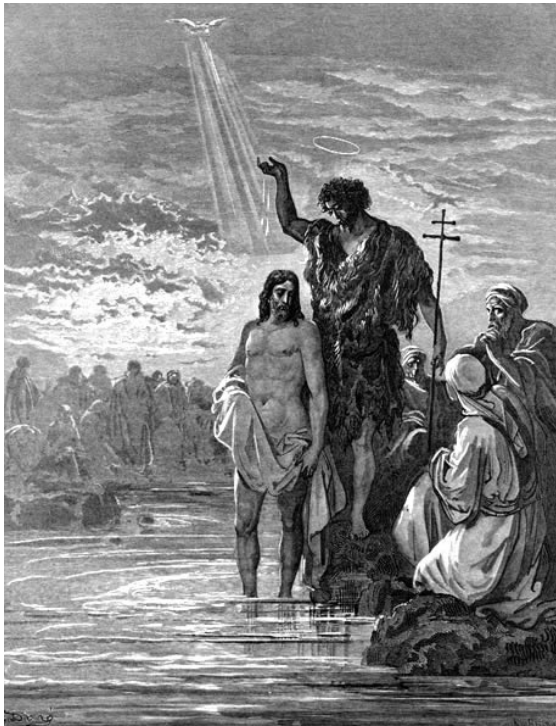


The Baptism of Jesus



The famous artist Gustav Dore paints the impressionable picture of the actual baptism of Jesus, a point in time many actually believed Jesus engaged in the ministry that He was sent to accomplish. It has always been a source of lengthy discussion, as the question would be placed forth, “why does the sinless Son of God need to do this?”

Baptism evokes a lot of images for us all. We come to the realization baptism involves new life, but there is always death attached to it. We die to sin, we rise to new life. It is a voluntary act on our part. God offers us the relationship of new life, yet we have to take the steps moving closer to that new life by our willingness to let go of the old.

I’m not exactly sure all of what Jesus’ baptism might mean, but according to the

Gospels, our noses are directed to the thought that Jesus found out who He was, and whose He was. Both identity as well as affirmation of that identity are presented to Him, as He in fact begins His public ministry.

Now that offer is made to the people of God as they step into their own mission and ministry- know who you are, and whose you are!

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

GATHERING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, as we are gathered together here around your Word and Your Sacrament, send us your Holy Spirit that we might again be reminded of who we are and whose we are. May we walk in the Father’s love and will all the days of our lives, and may we step into our own work as your people in this time, and in this place, in order to be faithful to the calling of our new lives given to us in our baptism. May we come to the realization of the fact that we are your children, that you have called us by our name, and that are pleased with us. In your name we pray this day, Amen.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME

Pre-Service Music

Welcome and Announcements

CONFESSIONAL PRAYER

As we celebrate this Epiphany season, we are reminded of the revelation of Jesus Christ to the entire world through a variety of methods and many people. In our time and place, we forget what Christ has done for us, and at times, we lose our way and pick really terrible alternatives. Recognizing this weakness in our spirit, we pause to offer our confession this day:

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things 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

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake, and by His promise, forgives us all our sin. Therefore on His behalf, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Go and sin no more, that the rest of your life might be pure and holy and modeled after our Lord Jesus in all we say and all we do, we pray in His Holy Name, Amen.

HYMN 142 “Brightest and Best” 1,3,5

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be our daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Alleluia. A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." Alleluia.

THE INSTALLATION OF THE 2017 OSLC CHURCH COUNCIL

Pastor : A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church. You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world. You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified. You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

COUNCIL MEMBERS: I will, and I ask God to help me.

PASTOR: People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

CONGREGATION: We will, and we ask God to help us.

I now declare you installed as officers / council members of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

ALL: Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "In The Bleak Midwinter"

Dean Carson

FIRST LESSON : Isaiah 42:1-9

New Living Translation (NLT)

"Look at my servant, whom I strengthen. He is my chosen one, who pleases me. I have put my Spirit upon him. He will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or raise his voice in public. He will not crush the weakest reed or put out a flickering candle. He will bring justice to all who have been wronged. He will not falter or lose heart until justice prevails throughout the earth.

Even distant lands beyond the sea will wait for his instruction.” God, the Lord, created the heavens and stretched them out. He created the earth and everything in it. He gives breath to everyone, life to everyone who walks the earth. And it is he who says, “I, the Lord, have called you to demonstrate my righteousness. I will take you by the hand and guard you, and I will give you to my people, Israel, as a symbol of my covenant with them.

And you will be a light to guide the nations. You will open the eyes of the blind. You will free the captives from prison, releasing those who sit in dark dungeons. “I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not give my glory to anyone else, nor share my praise with carved idols. Everything I prophesied has come true, and now I will prophesy again. I will tell you the future before it happens.”

THE SECOND LESSON: Acts 10:34-43

New Living Translation (NLT)

Then Peter replied, “I see very clearly that God shows no favoritism. In every nation he accepts those who fear him and do what is right. This is the message of Good News for the people of Israel—that there is peace with God through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee, after John began preaching his message of baptism. And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

“And we apostles are witnesses of all he did throughout Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him to life on the third day. Then God allowed him to appear, not to the general public, but to us whom God had chosen in advance to be his witnesses. We were those who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he ordered us to preach everywhere and to testify that Jesus is the one appointed by God to be the judge of all—the living and the dead. He is the one all the prophets testified about, saying that everyone who believes in him will have their sins forgiven through his name.”

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17

New Living Translation (NLT)

Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. But John tried to talk him out of it. “I am the one who needs to be baptized by you,” he said, “so why are you coming to me?”

But Jesus said, “It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires.” So John agreed to baptize him.

After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."

The Gospel of our Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

SERMON "It's All in A Name"

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

SERMON HYMN: 141 "As With Gladness Men of Old 1,2,3,4

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed (C)

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 into hell. 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE OFFERING:

After the consecration of the Offering, we will sing the Doxology:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

-PRAYERS OF PRAISE, WORDS OF INSTITUTION, LORD'S PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

HYMN 144 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" 1,3,5

THE BENEDICTION & THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. **Thanks be to God**

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WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here!

IN OUR PRAYERS: We take time during our service to offer petitions for the prayer needs of ourselves, our families, our friends, and the world. Please give those requests to Pastor at the beginning portion of the service so they can be included in our prayers during worship today.

TODAY: INSTALLATION OF THE 2017 OSLC CHURCH COUNCIL

We thank the following people for their willingness to serve Our Savior's this year as the Church Council: Dean Carson, President/Treasurer; Jeanne Keyser, Vice-President; Bev Cisco, Secretary; Bev Wilgus, Bob Wilgus; Bubbles Burrell, Stephanie Ings, Geri McGary, and Ron Tessmer. Blessings on your work among us!

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETS TUESDAY HERE AT THE CHURCH AT 3:00 PM.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, LCMC

14344 Jamison Way Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Website: <http://www.oslc-lcmc.com>

Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M.

Bible Study Twice Monthly, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

Rev. Jonathon Kosec, Lead Pastor

Pastor's email: jonathonkosec@gmail.com

Cell Phone: (941) 916-7300