Word bestows what it says. Faith that is born from what is heard acknowledges the gifts received with eager thankfulness and praise. The gifts include the Holy Supper in which we receive His true body and blood to eat and drink. Those welcome to the table acknowledge the real presence of the body and blood of Christ, confess their own sinfulness, and in true faith wish to receive the forgiveness and strength promised through this Holy Sacrament, as* ***instructed*** *… and* ***in unity of faith*** *… with God’s people here in this congregation. It is our sincerest desire that you join in the intimacy of this fellowship. However, if you are not, yet, an instructed and confirmed member-in-good-standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please visit with the pastor about such a fellowship before communing. If you wish to come forward for a blessing, you are welcome to join us at the rail to receive such. Please cross your arms in front of you to indicate that desire.*

**DISTRIBUTION**

 *“Let Us All with Gladsome Voice”* (*LSB* 390)

 *“O Blessed Spring”* (*LSB* 595)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, gracious Father, who called and claimed as Your own in Baptism, we have been blessed together in fellowship at Your Table and filled by Your grace with sins forgiven and faith nourished. Buried with Christ and raised with Him in Baptism, enable us to walk in newness of life until we are called to dwell eternally with You; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

**HYMN** *“We Know That Christ Is Raised”* (*LSB* 603)

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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 **All are welcome …**

 **… Christ is honored.**