



Baptism of Our Lord

January 7, 2024

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK
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Assistant Minister = Blue

Welcome! Words in **bold** are said together.

Confession and Forgiveness

Leader: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters. Congregation: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (silence for reflection)

L: God, our rock and refuge, C: we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

L: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near: By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved. C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn – As with Gladness Men of Old #302

1. As with gladness men of old, did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by thee.
2. As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.
3. As they offered gifts most rare at thy cradle, rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.
4. Holy Jesus, ev'ry day keep us in the narrow way;
and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide, where no cloud thy glory hide.
5. In the heav'nly country bright need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;
there forever may we sing alleluias to our king.

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 your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Genesis 1:1-5 p. 1

In 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 29 p. 438

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

²Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

³The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty 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 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 causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

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

ALL: ¹¹May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!

Acts 19:1-7 p. 903

While 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mark 1:4-11 p. 812

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 and Sermon

David Ingram

Hymn of the Day – Shall We Gather at the River #423

1. Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain: Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

2. On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. *Refrain.*
3. Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. *Refrain.*
4. Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. *Refrain.*

Apostle's 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 God's People

Each petition ends "Lord, in your mercy," please respond: **hear our prayer.**

Sharing the Peace – L: The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you.

Offering

- ◇ Mail: Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705
- ◇ Online: "giving" tab at www.lordoflifeak.com/giving or the QR Code →
- ◇ Phone app: download "Give Plus Church" search by zip 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the instructions. Giving is secure.



Offering Hymn – We Give Thee but Thine Own #686

1. We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, oh Lord, from thee.
2. May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first-fruits give.
3. The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,

to teach the way of life and peace it is a Christ-like thing.

4. And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be;
whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Christ's Words of Institution and Communion

L: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

Post Communion Prayer

L: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer – We pray together with confidence the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us to pray:

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.

Announcements

- Have you signed up to Serve on Sunday yet? Sign-up sheets near the offices
- Take a poinsettia home so we don't have to throw them out! Care sheets near offices
- 6 Beef shares still available – proceeds to Lord of Life's heat bill
- Coming up: New Members classes 😊

Sending Hymn – The First Noel #300

1. The first Noel, the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain.*
3. And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain.*
4. This star drew near to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain.*
5. Then entered in those wise men three, full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in His presence, their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain.*

Blessing

L: God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, + bless you and remain with you always. C: Amen.

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. You are God's beloved. C: Thanks be to God!

Special Thanks to...

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Assistant Minister, | Reader, Evan Keil |
| Usher(s)/, Dart Family | Acolyte, |
| Video, | PowerPoint, |
| Communion Prep, Eileen Dubowski | Fellowship, Dart Family |
| Greeters, | |

Birthdays & Anniversaries...

1-7 Katy Castor

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