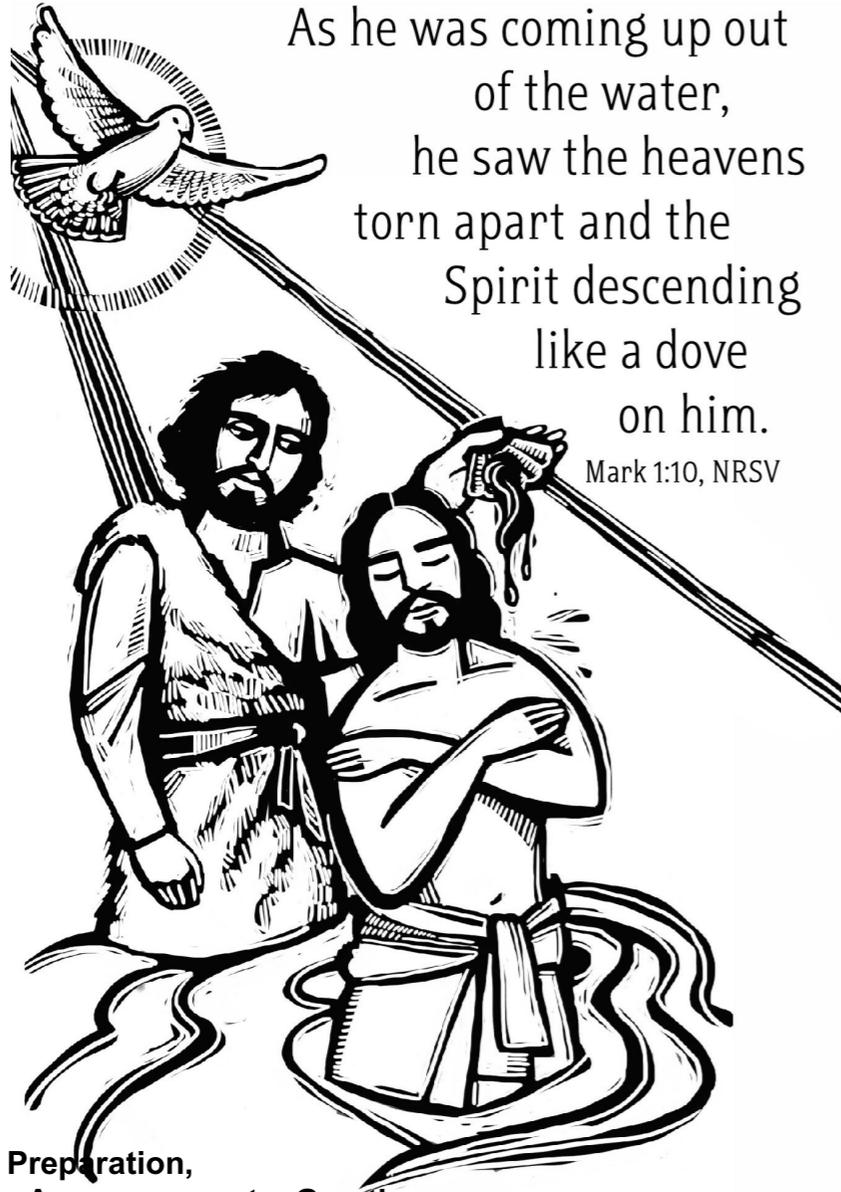


# THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 9-10, 2021

**"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."**



As he was coming up out  
of the water,  
he saw the heavens  
torn apart and the  
Spirit descending  
like a dove  
on him.

Mark 1:10, NRSV

Music of Preparation,  
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting

**Our Ministry:** We are a people of God who are: ROOTED in Christ, GROWING TOGETHER in Christ, BRANCHING OUT in Christ!

**Welcome!** God, thank you for the gift of baptism, when you claim us, as you claimed Jesus, as your beloved.

**Devotions & Publications Available** are found in the main entryway.  
(Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate, **not in the envelope basket.**)

## ..... WORSHIP NOTES .....

**To Our Visitors...**Our school has a few nooks and crannies, so don't be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available near the guest register in the main (west) entryway.

**For All Who Worship...**If you are arriving after the service has started, please allow our ushers to assist you with seating. We ask that you avoid entering during the confession, prayers, or Bible readings as these are quiet and meditative moments.

**For Parents with Small Children...**We love and want children in our services as a part of God's family, to spend time with Jesus, and to learn how to worship. We also know that kids can be kids. If you need assistance, we have a nursery for children up to age 4 manned with people who love to share the love of Christ with little kids in the lower grade wing. The nursery is staffed during Sunday School and the 11:05 worship service. We want you and your children to experience our Lord's love and to have a great opportunity to worship the Lord along with all who are gathered here to praise our Savior's name.

## DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE

*(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 151 in the Hymnal)*

**Notes for Worship:** As you prepare for worship this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for all aspects of the Christian Life (some of the prayers are also located on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

### **Before worship prayer**

*Almighty God, grant that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our baptism into the death and resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ, may be renewed by Your Holy Spirit to live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.*

### **We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!**

**Opening Hymn:** "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning" LSB, hymn #400

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;  
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;  
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion,  
Fragrance of Edom and off'rings divine,  
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure.  
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;  
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

- P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b*  
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.** *1 John 1:8-9*  
P: Dear Friends in Christ, let us humble our hearts before our Holy God and silently reflect upon our sins.

*(Moment of silent reflection)*

- 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. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*  
C: **Amen**

### **KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy**

*Mark 10:47*

- P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
C: **(Sung) Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.  
**C: (Sung) Lord, have mercy.**  
P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.  
**C: (Sung) Lord, have mercy.**  
P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.  
**C: (Sung) Lord, have mercy.**  
P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**C: (Sung) Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

**Gloria in Excelsis ~Glory to God in the Highest** *Luke 2:14, John 1:29*

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
**C: (Sung) Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen**  
P: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*  
**C: (Sung) And also with you.**  
P: Let us pray . . . Heavenly Father, at the Baptism of Jesus, You revealed Him as Your beloved Son. Unite us to Christ, that we may daily die to sin and arise to newness of life, so that we might share the truth of Your Gospel; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C: Amen**  
*(Please be Seated)*

**THE READING OF THE WORD**

**Old Testament Lesson:** Genesis 1:1-5 *(God Created The Heavens)*

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of

God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning - the first day.

**Epistle Lesson:** Romans 6:1-11 *(Baptized Into Jesus' Death and Resurrection)*

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin - because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Stand

**Alleluia and Verse - Common** *John 6:68*

**C: (Sung) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**  
P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.  
**C: (Sung) Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Gospel Lesson:** Mark 1:4-11 *(Jesus Baptized, Heavens Torn Open)*

And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not

worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: (Sung) Praise to You, O Christ.**

*(Please be Seated)*

**Sermon Hymn:** "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord"

*LSB, hymn #405*

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.

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.

As Jesus in the Jordan stood  
And John baptized the Lamb of God,  
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,  
Descended on Him from above.

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."

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.

Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;  
This man is Christ, our substitute!  
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,  
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

**Sermon:** "Tearing Open"

*Mark 1:9a*

**Tithes and Offerings will be collected as you leave worship**

Stand

P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his 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. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*1 Timothy 2:1-4*

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Dear heavenly Father, in the Jordan River, You revealed Jesus to be Your beloved Son. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,

**C: reveal Your grace to us.**

P: Lord, strengthen all those who have been baptized, especially those who have been baptized recently, with Your heavenly protection. Lead them to find their true identity in You as Your beloved sons and daughters. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,

**C: reveal Your grace to us.**

P: Lord, comfort all those who are suffering in grief. Console them with the sure and certain hope that just as we have been united with Christ in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,

**C: reveal Your grace to us.**

P: Lord, give courage to all those who live in conflict with their family members, especially regarding differences of faith. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,

**C: reveal Your grace to us.**

P: Lord, bless all pastors, church planters, missionaries, and servants in Your Church who proclaim Your Word and administer Your Sacraments. Embolden them to seek and to save the lost and bring those who have strayed back into Your family. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,

**C: reveal Your grace to us.**

P: Lord, place Your healing hand upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering. We pray that you be with those hospitalized this past week (*Especiallly*, . . . ). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). Have mercy upon them, and lead them on the path to health according to Your will. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . . )*

P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

**C: Hear Our Prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us to pray:

**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**

### **BENEDICTION**

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 † give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

**C: (Sung) Amen**

**Closing Hymn: "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"**

*LSB, hymn #394*

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

**See You In Worship Next Week!**

#### ***After worship prayer***

*Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.*

*There is a Prayer Ministry Member(s) in each service that is wearing a prayer ministry tag around their neck. Please look for them if you want a prayer for someone else, a concern or situation you may have, or yourself.*

*Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.*

**Altar Flowers:** Altar flowers this weekend are given in loving memory of my husband, Wendall Beckman on his 81st birthday (January 10th), by Donna Beckman; also in loving memory of Mr. Les Jennings.

## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

<b>Rev. Karl J. Koeppe</b> . . . . . Senior Pastor <b>Rev. Michael H. Hanel</b> . . . Associate Pastor <b>Mr. James Krupski</b> . . . . . Principal <b>Rev. David Baker</b> . . . . . Missionary to Mongolia	<b>Church</b> . . . . . 348 E. Merchant, Kankakee, IL <b>Church &amp; Day School Office</b> . . . . . 1780 Career Center Road, Bourbonnais, IL <b>Church &amp; School Office:</b> . . . . . 932-0312 <b>Mary Weber, LCPC, Family Counselor</b> 932-0312 ext 1458
<b>Church &amp; School Website</b> . . . . . <a href="http://www.stpaulslutheran.net">www.stpaulslutheran.net</a>	

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### WORSHIP NOTES

***“I was glad when they said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord!’  
 (Psalm 122:1)”***

We are glad that we can gather in worship as God's people. However, we do need to proceed with precautions at this time.

1. You are welcome to attend. however if you have a fever or are not feeling well, please stay home and watch our services online.
2. As you enter, there will be hand sanitizer available for you, but please feel free to bring your own.
3. As you arrive for worship, we ask that you practice social distancing between family groups (6 feet between groups in pews and two chairs of space between groups at the school location).
4. Pick up your own bulletin and please take it with you or place it in the trash or recycle can as you leave.
5. If you choose to use a hymnal, please leave it by your seat and it will be wiped down before being returned to its spot.
6. While we are not shaking hands at this time, you can still greet your friends and those sitting nearby.
7. We will have our normal style service, with responses and singing. Please feel free to sing. *But to be cautious, please wear your mask while singing.*
8. Collection of Tithes and Offerings will be taken near the exits after the service. You may simply place your offering in them as you leave.
9. **Communion. Please wear your mask coming up to communion. At Communion, you will receive the bread in your hand and both individual and common cup will be available. Remove your mask when consuming the elements. The Pastors and Lay Ministers will be wearing a mask and will use hand sanitizer before serving the elements. Afterwards, dispose of the empty container in the baskets. Children are welcome to come up for a blessing during communion.**