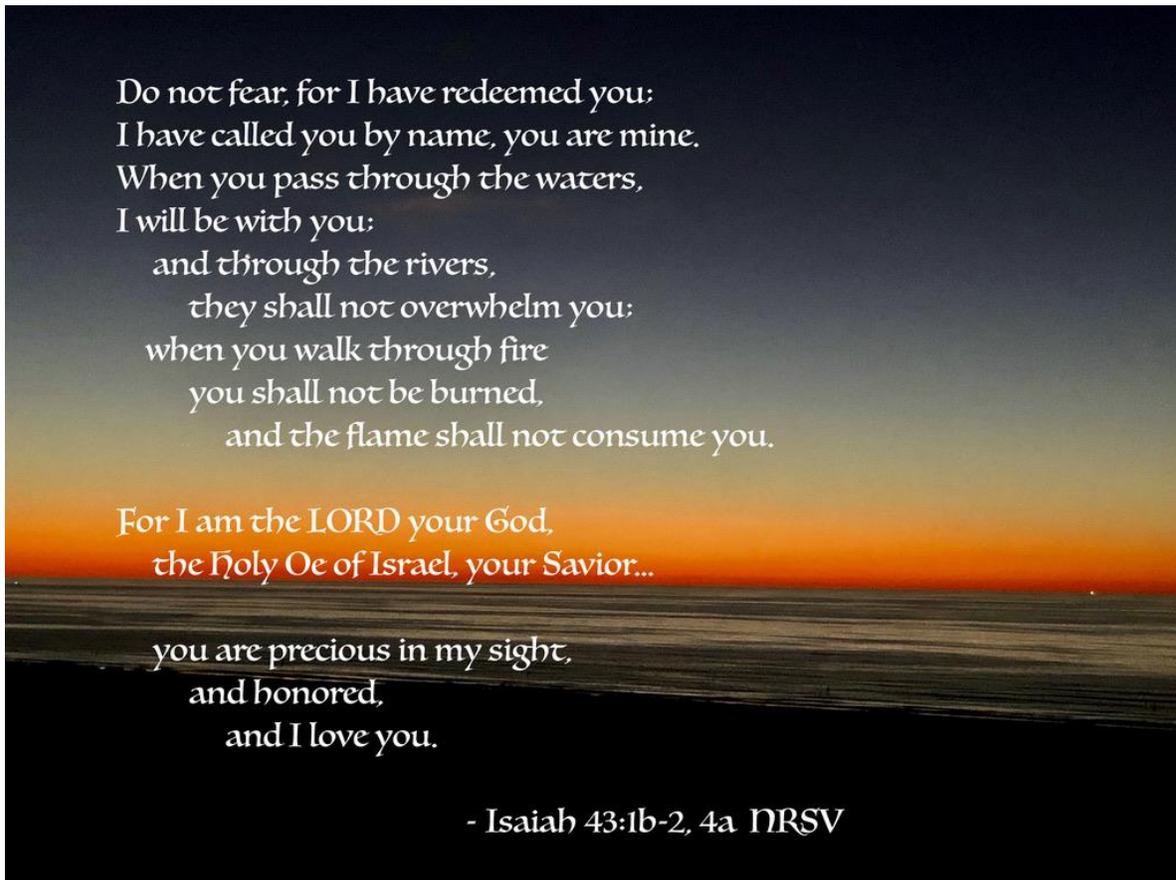


St. Paul's and St. Matthias Lutheran Churches Sunday Worship Service Bulletin



Baptism of Our Lord / Lectionary 1, Year C

Introduction

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

Welcome:
Prelude: TBD

Confession and Forgiveness

*As the presiding minister begins, all may make the sign of the cross,
the sign that is marked at baptism.*

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who creates us,
redeems us,
and calls us by name.
ALL: Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.
We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.
We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.
We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.
Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.
Amen.**

Rejoice in this good news:

In ✠ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.
You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.
Live as freed and forgiven children of God.
ALL: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW #448 This Is The Spirit's Entry Now



- 1 This is the Spir - it's en - try now: the wa - ter and the word,
- 2 This mir - a - cle of life re - born comes from the Lord of breath;
- 3 Let wa - ter be the sa - cred sign that we must die each day
- 4 Re - new - ing Spir - it, hear our praise for your bap - tis - mal pow'r



the cross of Je - sus on your brow, the seal both felt and heard.
the sin - less one from life was torn; our life comes through his death.
to rise a - gain by his de - sign as fol - l'wers of his way.
that wash-es us through all our days. Come, cleanse a - gain this hour.

Text: Thomas E. Herbranson, b. 1933
Music: LAND OF REST, North American traditional
Text © Thomas E. Herbranson, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Prayer of the Day:

Read by LaDelle Daly

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.

Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7 Read by: Judy Ormsby

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

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.

²When 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.

³For 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.

⁴Because 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.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you;

I will bring your offspring from the east,

and from the west I will gather you;

⁶I 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—

⁷everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory,

whom I formed and made."

The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 29

Men - Led by TBD

Women - Led TBD

except for the leaders, all leave their microphones on mute

Men: Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

pause

Women: The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the ^l mighty waters.
The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. R

pause

Men: The voice of the LORD breaks the ^l cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

pause

Women: The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.
The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

pause

Men: The 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!"

pause

Women: The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.
O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Second Reading: Acts 8:14-17 Read by: Vicki Snyder

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

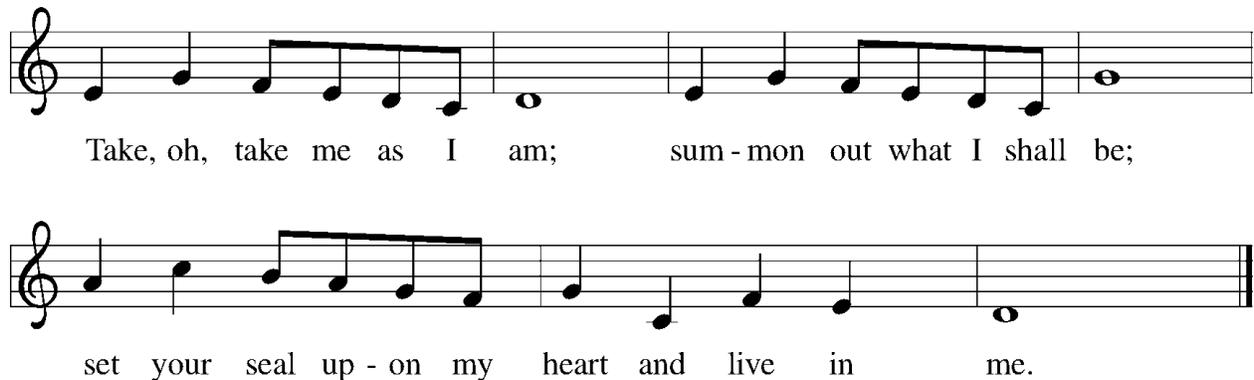
A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G-clef (treble clef) with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

Text and music © 1995 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com
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Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John 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. ¹⁷His 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."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Anne - "I love you. - God"

Behold God

Anne M Harman

Lyrics by:
adapted from St. Ignatius of Antioch
by Anthony De Mello

For the 2012 Creighton University
CSP - Term I Graduates

Be - hold God be - hold - ing you. Be - hold God be - hold - ing
6
you. Be hold God be - hold - ing you and smil - ing, _____

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A Time of Silence - please be sure you are muted.

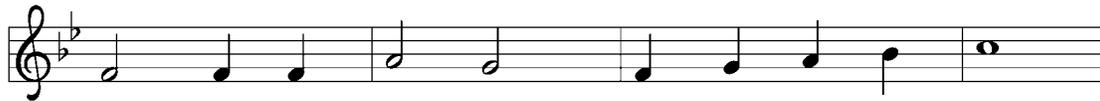
Hymn of the Day: ELW #800 "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart"



1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,



wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:



stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,
no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,



and make me love you as I ought to love.
but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

Text: George Croly, 1780–1860

Music: MORECAMBE, Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841–189

Prayers of Intercession - Read by Judy Wylde

Please reply to each intercession - Hear our prayer.

A Prayer of Peace and Reconciliation

Offering

Song of Offering: ELW #793 "Be Thou My Vision"



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

Thanksgiving for the Word

Read by: Vicar Teresa

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

ALL: we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

ALL: we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

ALL: we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

ALL: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Vicar Teresa: 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,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing & Dismissal

Faith Sharing with Pastor Anne

Pastor Anne invites you to remain for another 30 minutes for a time of faith sharing. What did God say to you today? What is God inviting for this coming week? We will formally dismiss before faith sharing begins so that those who choose to go on with their day may leave comfortably. We will let everyone grab a cup of coffee and meet back at our computers to break open our worship experience.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Announcements - 01-09-22

St. Paul's Congregational Meeting for the sole purpose of approving last year's minutes, electing the new council, and passing the missional expenditure plan will be January 23 immediately following the worship service. Formal emails will go out this week. Mark your calendar today.

St. Matthias Congregational Meeting for the sole purpose of approving last year's minutes, electing the new council, and passing the missional expenditure plan will be Tuesday, January 25 at 5:30 PM via zoom. Formal emails will go out this week. Mark your calendar today.

Taizé Prayer on January 21 has been cancelled.

Bible Study & Faith Sharing: The Gospel of Luke resumes this Thursday at 7:00 PM on Zoom. We will meet on January 13, 20, and 27. You might want to read Luke 2:41 - Luke 4 before we begin. Feel free to invite friends and neighbors to join us. We use the "business" Zoom link for the congregation:

ZOOM LINK 2 - For Business

<https://zoom.us/j/971000153>

password 12345

or by phone 1-646-558-8656

and enter ID Number (971000153)

and **password 12345**

Problems & Possibilities: We continue to wait for the YMCA meeting on January 12 to know how they will proceed. I did hear this week that they have begun moving out of the building on Highland Avenue and the other locations they are using for pop up classes are working well. Covid has struck their staff, so it has been a quite week.

Next time you are on the property, take a closer look at the bell tower. There is wood coming loose from top of the tower. It will need to be addressed SOON. I will send out pictures this week.

Communication:

If you are not receiving weekly emails from Pastor Anne, please send her an email at pastoranneharman@gmail.com. You might also want to check your "promotions" file or "junk or spam" file. We use an online email marketing service. Some email servers determine that anything that goes out to groups is less important. This past week two notices went about. The first reporting the councils' decision to return to online worship until Covid positivity drop and a second email went out suggesting ways to make our online worship more engaging and meaningful.

If you are new to our community and would like to be added to our email distribution list, please email Pastor Anne at: pastoranneharman@gmail.com.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
is a Reconciling in Christ congregation

Worshipping with our siblings in Christ from
St. Matthias Lutheran Church

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St. Paul's Website: <https://www.stpaulsclearwater.org>
St. Matthias Website: <https://www.stmatthiaslutheran.org/>

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