



Our Mission...

to be an accepting Christian community dedicated to living, sharing and teaching the Word of God.

We respect all aspects of people including race, ethnicity, gender expression, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, age, religion, mental wellness, and ability.

The Baptism of the Lord
January 10th, 2021

Bold print indicates a congregational response.

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

WELCOME and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis nation. We are thankful for these first inhabitants and we commit to working together towards justice, truth and reconciliation.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

In Christian teaching and tradition, each Sunday is believed to be a little Easter, a weekly celebration of the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we light this candle, affirming that Christ is indeed the light of the world, our hope and our salvation. There is no other in whom we place our trust.

CALL TO WORSHIP

In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.

Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.

He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.

Come now, all who thirst,

and drink the water of life.

Come now, all who hunger,

and be filled with good things.

Come now, all who seek,

and be warmed by the fire of love.

PRELUDE: #348 VU – “O Love How Deep, How Broad, How High”

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~Rev. Tanis Kolisnyk

**1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high!
It fills the heart with ecstasy,
that God, in Jesus Christ, should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake.**

- 2 God sent no angel to our race
of higher or of lower place,
but wore the robe of human frame,
and freely to this lost world came.**
- 3 For us he was baptized, and bore
a holy fast, and hungered sore;
for us temptations sharply knew;
for us the tempter overthrew.**
- 7 To God whose boundless love has won
salvation for us through the Son,
to God all praise and glory be
both now and through eternity.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**God of grace,
you have given us minds to know you,
hearts to love you,
and voices to sing your praise.
Fill us with your Spirit,
that we may celebrate your glory
and worship you in spirit and in truth
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS: *Sheron Miller*

Hebrew Scripture

Genesis 1: 1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The New Testament

Acts 19: 1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord

Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

RESPONSE: *This is the word of God.*

Thanks be to God

The Gospel

Mark 1: 4-11

~Rev. Don Johnson

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

GOSPEL RESPONSE: *The Gospel of Christ.*

Thanks be to God.

SERMON: *"The Baptism of Jesus"*

~Rev. Don Johnson (see the attached sermon)

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

A CONFESSION OF FAITH

A New Creed

We are not alone; we live in God's world.

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,**

to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,

**to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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, the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE DOXOLOGY

(based on Ephesians 3:20-21)

**Glory to God whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus, forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

*The grace of Christ attend you,
the love of God surround you,
the Holy Spirit keep you, now and forevermore. Amen.*

POSTLUDE: "Baptized in Water"

~words by Michael Saward; arr. Augsburg Fortress

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~Rev. Tanis Kolisnyk

- 1. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
Heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
faithfully now God's praise we sing.**
- 2. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ the king;
One with his rising, freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praise we sing.**
- 3. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our king;
Born of the spirit, we are God's children;
Joyfully now God's praise we sing.**