



January 10, 2021
Baptism of the Lord Sunday

CENTERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

Pastor: Quiet baptismal water connects us to God forever.

People: Just a few drops of water.

Pastor: In a moment of meeting, the mystery replays.

People: Just a few drops of water.

Pastor: Together, we lift up God's creation.

People: Baptism – just a few drops of water.

Pastor: Beloved children of God, come to the waters of baptism. Hear the loving voice of God: "You are my beloved children." Receive the gift of acceptance for all are welcome here.

PRAISING

OPENING HYMN

"Shall We Gather at the River"

#723

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Baptism makes us the people of God by God's grace.

People: Help us O Lord, remember our baptism.

Pastor: In our baptism, we were claimed as Christ was claimed, called like him to own the vocation God appointed, to walk the path to which we were elected.

People: We are peculiar but blessed people, for we know our life has divine meaning, ordained by God who summons and sustains us.

Pastor: By baptism, we are sealed as God's forever,

People: anointed with the oil of God's blessings, enlivened with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Our God calls us each by name.

People: Remembering Jesus' baptism and our own, let us join in worshiping God this day.

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: Come, mighty God, and bring light to our darkness.

People: As we wade in the waters of our baptism, claim us as your beloved children.

Pastor: Come, loving Christ, and call us as your own.

People: As we splash in the river of our salvation, heal us with your presence.

Pastor: Come, Holy Spirit, and sweep over our souls.

People: As we swim in the waters of our faith, fill us with your power. Amen.

Hymn: "I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"

TFWS 2051

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

CONFESSING

CALL TO CONFESSION

A prophet appeared in the wilderness, calling the people to repent, be baptized, and prepare the way of the Lord. We return to the water to confess our sins, giving thanks for the grace of Jesus Christ, the one who has come to save us. When we approach the font or the table, we first renounce the power of wickedness in our lives. And so, let us confess together.

GENERAL CONFESSION

We are incredibly stubborn, O Lord. We have entered the season in which Your Light has been given to the world, your blessings have been poured out on the world, and yet all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. Help us to desire you, Lord. Help us to yearn for your presence. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you. Wash away our jealousy, greed, and all negative thoughts and behaviors that stand in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. Again, let us receive the blessings offered in creation, in the birth and baptism of Jesus, and in the ministry of the saints of light. We ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, for all eternity. Rejoice, dear friends, this is the Good News of our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

"Victory in Jesus"

#370

HEARING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears, our minds, and our hearts;

People: that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 1:1-5

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON:

Acts 19:1-7

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. Mark

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL IS READ

Mark 1:4-11

THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROCLAIMING

SERMON

“Remembering Who You Are”

Reverend Shuluga

RESPONDING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE LORD'S OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God, we come today with joy for Your baptism; we come with praise for Your glory; we come with gratitude for Your love. As we offer these gifts to You, send Your Spirit upon us, that our hands and our hearts may do Your work in the world. Amen

SENDING

BENEDICTION

Pastor: You are each precious in God's sight.

People: We go from this place, claiming our identity as children of God.

Pastor: Baptized into the death and resurrection of our Lord, we go forth to proclaim his salvation to the world.

People: Send us forth with your anointing, Holy Spirit.

Pastor: God has called you by name.

People: We go into the world to answer God's call. Alleluia!

CLOSING HYMN:

“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”

#611

“WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF JESUS INTO THE WORLD”

Liturgist: Mary Kilgour