

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased." Luke 3:21–22

The Baptism of Our Lord

January 6/9, 2022

Serving Us Today:

Pastor Paul Mundinger

Organist: Nancy Wallner

920-361-9935

www.stjohnberlin.org

(To Our Guests: The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. John Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as He says, gives not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sin. In joyful obedience to the clear teaching of our Lord Jesus those are invited to His table who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. They show forth His death until He comes. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and so are unable to receive the Sacrament are invited to meditate on God's Word in the distribution hymn and pray for the day when divisions will have ceased. Please note that there is a cup of white grape juice in each tray which contains a drop of wine for those who prefer grape juice. Thank you!)

AS WE GATHER... The "epiphany," the showing forth or manifestation of Jesus as the Messiah, the Savior of the world, began with the coming of the Magi from the East. This "epiphany" now continues as our Lord's active earthly ministry begins at the hands of His predecessor John the Baptist and His

Baptism in the Jordan River. As the Holy Spirit comes upon His human flesh and the voice from heaven declares Him to be the Son of God, so our Baptism gives us “the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God” (John 1:12–13). To be thus “born again” is nothing less than to have heaven opened to us with the power of God’s gifts of faith, hope, love, and the perseverance to live as God’s children now albeit as “strangers and exiles on the earth” (Hebrews 11:13), yet as “fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God” (Ephesians 2:19). “I’m but a stranger here,” says the hymn, “Heav’n is my home” (LSB 748:1).

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP HELPS... Please know we have two children’s worship bulletins available for young non-readers and older children. Both bulletins have activities that go along with the weekly theme. We also have activity bags for children hanging on the rear wall of the church for use throughout the worship service. If needed we have a cry room/nursery (with changing table) behind the organ in the southwest corner of the church.

♪ PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

Confession and Absolution

590 Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

- 1 Baptized into Your name most holy,
 O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
 Among Your saints, Your chosen host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin,
Your Spirit now shall live within.

- 2 My loving Father, here You take me
 To be henceforth Your child and heir.
My faithful Savior, here You make me
 The fruit of all Your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me
When threat’ning clouds around I see.

- 3 My faithful God, You fail me never;
 Your promise surely will endure.
O cast me not away forever
 If words and deeds become impure.

Have mercy when I come defiled;
Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.

- 4 All that I am and love most dearly—
Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely;
Help me Your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own
Serve any will but Yours alone.

Public domain

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.**

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.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto 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.**

Service of the Word

Introit *Ps. 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Is. 42:1a*

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.

You shall break them with a rod of iron

and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

Serve the LORD with fear,

and rejoice with trembling,

for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.

Gloria Patri

**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Kyrie *LSB 186*

**C Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 187*

**C Glory be to God on High,
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, heav'nly 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.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **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. Amen.

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 43:1–7 (Israel's only Savior)*

¹But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:

"Fear not, 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,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

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

I give men in return for you,
peoples in exchange for your life.

⁵Fear not, 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 up,
and to the south, Do not withhold;
bring my sons from afar
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."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *Psalm 29*

¹Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over many waters.

**⁴The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**⁶He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

**⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare,
and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

**¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**

¹¹May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Epistle *Romans 6:1–11 (Dead to sin, alive to God)*

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into

Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We 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.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was 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. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel *Luke 3:15–22 (The heavens were opened.)*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

C **Glory to Thee, O Lord.**

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

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

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

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

C **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.**

Children's Message

405 To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 As Jesus in the Jordan stood
And John baptized the Lamb of God,
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,
Descended on Him from above.
- 4 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."

5 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.

6 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 "Providing for the Progress Paradox" (Luke 3:15-22)

Offertory *LSB 192*

**C 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.**

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P: Gracious and merciful God, as the heavens were opened at the Baptism of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, so You have opened the very heavens to us as Your baptized people. Give to us the confidence of faith and the power of Your love that we may live as Your children even now amid the changes of this fallen world, ever rejoicing in Your constant mercy and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Grant Your constant blessing upon Your whole Church. Give wisdom and confidence to all pastors and servants of Your Word and faithfulness and love to all Your people that Your truth may sound forth and prevail in our lives and through our service in the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Preserve our nation in the ways of righteousness and peace. Guide the leaders of all nations to pursue justice and peace. Guard and protect all who serve in the armed forces of our country, and all who protect us in our land. Grant to all faithfulness in their service. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Comfort and help all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity, [*especially* . . .]. Have mercy on all to whom death draws near, [*especially* . . .]. Sustain and bless all who care for those who suffer. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface *LSB 194*

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

LSB 195

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

Pax Domini *LSB 197*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

C **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.
Amen.**

Distribution Hymns

597 Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying

- 1 Water, blood, and Spirit crying,
By their witness testifying
To the One whose death-defying
Life has come, with life for all.
- 2 In a wat'ry grave are buried
All our sins that Jesus carried;
Christ, the Ark of Life, has ferried
Us across death's raging flood.
- 3 Dark the way, yet Christ precedes us,
Past the scowl of death He leads us;
Spreads a table where He feeds us
With His body and His blood.

4 Though around us death is seething,
 God, His two-edged sword unsheathing,
 By His Spirit life is breathing
 Through the living, active Word.

5 Spirit, water, blood entreating,
 Working faith and its completing
 In the One whose death-defeating
 Life has come, with life for all.

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643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's blessing,
 Our true faith confessing,
 The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
 The Supper is ended.
 O now be extended
 The fruits of this service in all who believe.
 The seed of His teaching,
 Receptive souls reaching,
 Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
 His grace did invite us,
 His love shall unite us
 To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving
 To God ever-living,
 The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
 Our faith ever sharing,
 In love ever caring,
 Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
 With Your feast You feed us,
 With Your light now lead us;
 Unite us as one in this life that we share.
 Then may all the living
 With praise and thanksgiving
 Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

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Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

- C **Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all
people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

- P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C **and His mercy endureth forever.**

- P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and
we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward
You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives
and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Salutation and Benedicamus

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**

Benedicamus

- P Bless we the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction *LSB 202*

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
C **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

- 1 God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!
- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me
Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood,
Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?
- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!
- 4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
To make life immortal mine.
- 5 There is nothing worth comparing
To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
Still my soul continues praising:

I am baptized into Christ;
I'm a child of paradise!

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Attendance Last Week: 151

General giving last week: \$10,999.00

Budget giving needed: \$ 7,500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

10 Monday	Trustee Meeting	6:30 pm
11 Tuesday	Board of Elders	6:00 pm
11 Tuesday	Board of Education	6:00 pm
12 Wednesday	Public Confirmation Class	3:45 pm
13 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
16 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am
16 Sunday	Sunday School	10:15 am
16 Sunday	Bible Class	10:15 am

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE about good things happening at our school? Weekly copies of the *BadgerBytes*, the school newsletter, are available in the information rack in the Narthex. *BadgerBytes* features information on activities at school, articles by the students, updates on fundraisers and lots more. Check it out!

CHOIR WILL RESUME PRACTICES ON WED, JAN 19, AT 7PM We welcome any & all singers who have a desire to praise the LORD. We have much to be thankful for despite the ongoing pandemic. Please prayerfully consider joining us. Questions – contact Cindy Schuett at 920-203-6763.

FLOWER REMINDER: If you would like to donate or have flowers on the altar at any time for special occasions such as birthday, anniversary, in honor of or memory of for example, feel free to **sign up on the Flower Chart in the card room**. Flowers can be delivered by the local florist or brought in by you and put in the Altar Guild refrigerator. The flowers will be placed on the alter for the worship services."

THE CARD ROOM: The LWML would like to share with new members and remind current members that there are cards for sale in the "Card Room" which is the room where cookies are set up on Sunday mornings. Cards are all \$0.50 each. There are also various craft items for sale. If you make a purchase there is a box in the top file drawer for you to deposit your payment in. The Card Room also has mite boxes available if you would like to take one home to collect your mites. There is also a bulletin board with information about missionaries and seminarians we support as a congregation. If you have any questions please contact an LWML member: Carol Krause, Karen Vergin Krause, Kelli Munding, Deb Schrader, Dawn Schroeder, Cindy Schuett, Leitha Kraus, Bonnie Sperberg, or June Richter.

SERMON OUTLINE
January 6/9, 2022
Theme: "Providing for the Progress Paradox"
(Luke 3:15-22)

I. We Are a People in Predicament

- A. Zeno's experiment is a _____ of progress.
- B. We're always moving but never getting _____!
- C. The people in the Gospel were _____ for something to happen.
- D. Human knowledge, human _____, and human _____ have failed to get us where we desire.

II. We Cannot Cross the Infinite with the Finite

- A. We are _____ to do anything about it!
- B. Yet we _____ to accept our powerlessness.
- C. We want a greater than _____ solution using _____ knowledge, rules, and politics.

III. Jesus' Baptism is the Provider of True Progress

- A. When Jesus was baptized, the _____ were opened.
- B. Jesus meets us in the _____ of our baptisms.
- C. In baptism, the _____ Trinity joins us to Himself.
- D. We, the powerless, have been joined to our risen and crucified Creator, not briefly, but _____.