

# THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

T JANUARY 12, 2025 T

399 *THE STAR PROCLAIMS THE KING IS HERE*

1 The star proclaims the King is here;  
But, Herod, why this senseless fear?  
For He who offers heav'nly birth  
Seeks not the kingdoms of this earth.

2 The eastern sages saw from far  
And followed on His guiding star;  
And, led by light, to light they trod  
And by their gifts confessed their God.

3 Within the Jordan's sacred flood  
The heav'nly Lamb in meekness stood  
That He, of whom no sin was known,  
Might cleanse His people from their own.

4 And oh, what miracle divine,  
When water reddened into wine!

He spoke the word, and forth it flowed  
In streams that nature ne'er bestowed.

D 5 For this Thy glad epiphany  
All glory, Jesus, be to Thee,  
Whom with the Father we adore,  
And Holy Spirit evermore.

Text: Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Text: Public domain

***(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)***

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **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 on God's Word and for self-examination.)***

**READING**

Romans 6:4, 11

<sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

*THIS IS THE FEAST*

LSB 171

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

C **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.  
Alleluia, alleluia.**

*SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

*OLD TESTAMENT READING*

Isaiah 43:1–7

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 43.

<sup>1</sup>But now thus says the LORD,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:

“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

<sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my eyes,  
and honored, and I love you,  
I give men in return for you,  
peoples in exchange for your life.

<sup>5</sup>Fear not, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,

and from the west I will gather you.  
<sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, Give up,  
and to the south, Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from afar  
and my daughters from the end of the earth,  
<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*EPISTLE*

Romans 6:1–11

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 6.

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as

Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

A Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.



**C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

*HOLY GOSPEL*

Luke 3:15–22

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>18</sup>So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup>But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife,

and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup>added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

<sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*405 TO JORDAN'S RIVER CAME OUR LORD*

1 To Jordan's river came our Lord,  
The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,  
The God from God, the Light from Light,  
The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.

2 The Savior came to be baptized—  
The Son of God in flesh disguised—  
To stand beneath the Father's will  
And all His righteousness fulfill.

- 3 As Jesus in the Jordan stood  
And John baptized the Lamb of God,  
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,  
Descended on Him from above.
- 4 Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound  
Came God's own voice with words profound:  
"This is My Son," was His decree,  
"The one I love, who pleases Me."
- 5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight  
Anointed Christ in glorious sight  
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall  
To save the world and free us all.
- 6 Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;  
This man is Christ, our substitute!  
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,  
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

Text: James P. Tiefel, 1949, alt.

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*SERMON*

## *PRAYER OF THE CHURCH*

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the baptized people of God, that strengthened by His Holy Spirit we would walk as the new and holy people He has declared us to be in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all church workers, especially Matthew, our Synod president; Lucas, our district president; and Michael, our pastor, that the Lord would prosper the good work of preaching the Gospel and administering the life-giving Sacraments, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the family, especially all Christian homes; for husbands and wives, that God would turn them toward one another in love; for fathers and mothers, that God would equip them for their holy

duty as teachers of the faith; and for all children, that God would preserve them in the saving faith and certain promises of their Baptism unto life everlasting, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For the rulers of the nations, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_,] that they would submit to the preaching of God's Word and acknowledge Jesus as the Christ and true King, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For who find themselves in times of weakness, illness, despair and death, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_,] that God would grant healing and relief according to His will; and that He would give us every aid of His Holy Spirit to endure afflictions and find comfort in the healing wounds of the Savior, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For all the baptized who partake of the Lord's Supper today, that God would give us tender hearts to confess our need and rejoice in His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, You manifested Yourself with the Holy Spirit in the fullness of grace at the Baptism of Your dear Son. With Your voice, You directed us to the One who has borne our sins, that we may receive grace and forgiveness. Keep us, we implore You, in the true faith. Since we have been baptized in accordance with Your command and the example of Your Son, strengthen our faith by Your Holy Spirit and lead us to everlasting life and salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## OFFERING

### 955 LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

1 Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
That we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;  
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with Your presence, and give us  
A foretaste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922–80

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## PREFACE

LSB 177

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 Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

*SANCTUS*

LSB 178

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:**

**Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING*

LSB 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created



and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### *THE WORDS OF OUR LORD*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given

thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

### *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.**

*PAX DOMINI*

LSB 180

**P The peace of the Lord be with you always.**

**C Amen.**

*AGNUS DEI*

LSB 180

**C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the  
world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the  
world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

*394 SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE*

**1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,**

**Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,**

**Manifested by the star**

**To the sages from afar,**

**Branch of royal David's stem**

**In Thy birth at Bethlehem:**

Anthems be to Thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;  
And at Cana wedding guest  
In Thy Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in pow'r divine,  
Changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

3 Manifest in making whole  
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
Manifest in valiant fight,  
Quelling all the devil's might;  
Manifest in gracious will,  
Ever bringing good from ill;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

4 Sun and moon shall darkened be,  
Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;

Christ will then like lightning shine,  
All will see His glorious sign;  
All will then the trumpet hear,  
All will see the Judge appear;  
Thou by all wilt be confessed,  
God in man made manifest.

5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,  
Present in Thy holy Word—  
Grace to imitate Thee now  
And be pure, as pure art Thou;  
That we might become like Thee  
At Thy great epiphany  
And may praise Thee, ever blest,  
God in man made manifest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt.

Text: Public domain

### *397 AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD*

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 clouds 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.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt.

Text: Public domain

### *POST-COMMUNION COLLECT*

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be  
gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you  
peace.
- C **Amen.**

*ANNOUNCEMENTS*

*596 ALL CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED*

- 1 All Christians who have been baptized,  
Who know the God of heaven,  
And in whose daily life is prized  
The name of Christ once given:  
Consider now what God has done,  
The gifts He gives to ev'ryone  
Baptized into Christ Jesus!
- 2 You were before your day of birth,  
Indeed, from your conception,  
Condemned and lost with all the earth,  
None good, without exception.



For like your parents' flesh and blood,  
Turned inward from the highest good,  
You constantly denied Him.

3 But all of that was washed away—  
Immersed and drowned forever.  
The water of your Baptism day  
Restored again whatever  
Old Adam and his sin destroyed  
And all our sinful selves employed  
According to our nature.

4 In Baptism we now put on Christ—  
Our shame is fully covered  
With all that He once sacrificed  
And freely for us suffered.  
For here the flood of His own blood  
Now makes us holy, right, and good  
Before our heav'nly Father.

5 O Christian, firmly hold this gift  
And give God thanks forever!  
It gives the power to uplift

In all that you endeavor.  
When nothing else revives your soul,  
Your Baptism stands and makes you whole  
And then in death completes you.

6 So use it well! You are made new—  
In Christ a new creation!  
As faithful Christians, live and do  
Within your own vocation,  
Until that day when you possess  
His glorious robe of righteousness  
Bestowed on you forever!

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. Jon D. Vieker, 1961

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Book

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