



New Life Ev. Lutheran Church
Lake Zurich, IL

...rooted in the word, growing in faith, reaching out to our uprooted world.

Pastor Andrew Bauer
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The Baptism of Our Lord
First Sunday after Epiphany
January 10, 2021

A warm welcome to those who are visiting us today. You may hang your coat in the entry way of the church. The bathrooms are located in the basement of this building. Before you go home today, please sign our guest book located on the podium in the entry way. Also, refreshments are served in the basement after our service this morning. We invite you to join us for something to eat and drink.

Our lower level is wired for sound. If you need to take your child out during the service, you won't miss any of the sermon.

In the unlikely event of an emergency during this morning's service, you can exit the building using the main entryway or the exit to the right of the chancel. Our building does have a fire alarm system which is wired directly to the fire department. Remember, we follow the "Run, Hide, Fight" response in an emergency.

Covid-19 Precautions / Reminders:

- Every other pew will be taped off to create social distance.
- Weather permitting, the windows will be open to create as much airflow as possible.
- The hymnals have been removed from the pews. The hymns will be sung out of the bulletin or off the projector screens.
- Worshippers are asked to pick up their own bulletin and take it home with them.
- Offerings will be placed in the plate on the podium before or after the service.
- The church council asks everyone to wear a mask, if possible. Masks are available in the entryway.
- The pastor won't shake hands after the service.

Before Service Prayer: Dear Lord, I thank You for giving me the blessings of forgiveness of sins and eternal life through the Sacrament of Baptism. As I remember my own baptism today--on the day we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord--I praise You for Your grace toward me. Please continue to keep me in Your grace so that Your name is praised by my thoughts, words, and actions. I am forever grateful to live a renewed life in faith to Your honor, my Lord. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Today's Service: "Divine Service III" NPH, reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-800156 and under CCLI license #1132777.

Today's Theme: During the Epiphany season we want to get to know Jesus. This Sunday we get to know Him by baptism, both His and ours. But the glory is evident only to a chosen few; notice, too, that the greater the glory, the more hidden its manifestation—the glory of our life with Christ is by faith, not by sight.

Pastor's Welcome

God Comforts His People with His Forgiveness

(Christian hymns preach Jesus Christ: crucified, risen and seated at God's right hand.)

HYMN

CW 89 "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord"

**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 promises 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," we 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.**

Please stand.

(The work of worship belongs to every Christian. Each of us stands as a priest before God.)

INVOCATION

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

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: (spoken) Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION

(1 John 1:8-9)

P: Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

C: 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. *Romans 6:3-4*

P: We must confess that none of us "walks in newness of life" each day; however, since our Lord took our sins on Himself, our sins have been washed away in the water of Baptism. The promises the Father made to Him are ours. He said, "I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you" (*Isaiah 42:6*). Let us therefore confess our sins, confident that Christ's righteousness will be graciously credited to us.

(Silence for reflection on the Word of God and for self-examination.)

P: Heavenly Father,

C: although, as Isaiah prophesied, our Lord would not break a bruised reed or quench a faintly burning wick, but would faithfully bring forth justice (Isaiah 42:3) – we confess that we have walked in the ways of this world. We have sought power and prestige for ourselves, but have neglected those less fortunate than ourselves; we have rejoiced in our freedom, but have forgotten those in prison; we have basked in Your gracious forgiveness, but have failed to extend it to the people we meet. Forgive us, renew us, and assure us again that through the water of Baptism Jesus’ righteousness is now our own.

ABSOLUTION

(John 20:21-23)

(“The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to His church on earth: to forgive the sins of the penitent sinners.” Luther’s Small Catechism: The Use of the Keys and Confession.)

P: In the water of His Baptism our Lord “fulfilled all righteousness.” The Father’s approval, “With Him I am well pleased,” is spoken over all who have been baptized in His name. God proclaimed through Isaiah, “Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare” (Isaiah 42:9). Therefore as a called servant of Christ and by His authority I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. May the Lord give strength to His people! May the Lord bless His people with peace! Psalm 29:11

KYRIE

(Mark 10:47)

(These are the words to the oldest canticle in the Christian church, the Kyrie.)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace that comes down from above with the news of God’s approval for the sake of our Savior who fulfilled all righteousness for us, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For peace in this chaotic world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all the baptized, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who gather here for strength in adversity, guidance in confusion, and forgiveness in failures of faith, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**Christ when for us You were baptized, God's Spirit on You came
As peaceful as a dove, and yet as urgent as a flame, as urgent as a flame.**

**God called You "My beloved Son"; You are God's servant true,
Sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n, God's holy will to do, God's holy will to do.**

**Straightway and steadfast until death You then obeyed the call
To serve with free and willing heart, to give Your life for all, to give Your life for all.**

**Baptize us with Your Spirit, Lord; Your cross on us be signed,
That likewise in God's service we may perfect freedom find, may perfect freedom find.**
(to the tune of CW 90)

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

(The salutation is a Christian greeting, offered here for mutual encouragement as the congregation prepares to hear God's word.)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P & C: Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as Your children and make us heirs with Him of everlasting life; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE WORD

[We sit at the feet of Jesus like Mary did, to hear His word (Luke 10:42).]

FIRST LESSON ISAIAH 49:1-6 *(On the surface the ministry that Jesus began at His baptism appears to be an exercise in futility. But just as the Father said at His baptism, God was well pleased with His Son. That work therefore would be blessed richly, even though few realize or see it. It would be richly blessed in each of those who the Father gives to the Son—the Son wins them first and gives them to the Father and then the Father gives them back to the Son as rewards for His labors to win them! When you think of your baptism, think of this joyful and reciprocal giving inside of the Trinity at your baptism and through the rest of your life with and in Christ.)*

Listen to Me, you islands;

hear this, you distant nations:

Before I was born the LORD called Me;

from My mother's womb He has spoken My name.

² He made My mouth like a sharpened sword,

in the shadow of His hand He hid Me;

He made Me into a polished arrow

and concealed Me in His quiver.

³ He said to Me, "You are My Servant,
Israel, in whom I will display My splendor."

⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent My strength for nothing at all.
Yet what is due Me is in the LORD's hand,
and My reward is with My God."

⁵ And now the LORD says—
He who formed Me in the womb to be His servant
to bring Jacob back to Him
and gather Israel to Himself,
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD
and My God has been My strength—

⁶ He says:
"It is too small a thing for You to be My servant
to restore the tribes of Jacob
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.
I will also make You a light for the Gentiles,
that My salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." (NIV 2011)

VERSE OF THE DAY Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with You I am well pleased. Alleluia. (Mark 1:11b)



C Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the



mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ. Al - le -



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

(The congregation stands and speaks words of acclamation out of respect for the words of Christ, our King.)

P: The gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory be to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL MARK 1:4-11 *(It's almost a secret that Jesus was baptized; it appears that no one was there to witness it except for John. But what an amazing announcement! As the lowliest of the low baptized the Highest of the High, the Trinity showed itself; the Spirit covered and filled the lowly human nature of the Son, and the Father attested to His favor in all that the Son is and is about to do. But it was all a secret except to John and now to us, to whom God reveals it in His Word and in our baptism. For there, too, is a mystery and secret known only to God and to those He reveals it. In your baptism the Trinity is hidden, but really there: the Spirit covers and comes to dwell in you; the Son presents you to His Father as one for whom He did all of His work; the Father is well pleased with you because of what His Son has done for you.)*

⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ 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. ⁶ John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And this was his message: "After me comes the One more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I baptize you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, He saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: "You are My Son, whom I love; with You I am well pleased." (NIV 2011)

After the Gospel:

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED (responsively)

P: Let us remember our Baptism by again renouncing the devil and confessing our faith responsively.
Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

C: We do renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

C: Yes, we believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

C: Yes, 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 fully human.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.**

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C: Yes, we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

P: You have been baptized into the death and resurrection of Christ; therefore, consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

(The Hymn of the Day is a hymn specially assigned to this day for its richness, its content and its connection to the day's Gospel.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

CWS 710 "Jesus Once With Sinners Numbered"

**Jesus, once with sinners numbered, Had no blemish of His own;
In the waters of the Jordan His true worth and work were shown:
Heaven opened and the Spirit There descended like a dove,
As the Father's voice resounded, "Here My Son, the One I love."**

**John confessed Him as the Savior "Look, the sinless Lamb of God!"
Yet he dared not loose the sandals Of the One God's love had shod.
Oh, how fair the feet of Jesus, Bringing news of peace to us,
Christ, the herald of salvation, Preaching mercy from the cross:**

**This the baptism that our Savior Greatly longed to undergo;
This the crimson cleansing needed So the world God's love might know;
This the mission of Messiah As He stepped from Jordan's stream,
He, the chosen and anointed Son of God, sent to redeem.**

**Jesus, once with sinners numbered, Full obedience was your path;
You, by death, have consecrated Water in this saving bath:
Dying to the sin of Adam, Rising to a life of grace.
We are counted with the righteous, Over us the cross You trace.**

THE SERMON TEXT

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

²¹ Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, ²² set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

OFFERING *(Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer Him our first and our best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him. Offerings can be placed in the plate on the table in the entryway either before or after the service.)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(1 Timothy 2:1)

THE SACRAMENT

(God in His word makes it clear that Holy Communion is to be shared by people of a common proclamation of faith (1 Corinthians 11:26, 1 Corinthians 10:16). So, without judging anyone's heart, we invite those who share in our confession by their membership in our church body, and who are properly prepared (1 Corinthians 11:27), to come to the front and receive the Sacrament.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you. (spoken)

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

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, when He was baptized in the water of the Jordan in our place, You declared that You were well-pleased with Him, and in the water of our Baptism, You united us to His death and resurrection that we might walk before You in newness of life. 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 *(Latin for "Holy")*

(Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9)

**Alleluia! Let praises ring! To God the Father let us bring
Our songs of adoration.**

**To Him through everlasting days Be worship, honor, pow'r, and praise,
Whose hand sustains creation.**

**Singing, ringing: Holy, holy, God is holy; Spread the story
Of our God, the Lord of glory. (CW 241)**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Jesus took bread and "gave thanks" (Matthew 26:26).)

M: Blessed are You, O Holy Trinity, for at the Baptism of our Lord, You revealed Your nature in the voice from above, the image of the dove, and our Lord Himself. When in the Jordan's water He fulfilled all righteousness for us, heavenly Father, You declared Him pleasing to You, and in the water of our Baptism Your Holy Spirit united us to His death and resurrection and extended Your acceptance to us as well. Gathered in His name now, we ask that You forgive, renew, and strengthen us so that we may walk in newness of life this day and always. Gather all Your faithful people, whose sins have been washed away, that we may eat together with the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Hear us now as we join in praying....

LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

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

C: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI *(Latin for "Lamb of God")*

(John 1:29)

**Alleluia! Let praises ring! Unto the Lamb of God we sing,
In whom we are elected.
He bought His Church with His own blood, He cleansed her in that blessed flood,
And as His bride selected.
Holy, holy Is our union And communion. His befriending
Gives us joy and peace unending. (CW 241)**

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

During the distribution the congregation will sing "**The Christ, Our Lord to Jordan Came**" (tune, CW 390)

**The Christ, our Lord, to Jordan came, His Father's will fulfilling.
Baptized by John, though free from blame, He was the Lamb most willing.
To us He gives this cleansing flood. He drowns us in His wounds and blood,
A new life here bestowing.**

**Now hear and mark this message well For God Himself is speaking.
On more than water you must dwell; It's Christ your faith is seeking!
Through water and the Word God gives The Spirit of His Son who lives,
Bestowed by Him with blessing.**

**The Father proves with sign and word What promises He's sealing.
On Jordan's banks His voice is heard, The gates of heav'n revealing:
"This Man is My beloved Son; My heart is pleased with Him alone.
Cling firmly to His teaching."**

**Here stands God's Son, the sinner's friend, Our guilty flesh His burden.
On Him the Spirit-dove descends. Now we can be most certain
That when we come to be baptized Our Triune God here testifies
With signs that mark His presence.**

**To His disciples spoke the Lord, "Go now to ev'ry nation,
Proclaim repentance with My Word And point them to salvation.
Those who believe and are baptized From sin are freed, from death shall rise,
And life with Me inherit.**

**All that the mortal eye beholds Is water as we pour it.
Before the eye of faith unfolds The pow'r of Jesus' merit.
For here we see a crimson flood That heals us through our Savior's blood
From inborn sin forever.**

NUNC DIMITTIS (*Latin for "Now Dismiss,"*)

(Luke 2:29-32)

**Alleluia! Let praises ring! Unto the Holy Ghost we sing
For our regeneration.
The saving faith in us He wrought And us unto the bridegroom brought,
Made us His chosen nation.
Glory! Glory! Joy eternal, bliss supernal; There is manna
And an endless, glad hosanna.**

**Alleluia! Let praises ring! Unto our triune God we sing;
Blest be His name forever!
With angel hosts let us adore And sing His praises evermore
For all His grace and favor!
Singing, ringing: Holy, holy, God is holy; Spread the story
Of our God, the Lord of glory! (CW 241)**

PRAYER

P: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have again assured us that our sins have been washed away through Your Son's obedient life, suffering, and death in our stead, thereby uniting us also to His glorious resurrection. Strengthened by this sacrament, grant that Your Holy Spirit enable us to walk in newness of life until we rejoice in the river of the water of life, flowing from Your throne in Your eternal kingdom (*Revelation 22:1*); through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 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 on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN CW 297 “Baptized in Water”

**Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Heirs of salvation, Trusting His promise,
Faithfully now God’s praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
One with His rising, Freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God’s praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:
Born of one Father, We are His children;
Joyfully now God’s praise we sing.**

SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Father’s Business in the Coming Week
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Cleaning this Week: LaPlante

Today—Baptism of Our Lord Communion Service at 9:30 AM

Sunday School, Adult Bible Class at 10:45 AM

Confirmation Class at 6:00 PM

Monday—Tone Chime Choir at 7:00 PM

Tuesday—Branch Connection at 7:00 PM

Thursday—Green Team from 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Friday—Men’s Bible Class at 11:30 AM

Sunday—2nd Sunday after the Epiphany Worship Service at 9:30 AM

Sunday School, Adult Bible Class at 10:45 AM

No Confirmation Class (Pastor Bauer leaving for Fort Wayne, IN)

The Sunday School offering for the first half of the year was \$554.09. That offering was remitted to help support the mission work being done in Costa Maya, Mexico.

This week the Green Team will work on their Rocket Racers and learn about the people who live in Iceland.

The Branch Connection invites all of the women of the congregation to join them for their monthly meeting this Tuesday at 7:00 PM.

Pastor Bauer will be leaving for Fort Wayne, Indiana, this afternoon and returning on Tuesday evening. He’ll be attending the winter meeting of the Chicago Conference.