

WELCOME!

We are glad to welcome you today as we gather together to worship God! Please be sure you complete the salmon insert inside your bulletin and turn it in to the usher at the time of communion.

This bulletin will assist you in participating in worship. All parts spoken by the congregation are listed in **bold print and preceded by "C:"**

There are also instructions printed in *italics* that will indicate other helpful descriptions of the service. Large Print Hymns are available. Please see an usher.

Thank you for turning off your cell phones or putting them on "silent" during the service.



We are committed to **invite** and **welcome** all to Jesus Christ, to **equip** all with an active faith that works in real life, and together go into the world to **serve** in Jesus' name.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Pieds-en-l'air*

by Peter Warlock

The prelude is the slow movement of the Capriol Suite, by British composer Peter Warlock (1894-1930). That suite was originally written for string orchestra. It was arranged for organ by Noel Rawsthorne.

Please stand

INVOCATION, CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[Silence for reflection and self-examination]

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us, and for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN 565 "All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night"

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia!



All: 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



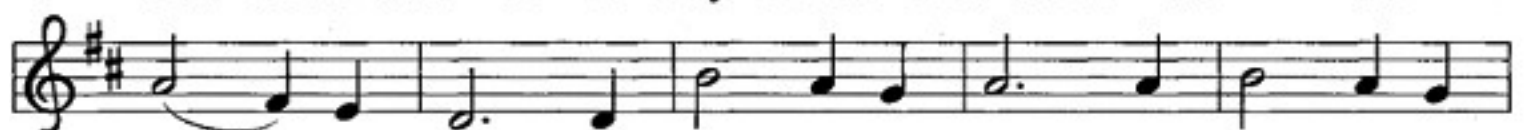
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



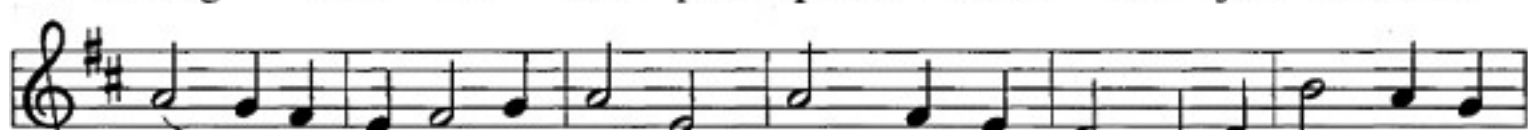
strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



Refrain This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



Final refrain This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

But 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. When 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. For 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. Because 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. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I 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— everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to the 1st chapter of John.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John 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. His 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." 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord! C: Praise to You, O Christ.

ANTHEM

Men's Chorale (8:15am) "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

arr. By Roy Ringwald

Chancel Choir (11am) "Hope of the World"

by Llyod Larson

Hope of the world, help to the helpless; a humble Servant, Savior, Friend;
God's only Son, sent to redeem us; hosannas ring praise without end.

Refrain: Amazing love! How great a Savior! Christ comes to set us free.
A love beyond all comprehension, the grace of God for all to see.
Amazing love for you and me!

Jesus walked this lonesome valley, He had to walk it by himself;
O, nobody else could walk it for Him; He had to walk it by Himself.

Jesus walked the lonesome valley, despised, rejected and alone.

And alone; He carried our sorrows, griefs and burdens.

He had to bear them all alone. Jesus bore them all alone. *Refrain*

SERMON

Pastor Patti Morlock

HYMN 456 "Baptized in Water"

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: P: ...Lord in your mercy, C: **Hear our prayer.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

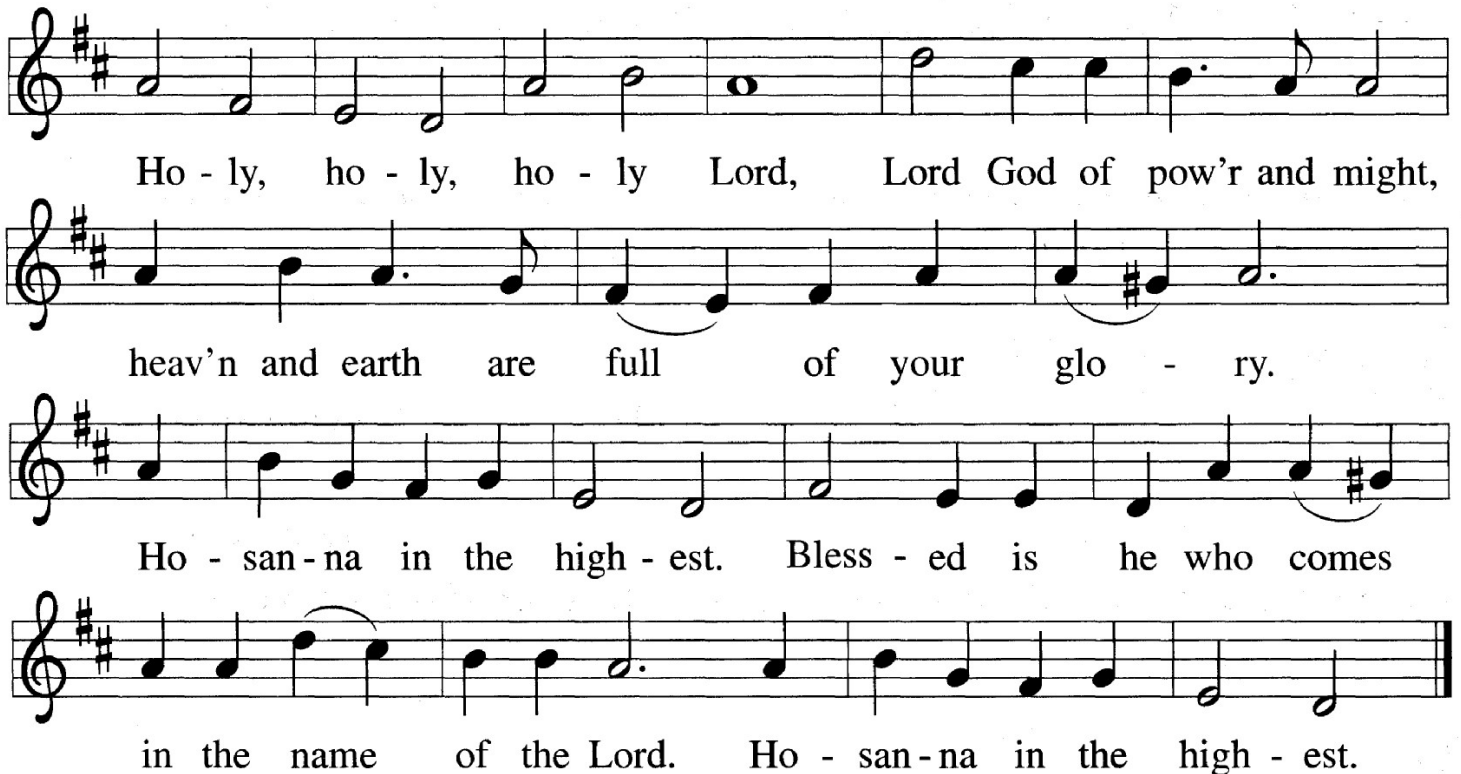
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy... ..we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY HOLY HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

- ◆ *Persons who know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and believe in his real presence in the sacrament are invited to commune. Grape juice is available in the center of the tray.*
- ◆ *Children not yet communing may come forward with their parents to receive a blessing.*
- ◆ *Adults who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Please indicate you desire a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.*
- ◆ *If you are not able to come forward to receive communion, please let the pastor know by raising your hand as he/she scans the congregation. The pastor will come to you.*

BLESSING, PRAYER and BENEDICTION

HYMN 310 “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE: Festal Flourish

by Gordon Jacob

The postlude is by another British composer, Gordon Jacob (1895-1984). He was part of the great generation of 20th-century English musicians including Vaughan Williams, Ireland, and Parry, but his music had its own distinct style.

**JANUARY 9, 2022
BAPTISM OF
OUR LORD**



Jesus' baptism points to a way of life.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	The baptism of Jesus
Monday	Isaiah 43:1-7	Restoration and protection
Tuesday	Acts 8:14-17	Receiving the Holy Spirit
Wednesday	Matthew 3:13-17	Jesus' baptism
Thursday	Colossians 3:12-17	New life in Christ
Friday	Ephesians 4:1-6	Unity in the body of Christ
Saturday	Psalms 29	The voice of the Lord
Sunday	John 2:1-11	The wedding at Cana

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*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. **Luke 3:21-22a (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Come Lord Jesus, come, Holy Spirit, strengthen us in our baptismal life and feed us with your power to believe that we are loved by God. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

May the gift of this food strengthen us to live in peace and faith in Christ. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you to know you are loved and precious.



JANUARY 9, 2022

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Change My Heart,
O God*



taking **+**
faith
home

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When have you received criticism that helped you?
- How can the judgment of another—or of God—be a blessing to you?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

In this passage we receive important themes that will continue later in the Gospel. In Luke (and Acts written by Luke), the Holy Spirit plays a large role in connecting Jesus with the church and the church with God. At Jesus' baptism, he is doing something that often happens during significant moments in his ministry in Luke: he is praying. Prayer and the work of the Spirit belong together for Jesus and for us as we are brought into the work of his eternal reign. John the Baptist speaks of a winnowing fork that separates wheat from chaff. As Luke continues to tell the story of Jesus, that separation is not about divine vengeance, but a judgment that cleanses us from our chaff, our sin, and leads us to be the church, the wheat in the world that feeds the world with God's grace. John's vision of Jesus, like ours, will change and grow. In Luke 7:19 John is perplexed by Jesus' words and actions and wonders if Jesus is the one, or should he (and we) look for another Messiah. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus' baptism points to our baptism and a life of prayer, repentance, forgiveness, and growth in Christ.

Discuss: How does baptism free you to pray, seek forgiveness and grow in faith and love?

Pray: Lord Jesus, may we grow in grace as we live out our baptismal life with prayer, humility, and the desire to serve you and the world in love. Amen.

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme this week, how does your way of life show God's love to others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Jesus' baptism sets the stage for the beginning of his ministry, just as our baptism establishes our life as a follower of Jesus. When Jesus was baptized, he was also praying. Use prayer as a way to recall and live your baptism. Dip your fingers into a bowl of water, make the sign of the cross on your or another's forehead or hand, and say: **[I am/You are] baptized and God's beloved child.** Then close by praying the Lord's Prayer and any other prayers you may wish to add.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Baptism of Our Lord— January 9, 2022

Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? - Romans 6:1 -

Is it a cultural thing or just a human nature thing, that we are thrilled with God's forgiveness, and yet we so easily fall back into sinful behavior? We don't just see it in the world, we see it quite clearly in the church. That shouldn't be a surprise - as they say, "The church is not a museum of saints, but rather a hospital for sinners." But, perhaps we might want to examine what Paul has to say to the Romans in the second lesson for today. It's all about our Baptism and our understanding of what it means to be claimed by Christ through water and the Word.

"What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?" To that rhetorical question, Paul says, "No way!" The apostle wants the church to know and ponder deeper the fact that when we die to sin, we then live in Christ. To live in Christ is to reject sin and walk in the gift of new life that Jesus has granted us through his death and resurrection. Paul goes on to explain all that is meant by dying to ourselves and being freed from sin and death, hammering home the words of encouragement for our faith life: "So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus." (verse 11)

The truth of our human condition is that we will never be sin-less. We will always have to rely on Christ's mercy in our lives, but what happens is we become more aware of our sin as we live for Jesus. We will still suffer from temptation, disobedience, and brokenness in this life, but as we devote ourselves to Jesus and to following him, our awareness of what it means to be "dead to sin and alive in God" becomes heightened. We become more and more dependent upon Jesus to lead us, and less and less dependent upon ourselves. More sin does not bring more grace. Rather clinging to Jesus brings to us an awareness of how we are living our lives. Since we have been freed from the powers of sin and death by Christ, we can now pursue righteousness and mercy - using our lives to serve the world and to show others the love and grace that has been bestowed upon those who confess Jesus as Lord and follow in his footsteps.

Lord, help us to reject sin and seek to do your holy will for the world.

Amen.