

Christ Ev. Lutheran Church

Baptism of Our Lord—Jan. 18th, 2015

Opening Hymn: CW 89 “To Jordan’s River Came Our Lord”

Please stand.

M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: God invites us to come into His presence and worship Him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask Him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given us His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: For all that we have in life and for the wisdom to use all Your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from Your love and for the courage to stand against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For the well-being of Your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by Your power and keep us in Your tender care:

C: Amen.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; His name is worthy of praise.

C: O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is Your name in all the earth. Almighty God, merciful Father, You crown our life with Your love. You take away our sin; You comfort our spirit; You make us pure and holy in Your sight. You did not spare Your only Son, but gave Him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is Your name in all the earth. O Son of God, eternal Word of the Father, You came to live with us; You made Your Father known; You washed us from our sins in Your own blood. You are the King of glory; You are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is Your name in all the earth.

M: Let us pray: Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as Your children and make us heirs with Him of everlasting life; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (sings) Amen.

First Lesson: Isaiah 49:1-6

Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.² He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. ³ He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor." ⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God." ⁵ And now the LORD says— he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am^[a] honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength—⁶ he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 2 – page 65 in *Christian Worship (CW)*

Second Lesson: Acts 16:25-34

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. ²⁷ The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" ²⁹ The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." ³² Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. ³³ At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. ³⁴ The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

Verse of the Day Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia. (Mark 1:11b)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

M: Please stand for our Gospel lesson.

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶ John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I baptize you with^[a] water, but he will baptize you with^[f] the Holy Spirit." ⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

M: These are God's Words.

C: (sings) Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

Hymn of the Day: CW 377 v.1,4-8 "Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice"

Sermon:

Please stand.

Nicene Creed

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Please be seated.

Offering Hymn: 334 "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Please stand.

M (speaks) C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

M (speaks) C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. *Silent prayer.*

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

M: The Lord be with you. C: (sings) And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts. C: (sings) We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: (sings) It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past He spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, who is the radiance of His glory. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ. To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

C: (sings) Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of Your glory. You are my God, and I will exalt You. I will give You thanks, for You have become my salvation. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of Your glory.

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me." The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: (sings) Amen.

C: (sings) O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us Your peace. Amen.

Please be seated.

Distribution Hymn: CW 371

Please Stand.

C: (sings) Thank the Lord and sing His praise. Tell everyone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He renews His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!

M: Hear the prayer of Your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised You here may glorify You in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of Your Son may long for His coming again, and that all who have received in His true body and blood the pledge of Your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (sings) Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and + give you His peace.

C: (sings) Amen. Amen. Amen.

Closing Hymn: CW 91v.3 "The Star Proclaims the King Is Here"

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***Some highlights from the Voters' Mtg. –**

-the proposed budget was approved with the following changes: Roger Johnsen will donate his time and effort along with some others to maintain the lawn at church this cut our budget by about \$1200. Also the cell phone bill will be reduced by taking advantage of a discount through Verizon a savings of around \$350.

***Everyone is invited to the installation service of Pastor Fred Berger at St. Paul-Plymouth next Sunday at 4pm. A meal will be served following the service.**

***Please keep Pastor Joel Vogel, the congregation he currently serves, and St. Mark's-Lincoln in your prayers as Pastor Vogel considers where best the Lord would have him serve.**

*New officers elected last Sunday at the Voters' Mtg. are Carl Siems –Pres., Mike Schroeder – Elder, Robert Orth – Trustee. We thank Bruce Freese for his service as elder.

*There will be an Open Forum meeting Jan. 20th at 7pm at St. Paul Lutheran School to share with folks the plans and proposed recommendations of the school board in regards to the Pre-school and Principal upcoming vacancies and also to hear and ideas/suggestions folks may have.

*2015 is here and we need folks to sign-up and take their turns (3-to-4 times) in cleaning the Lord's House. Let's join together and share this duty and keep the Lord's House looking great!!!

B-days & Anniv. – Jennifer Lesko (1/24)

<i>This Week and Beyond</i>			<i>Fruits of our Faith (1/10&11)</i>		
Today	8:45am	BC & SS	Attendance: 4(Sat) (Sun)	Budget/Commit	
	9:30 am	Communion Worship	Home Fund: \$847.50	\$1600	
			Missions: \$78	\$122	
Mon.	8:00am	Circuit Mtg.-Seward	NELHS : \$70	\$122	
			NELHS Debt: \$25		
Wed.	6:00pm	Confirmation	<i>Total</i>	<i>\$1020.5</i>	<i>\$1844</i>
Sun.	9:30 am	Worship	<i>Serving Among Us</i>		
			Organist: Marlene Dorn		
	4:00pm	Installation of Pastor	Ushers: Dale Pieper(elder)		
		Berger at St. Paul-Plymouth.	Spencer Corter & Kevin Rehm		