

# ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Worship At Home

### Baptism of Our Lord Sunday

January 10, 2021

#### SIMPLIFIED MORNING PRAYER

*This service is intended to be done alone or with your loved ones. The prayer and readings are the assigned ones for this Sunday.*

**Greeting:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

**Opening Prayer:** Let us pray. Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Readings:** First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5 - Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**  
Psalm 29  
Second Reading: Acts of the Apostles 19:1-7 - Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**  
Gospel: Mark 1:4-11 - The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

#### Reflection

*Having read these readings, think of this:* Many people go out to John, confessing their sins and hoping his baptism will be the sign of a new age, an indication of God creating all things anew. We, too, hope for such a new beginning and we, too, have been baptized, confessing our sins. Jesus also is baptized, hidden among us sinners, joining us in longing for a new age. But, in the text, only he sees something utterly new: the torn-open heavens and the descending dove. Only he hears the voice of God declaring him the beloved Son. But we hear too! This voice over the waters comes here, where we are reading these texts. Jesus Christ, whose identity continues to be hidden in Mark's Gospel until he is finally hidden by the crucifixion, is revealed to us as living in the word and sacraments of the church, a word we today may hear in our homes. In encountering Jesus Christ, we see and hear the holy Trinity, the Voice from above the heavens, the Son in the water, and the descending Spirit, making all things new, as if the creation of Genesis 1 is all around us again, as if Noah's flood is finally over. Our baptism gathers us into the life of the Trinity, making us, like the ancient Christian Ephesians, witnesses to this new creation. **Amen.**

*If you have a hymnal, you may sing or read "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized" (Hymn #304 ELW).*

**Prayer of the Church** - Then pray together these prayers for our church and world: On this Sunday of the baptism of our Lord, let us offer our prayers for all in need, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "Give us your blessings of peace." For the worldwide church; for those who minister in the church; for all who will be baptized this year; and for their godparents and sponsors: that the Holy Spirit will empower all the faithful for lives of service, let us pray. For the waters of the earth; for the seas, the lakes, the rivers; for the wells that provide drinking water; and for the water that is piped into our homes: that God provide clean and nourishing water for all living things... For the nations of the world and their leaders; for international efforts to prevent war and reduce violence; for the armed forces; for police officers; and for peacemakers: that God inspire all people to work for the harmonious well-being of others...For students; for teachers and school administrators; for parents assisting their children in home schooling; and for young people who are finding a way toward graduation: that as the academic year resumes, God give resilience to everyone in the search for education, let us pray...For all who are in trouble, want, or sickness; for the countless who are suffering with COVID-19; for medical workers; for people who are hungry or homeless, imprisoned or lonely; and for those we name here...: that God grant health and wholeness to a world so filled with pain...For ourselves: that we rejoice in our adoption as members of God's family, and that now in this silence we bring to God our heart's requests...In gratitude for our beloved dead, especially..., we offer our praise for all the baptized who have accompanied us and supported us and taught us throughout our days; that at our end we join with them in everlasting joy..., Almighty and most merciful God, you are the mighty Voice from heaven, you are our beloved Savior, you are the descending Dove. We give you thanks for all your goodness and tender mercies, and we ask you to accept our prayers for the sake of your mercy, today and forever. **Amen.**

*If you have a hymnal, you may sing or read "Wade in the Water" (Hymn #459 ELW)*

**We continue our worship with this prayer:** Let us pray. Holy God, Light of the universe, Teacher of truth, Giver of goodness, we hear your Word in the Scriptures, proclaiming to us your wisdom and inviting us to follow your call. For speaking this Word, we thank you, O God. **We thank you, O God.**

Your Word came among us in Jesus, our brother, who preached your righteousness, healed the sick, and revived the brokenhearted. For giving us this Word, we worship you, O God. **We worship you, O God.**

By your Spirit bless all who receive this Word, that upheld by the mystery of the body of Christ, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son. For sustaining us with your Word, we praise you, O God. **We praise you, O God.** Blessed are you, holy God, around us, with us, and in us, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer:** 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

**We end with reciting the Blessing:** God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace. **Amen.**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Worship has been suspended indefinitely due to the pandemic. We will notify all members once we are able to worship in our sanctuary again.
- A reminder that Pastor Tom Glasoe will be in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. He will spend the Wednesday nights on the island so he is available to meet with you after hours, if need be.
- Join Pastor Tom on Tuesday evenings on ZOOM as he leads us in a Bible study on Moses. This will be a six week study. Contact Kim for ZOOM information.
- Please keep in your prayers the following individuals: Keep in your prayers, Dan Kramer, Joyce Zimmerman, Brian Volo, Jennifer Buchanan, Diane Kraft, Rick, Mike, Olivia Williams and family, Cathy Niccola, Matt Stzaba, Ben Richard, Joanne M., Robert Miller, Louis Volo Jr, Dottie Roehrig, Karen Geng, Sylvia and Joe Smith, Lorraine Pfohl, Jane Goris, Jerry Peete, Tamara Proctor, Cheryl Rosati, Rosaria Phillipone, Robin Bengalio Richard, the Maris Family, Charlene Faleski. Also remember in your prayers all school, teachers, administrators and students.
- Pray for congregations in our synod and around the world. As this pandemic continues and people are not going to church, the continued absence of worshippers are now beginning to hurt congregations in our country and around the world. People are getting used to not attending and thus not support their local congregations in every way.
- Please keep all congregations in your prayers as people find new ways to support their congregations.
- Please keep nursing homes and care facilities in your daily meditations as they are the center of the pandemic. Keep in your prayers the front-line workers of these facilities and homes.