



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Baptism of our Lord – January 9, 2022

+ Service of Word and Prayer - 10:30 am +

Sunday School & Adult Bible Study – 9:00 am

Rev. Herbert C. Dolich, Pastor

One Pastor, Many Ministers

Lenna Harris- Music Director/Organist

Mike Riedinger – Assisting Minister

Introduction

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of Almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

+ GATHERING +

Welcome & Announcements (please see additional announcements on the last page)

Prelude: "Waters of New Life" by K. Keil

Stand as you are able

*Gathering Hymn: "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart" ELW 800

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,

wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:

stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,
no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling,
the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,

and make me love you as I ought to love.
but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

***Greeting:**

P For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)
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.

P In the beginning was the Word,
C and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
P In the Word was life,
C and the life was the light of all people.
P The Word became flesh and lived among us,
C and we have seen His glory, full of grace and truth.

***Kyrie:**

1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.

We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

***Gloria:**



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

***Prayer of the Day:**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P 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, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Please be seated

+ WORD +

First Reading – Isaiah 43:1-7

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

L The first reading is from Isaiah, the 43rd Chapter

¹But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—

⁷everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29 (Read responsively by full verse)

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe 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.

⁴**The 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;

⁶**the 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.

⁸**The 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!"

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

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

Second Reading – Acts 8:14-17

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

L The second lesson is from Acts the 8th Chapter

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for

as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able

***Gospel Acclamation:**

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

***Holy Gospel – Luke 3:15-17; 21-22**

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 3rd Chapter

C Glory to You, O Lord

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Meditation

Time for reflection

+ RESPONSE TO THE WORD +

*Please stand as able

1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the
blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's
prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

*Apostles Creed - Confession and Forgiveness

P In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C We believe in Him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C Pray in the Holy Spirit.

P Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C Look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C Amen

+ PRAYER +

***Prayers of Intercession:**

A The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

A By the Holy Spirit, You gather Your church and send it out in mission to share the good news of Jesus. Inspire Your faithful people to be fervent in prayer and service, that all people know they are precious in God's sight. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A You reveal Your love and power through water and the Spirit. Guard rivers, seas, and all bodies of water from destruction and pollution. Secure access to clean water for all, and protect the land from drought and flood. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A Establish among the nations the blessings of peace. Raise up leaders who will protect vulnerable people in their care. Strengthen advocates who risk reputation or retaliation for the sake of mercy and justice. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A You protect us through the fires and troubled waters of this life. Assure us that we will not be cut off from You by illness or despair, anxiety or pain, confusion or weakness. Comfort all who are in need *especially those we name before You now*. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A We are joined in baptism to Christ and to one another. Bless those who are newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism. Help us to be faithful in fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and justice-seeking. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A You created each of Your saints for Your glory. We give thanks for those You have called by name into Your eternal embrace (*especially*). Comfort us in grief and release us from fear. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

P Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to You in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

***Peace:**

P Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please share our Lord's Peace with one another

Please be seated

Anthem: "River in Judea" Marcus / Feldman / Leavitt

Please stand as able

***Offering Prayer:**

A Let us pray.

**C Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

***Lord's Prayer:**

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach 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.**

+ SENDING +

***Blessing:**

P Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ☩ keep you in peace.

C Amen

*Closing Hymn:

“O Living Breath of God”

ELW 407



1 O liv-ing Breath of God, wind at the be-gin - ning up-on the wa - ters;
2 O liv-ing Breath of God, by whose pow'r the Son came to birth a - mong us;
3 O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing us to life through bap-tis-mal wa - ters;



O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing the cre - a - tion to won-drous birth:
O liv-ing Breath of God, who to the cre - a - tion gives life a - new:
O liv-ing Breath of God, sigh-ing with cre - a - tion for free-dom's birth:



Come now, and fill our spir - its; pour out your gifts a - bun - dant.



O liv-ing Breath of God, Ho-ly Spir-it, breathe in us as we pray.

Extinguishing of candles

*Dismissal:

A Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude:

“Deep River”

arr. by Lani Smith

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24416.
New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Welcome to All Visitors who worship with us this morning. Jesus came to make God’s love known to our world. May your worship with us make God’s love known in your heart and in your life this day and always. We invite you to sign our Guest Register and introduce yourselves to the pastor after worship.

Bulletins and Flowers are given to the Glory of God.

Please keep the following people in your daily prayers

Richard Spangler, Rosie Lichner, Rhonda (Millheim) Fries, Tyrone Klump, Sr. (Tracy Riedinger’s father), Dani Doll (father-in-law to Audra Doll), Bernadette Roeder (Anna Herb’s sister), and Cindy Rissmiller.

Please, take a few minutes to read through the prayer list and let the pastor know if any names should be added or removed.

This Week at Hope

Today – 01/09 -

**Baptism of Our Lord
Service of Word and Prayer - 10:30 AM
Church Council Meeting**

01/10 – Monday -

AI-A-Non Group – 11:00 AM

01/11 - Tuesday -

AA – 8:00 PM

01/12 – Wednesday -

Sr. Choir 7:00 - PM

01/13 – Thursday -

AA – 10:00 AM

AA Tatamy Women's Group - 6:30 PM

01/14 – Friday -

AA, AI-A-Non 7:30 PM

01/15 – Saturday -

01/16 – Sunday -

Epiphany 2

Service of Holy Communion – 10:30 AM

Birthdays this week

01/11 – Kama Mengel

01/13 – Charlet Baboski, Grace Frank

01/16 – Emma McEntire

Anniversaries this week

01/13 – Barry & Dana Schaffer

“Hope – An Anchor for the Soul” Hebrews 6:19

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Forever and Ever

Many of us were baptized as infants, so our only “memories” of that day consist of photos and stories told to us by those who love us. Some of us have come from other traditions and were old enough when baptized that we can remember the event ourselves. And still others came to baptism as adults, making the decision to embrace the Christian faith after learning a bit about it.

Regardless of when we were baptized, we are to live each day in the joy and gratitude of the newly baptized. Martin Luther urges us to live into the promise of baptism in ordinary, mundane acts: “When you wash your face, remember your baptism.” We are encouraged to “walk wet,” to not let our Christian identity become something we take for granted.

In baptism we are claimed, forever promised inclusion and welcome. Never again must we feel lonely, isolated, or left out; God has called us each by name and claimed us as God's own (Isaiah 43:1). To emphasize the eternal strength of this claim, God makes the same claim for God's own Son: “Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased’” (Luke 3:21-22).

You are mine forever, and I am proud of you—what more do we need to hear? Luther's advice is timelessly good: each morning, when we remember what it means to be baptized, we face the day knowing that we are loved and wanted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The **2022 offering envelopes** are available on the table in the Narthex. If you have not yet picked up your envelopes, please do so today! If there are any questions, please see Joe Lichner. Please feel free to take envelopes to shut-ins.
- Reminder to mark your calendars to attend the **Congregational Annual Meeting on January 23rd** immediately following church services.
- The **2022 sign-up sheets** for Bulletins, Flowers, Lectors, Donut Sunday etc. are posted. Get your special dates now! Bulletin & Flower sponsorship is still only \$20.00. Use the envelopes included with your offering envelopes.
- **Please note:** At the November 28th service someone mistakenly took the wrong jacket – the jackets are very similar – the one left here at the church is tan in color, is a “Nautica” brand and has no lining, whereas the one that is missing has a plaid lining.
- A **“Congregational Challenge”** – The Evangelism Committee has come up with a challenge for every church member – ask a non-member friend, family member, or a neighbor to come to church with you. Each member who brings a (non-member) visitor, will be eligible to a quarterly drawing in our **“Each One – Reach One”**. Place your name and the visitor's name in the fishbowl located on the table in the Narthex. The next drawing will be held at the end of March. Prizes will be a gift certificate for a local restaurant, movie theater, etc. Each One – Reach One slips are located by the fishbowl.

- **Prayer Squares** – If you know someone in need of encouragement, comfort, get well concerns and hope – please take and share the love with others. Prayer squares are found in the basket on the table in the Narthex.
- We need volunteers to sign up for **Safe Harbor in Easton** – pick up food donations at Wegman’s on the first Saturday of each month and deliver to Safe Harbor. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board – for more information, see Tina Krug.

Message from Pastor:

St. Paul writes: “There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives to everyone ability for particular service. The Spirit’s presence is shown in some way in each person, for the good of all.”

(1 Corinthians 12: 4-7)

Lay ministry is an integral and essential part of church life; as a matter of fact, church (any church) would not be able to function without leaders like you.

To serve on the various committees is a noble and gratifying experience; in serving, you are examples of faith active in love, helping to maintain the life and harmony of this congregation.

The council and I ask you to humbly consider serving this family of faith as a council member or on any other committee.

People of God, I ask you: are you willing to support this church, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

In Peace,

Pastor