

ST.MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

PENNSBURG, PA

January 10, 2021

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WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Praise and Thanksgiving Be To God

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v.1: Praise and thanksgiving be to God our maker, source of all blessing, prodigal creator. Baptized and made your own, now we come before you, and we adore you.

v.3: Come, Holy Spirit, come in visitation; you are the truth, our hope and our salvation. Baptize with joy and power, give, O Dove descending, life never ending.

v.4: Praise to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit: one Lord, one faith, one source of every merit. Here now renew your church through this symbol given; grant peace from heaven.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 1: 1-5

Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for us. God created and continues to create new life.

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the 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. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please join me in reading the Psalm)

PSALM: Psalm 29

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

**²Ascribe 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.

**⁴The 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;

**⁶the 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.

**⁸The 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!"

**¹⁰The 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 19: 1-7

In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptizes them, the Holy Spirit comes upon them and empowers them with gifts of the Spirit.

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He 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." ³Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Paul 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." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—
⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Mark 1: 1-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
"See I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight'".

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And 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. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He 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. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Dawn Harris

SERMON

Pastor Dave

SPECIAL MUSIC

Christmas Medley

Flute duet, Ellen Leh and Barbara Lehmann

APOSTLES’ CREED

Together, with the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles’ Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they proclaim the forgiveness of sins, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God's goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the nations of the world and their leaders, for laborers and those who can find no labor, and for peacemakers amid strife, that God inspire all people to use their strengths wisely, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the sick and those who provide medical care in these difficult times, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer especially Florence, Lillie, Lisa, Jack, Marilyn, Randy, Andrew, Renae, Marie, David, Paul, Harold, Marie, Dennis, Steve, Barbara, Kenneth, Deb, Barbara, Lenny, June and Harold, that God may shower them with compassion, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the congregation of St Marks, for students and teachers in remote learning, for all those living out their baptism in daily life, that all the beloved of God may experience grace and peace, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, including Merle, that their witness inspire us in our baptismal vocations, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you
And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

O God,
receive these gifts as you receive us:
like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.
Nourish us anew in your tender care,
and empower us in faithful service
to tend to others with this same love,
through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.
Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,
gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:
Take and eat, this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

“

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Prepare the banquet table
where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

COMMUNION

Gathered together in your homes, you may now offer communion to each other saying "This is my body which is given for you" when you offer the wafer/bread; and then hold up the juice/wine, give thanks, offer the juice/wine saying "this is my blood which is shed for you."

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Christ Jesus,
at this table we have feasted on your very life
and are strengthened for our journey.
Send us forth from this banquet
nourished in body and in spirit
to proclaim your good news
and serve others in your name.
Amen.

BLESSING

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

v.1: Crashing waters at creation, ordered by the Spirit's breath, first to witness day's beginning from the brightness of night's death.

v. 2: Parting water stood and trembled as the captives passed on through, washing off the chains of bondage – channel to a life made new

v.3: Cleansing water once at Jordan closed around the one foretold, opened to reveal the glory ever new and ever old.

v.4: Living water, never ending, quench the thirst and flood the soul. Wellspring, source of life eternal, drench our dryness, make us whole.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

A letter from Church Council was sent to all this week. Please be sure to look for it.

Some of you have called wondering where your envelopes are. Well, they are in the mail. I do not send them out – they come from the envelope company. The post office has been a bit overwhelmed this year, so hopefully they will arrive soon. I have a list of all account numbers. If you send your donations in without an envelope, I can easily look up your number and record your donation

We do have some copies of The Word In Season for January/February/March 2021 available. Please call the church office if you need one mailed to you.

If we were gathering in-person, this week the flowers would have been presented in memory of Pam by Patsy & Ronnie Wampole. The bulletins would have been presented in memory of Harold Oberholtzer by Judy and family.

Preparing for next week:

Monday: Psalm 69:1-5,30-36; Genesis 17:1-13, Romans 4:1-12

Tuesday: Acts 22:2-16; Exodus 30:22-38

Wednesday: Isaiah 41:14-20; John 1:29-34

Thursday: Psalm 139:1-6,13-18; Judges 2:6-15; 2 Corinthians 10:1-11

Friday: Acts 13:16-25; Judges 2: 16-23

Saturday: 1 Samuel 2:21-25; Matthew 25:1-13

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