



Baptism of Our Lord

January 8, 2023



Ascension Lutheran Church
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Ogden, UT 84404
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Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 50 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community. It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community, communion** and **commitment**. Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshiping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

**Children are always welcome in worship services;
however please know a nursery space is available for
parents who need to tend to their little ones.**

Introduction

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

Welcome to Worship

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Please stand in body or spirit.

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

All Amen.

P The Israelites were guided through waters from slavery into freedom.

All Like the crowds from Judea, Jesus was washed in the Jordan River.

WA God called the Israelites a holy people and claimed them for good.

All A voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved One, with you I am well pleased.”

P The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for forty years, learning to trust God and becoming a new people.

All The Spirit thrust Jesus into the wilderness for forty days, where he was tempted by Satan, surrounded by earthly beasts and celestial beings.

WA Israel emerged a nation, God’s chosen people bound for the promised land.

All Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news, “The kingdom of God has come near!”

P Like Daniel, whose vision told of great beasts stirred by the winds and sea,

All Jesus has devastating news for the political empires that oppress God’s people: God’s time is now.

WA The prophet Isaiah once yearned, “Oh, that you would tear open the heavens and come down.”

All In baptism, God has done just that. The border has been broken open, beyond repair. Love has come!

Greeting

P 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

P O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit.

All Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your 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.

[You may be Seated](#)

A Reading from Isaiah, the 42nd chapter

God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.

¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

²He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;

³a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,
⁷to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the
dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

⁹See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Isaiah 42:1-9

L Word of God, Word of Light.

All Thanks be to God

A Reading from Acts, the 10th chapter

Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

³⁴Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Acts 10:34-43

L Word of God, Word of Life.

All Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand as you are able.



Thy Word is a lamp un-to___ my feet and a light un-to my path.



Last time Fine

Thy Word is a lamp un-to___ my feet and a light un-to my path.

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.

¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:13-17

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

You may be Seated

Sermon

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit.

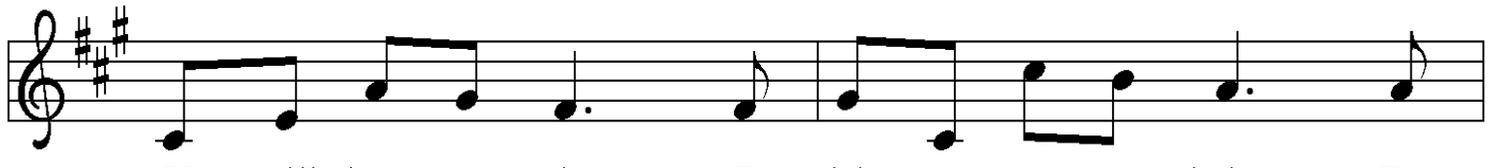
You Are Mine



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
(4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.
I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. *to verse 2*
Come and rest in me. *to refrain*
all will know my name. *to verse 4*
up, now walk and live! *to refrain*



Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by

name. Come and fol-low me, I will bring you home; I
love you and you are mine.”

4 “I

Nicene Creed

P Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

On the third day he rose again

Sharing the Peace

In our continued physical distancing out of love for the health of one another, we will share the peace of our risen Lord by “speaking” that peace through sign language.

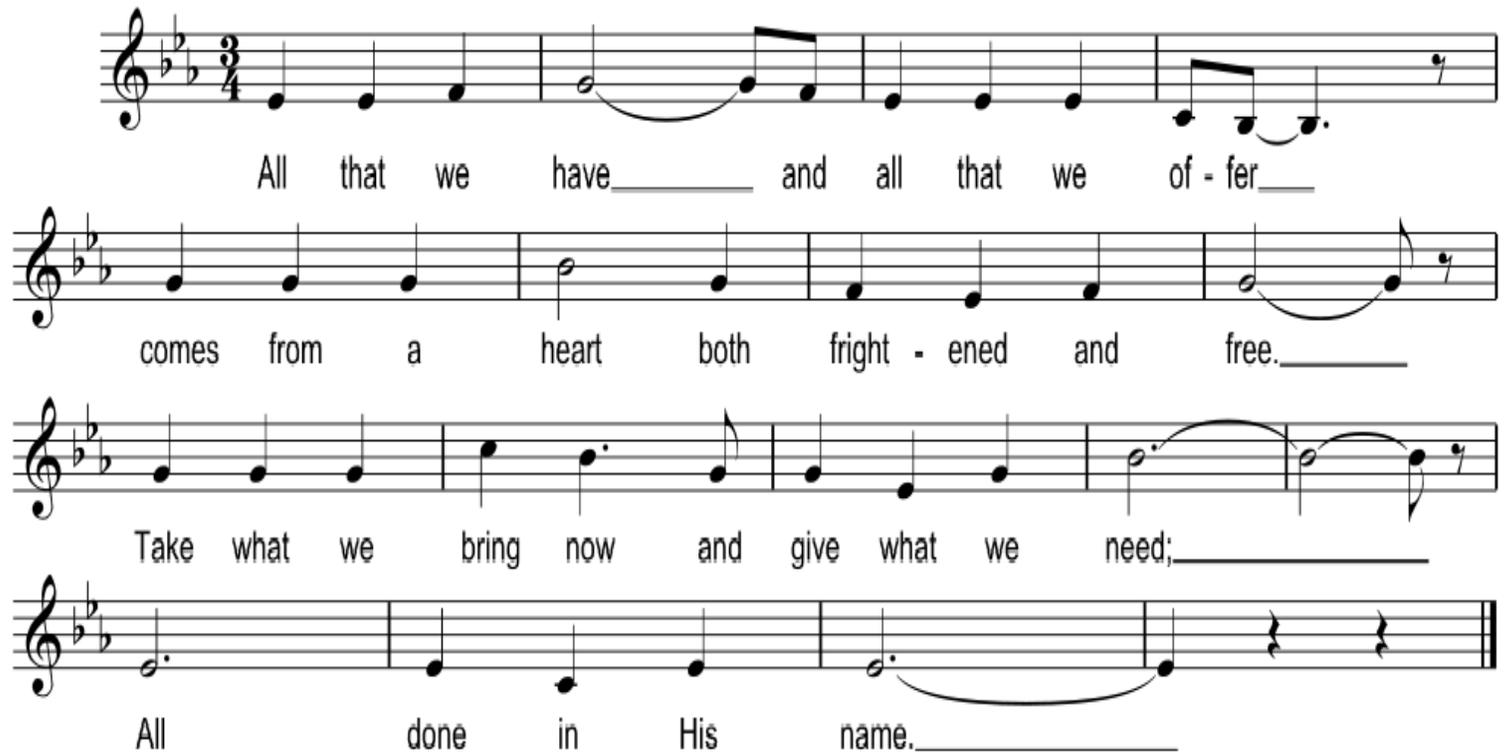
P Christ become Peace with you.

All And also with you.

Offering

[You may be Seated](#)

While we still will not physically pass the offering plates we will continue to have the plates available at the entrance to receive your offerings and will lift them up in thanksgiving before the throne of grace.



All that we have _____ and all that we of - fer _____
comes from a heart both fright - ened and free. _____
Take what we bring now and give what we need; _____
All done in His name. _____

Offertory Prayer

P Liberating God,
you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free.

All Receive these offerings in thanksgiving
for all your works of merciful power,
and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.
You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

P The Holy One be with you

All And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts

All We lift them up to our God.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.



All: On the night You were be - trayed You took the bread; ___ Af - ter



giv - ing thanks, ___ You broke it and said, "This is My ___



bod - y, bro - ken for ___ you, and as you



eat ___ it, re - mem - ber Me; This is My ___

bod - y bro - ken for__ you, and as you
 eat___ it, re - mem - ber Me." On the
 night You were__ be - trayed__ You held the cup;__ Af - ter
 giv - ing thanks,__ You lift - ed it up. "This is My__
 blood, poured out for__ you, and as you drink__ it, re - mem - ber
 Me; This is My__ blood, poured out for__ you, and as you
 drink___ it, re - mem - ber___ Me." So, we
 thank You for__ the wine___ and for the bread;__ For we
 see the life__ You gave__ and the blood You_ shed. And we re -

mem - ber Your won - drous love, You gave Your
 bod - y, You shed Your blood; And we re - mem - ber Your won - drous
 love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your blood.

The Lord's Prayer

P As we kneel in awe at the manger of Love,
 let us approach the throne of grace, praying as Jesus taught:

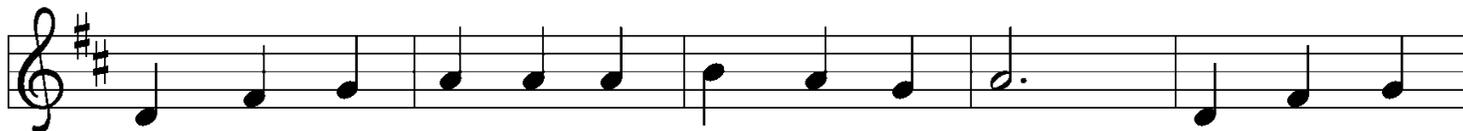
All **Our Father, who art in heaven,**
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
 and the power,
 and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.

The Invitation

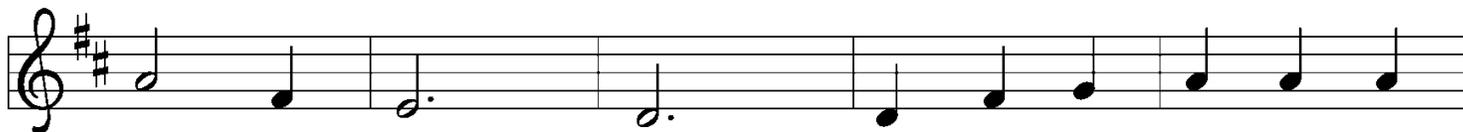
P Come to God's table.
There is a place for you and enough for all.

Communion Songs

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

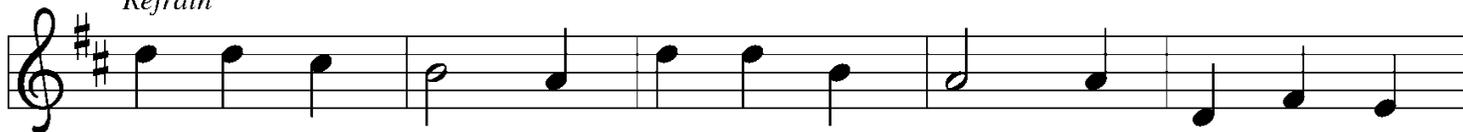


fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Spir - it of the
 liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me,
 fill me, use me. Spir - it of the
 liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All Amen

P Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.

All Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.

Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements

Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

P The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod
 ✚ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

All Amen

Readings for next Sunday,
January 15th

First Reading:

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalm:

Psalm 40:1-11

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Gospel:

John 1:29-42

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