



*Baptism*  
of the Lord

**ORDER OF THE SERVICE OF THE WORD**  
**THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**  
**JANUARY 10, 2021, 8:00 AM**

A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today. In May of 2020, Resurrection Lutheran Church celebrated forty-two years of ministry. Celebrating our Savior's love continues today in the faithful gathering of God's people, whether we are together in God's house or as you watch online from the comfort of your home.

**LESSONS AND LITURGY TODAY**

At creation God called forth into existence everything by the power of His Word; and everything was good. Sin brought disease and death. In our Baptism, God is at work restoring us in Christ by the power of His Mighty Word. Because of Jesus' Baptism, we go into baptism's living waters as dirty, marked with death, only to rise up clean and marked for new and everlasting life. Jesus' Baptism identified Him as the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world; our Baptism imparts to us the new identity as Children of God. Here God marks us and claims us: "You belong to Me."

❖ Denotes times when the congregation is invited to stand.

The congregation is encouraged to quietly and prayerfully prepare for worship during the prelude.

**PRELUDE**

*St. George's Windsor* – F. Peeters

**GREETING**

❖ **INVOCATION OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

P Let us begin our worship in the Name of the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit; the God into Whom we are baptized.

**C We gather in the Name of our baptizing God. Amen.**

P The Creator of all used a part of His creation – water, together with His Word – to bind us to Himself in love and forgiveness.

**C In Him we are a new creation: beloved children of our Father in Heaven.**

P The sign of the cross became our own as we were marked with the cross of Christ forever.

**C The Holy Spirit's anointing equips and inspires us to love and to serve others in Christ's Name.**



## SONG

*Father Welcomes All His Children*

LSB 605

Refrain

**Father welcomes all His children To His fam'ly through His Son.  
Father giving His salvation, Life forever has been won.**

**1. Little children, come to me, For My kingdom is of these.  
Life and love I have to give, Mercy for your sin.**

Refrain

**2. In the water, in the Word, In His promise, be assured:  
Those who are baptized and believe Shall be born again.**

Refrain

**3. Let us daily die to sin; Let us daily rise with Him,  
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord, Live in the peace of God.**

Refrain

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** Though washed clean by the cleansing waters, we fall back each day into the old ways – the ways of sin. Let us remember our sin, and rejoice in our Baptism...

**C** **God, our Father, We remember this day that we are Yours, and yet we draw back into ourselves. Though we are bought with the price of the death of Your Son, we live as though we are on our own. Though we are washed clean of past sins, we cannot let go of our guilt. Though we have heard Your Words of love, we still manipulate and seek to control others. Forgive us, Lord. Remind us that we too are beloved by You. Bring us, this day, back to our Baptism. Washed in Your Love, let us leave this place today to live anew as Your people.**

**P** In His own Son, God reveals to us His mercy and love. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the Grace of God to all of you.

P 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. God has announced that you are His beloved in whom He is well pleased. You have been washed clean. Rejoice in this Gospel news.

C **Amen.**

❖ **KYRIE**

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our baptismal salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **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 who have been baptized into the Body of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise for the righteousness of Christ bestowed upon them, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, Gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

❖ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray. Father in Heaven, at His Baptism in the Jordan River, You proclaimed Jesus Your Beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit.

C **Mercifully grant that all who are baptized in His Name may faithfully keep the covenant into which they have been called; boldly confess Jesus Christ as their Savior; and with Him be heirs of Eternal Life; through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT

*Genesis 1:1-5*

*(The Triune God creates the heavens and the earth.)*

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalm 29*

*(Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His Name.)*

P Ascribe to the LORD, O mighty ones, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

C **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His Name; worship the LORD in the splendor of His Holiness.**

P The Voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of Glory thunders, the LORD thunders over the mighty waters.

C **The Voice of the LORD is powerful; the Voice of the LORD is majestic.**

P The Voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;

C **the LORD breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.**

P He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, Sirion like a young wild ox.

C **The Voice of the LORD strikes with flashes of lightning.**

P The Voice of the LORD shakes the desert; the LORD shakes the Desert of Kadesh.

C **The Voice of the LORD twists the oaks and strips the forests bare. And in His Temple all cry, "Glory!"**

P The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD is enthroned as King forever.

C **The LORD gives strength to His people; the LORD blesses His people with peace.**

**C**     **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**EPISTLE**

*Romans 6:1-11*

*(By baptism we were united with Christ into His death and resurrection that we might walk in newness of life.)*

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.

A    This is the Word of the Lord.

**C    Thanks be to God.**

❖     **HOLY GOSPEL**

*Mark 1:4-11*

*(God the Father proclaims Jesus to be His Son.)*

P     The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

**C     Glory to You, O Lord.**

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 **Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

Lea Webb, Director of Children's Ministry

## SONG

*Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*

**LSB 394, vs. 1-2 & 5**

**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.**

**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.**

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## SERMON

## “SAVING FLOOD”

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

Mark 1:4-11

(For an outline of the sermon, see page 14 of this worship folder)

## ❖ BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

P God used the occasion of Jesus' Baptism to reveal to the world that He was, indeed, the Son of God.

So does our baptism bring us into God's Family and announce publicly that we are claimed by Him for a life of service in His Kingdom.

Holy Baptism is the means by which the Father creates new sons and daughters. In the water of Baptism we are joined to the death and resurrection of our Lord. Born again by water and the Spirit, we are made members of the Body of Christ. Living in fellowship with Him and with His people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the Will of God.

P Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

**C I do renounce them.**

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth?

**C Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C Yes, I believe 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.**

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C Yes, 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.**

P As we grow in the baptismal life, God works through the Spirit to testify with our spirits that we are the Children of God.

As the dearly loved, baptized Children of God, remember who you are, and Whose you are. Look for opportunities to remind each other of the love and grace God gives us as His Children.



P We gather to remember that Baptism is not just an event.  
We affirm that we are on a journey of faith that continues today and for the rest of our lives. Regardless of age, we are all beloved Children of God.

**C Help us, Lord, to continue our journey with You.**

P Will you continue to be among God's people, to hear God's Word and share in God's Meal – Holy Communion?

**C Yes, with the Help of God.**

P Will you practice your faith when you rise and when you go to bed, when you are at home and when you are away?

**C Yes, with the Help of God and support of this Christian community.**

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, at the Baptism of Jesus You proclaimed Him Your Beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful in their calling to be Your Children.

**C Help us to serve You, cherish Your Forgiveness and Grace, and always live to honor You. Amen.**

## ❖ GREETING OF PEACE

All are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (*Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3*) Any gesture accompanying this greeting (wave, hand over heart with slight bow, or handshake) is welcome.

## OFFERING

(The offerings of God's people will be received through electronic giving, by postal mail, and in baskets located in the Narthex.)

## OFFERTORY SONG

*Dearest Jesus, We Are Here*

**LSB 592, vs. 1-2 & 5**

**1. Dearest Jesus, we are here, Gladly Your command obeying;  
With this child we now draw near In response to Your own saying  
That to You it shall be given As a child and heir of heaven.**

**2. Your command is clear and plain, And we would obey it duly:  
“You must all be born again, Heart and life renewing truly,  
Born of water and the Spirit, And My kingdom thus inherit.”**

**5. Now into Your heart we pour Prayers that from our hearts proceeded.  
Our petitions heav’nward soar; May our hearts’ desires be heeded!  
Write the name we now have given; Write it in the book of heaven!**

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## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**C Receive, O God, these our tithes and offerings, and our very selves, in  
gracious response to Your Promise in Christ that because "we have been  
united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in  
a resurrection like His." Amen.**

## **❖ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

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

Father, Your Son came to the waters of the Jordan River to be baptized by John and  
thus fulfill all righteousness. Give us Your Holy Spirit that we may meet Him with  
faith in the waters of our own Baptism and live in the newness of Life which He  
gives to us there.

**C Grant us every comfort from Your Word, that in time of trouble we may know  
that You have called us by name and will keep us as Your own dear children.**

**P Give wisdom to all who lead us in this land, at every level of government, and bless  
the world with peace, freedom, and justice in every place. Watch over those who  
extend Your protection to us here and throughout the world.**

**C Guide us that we may live out our new lives to the praise of Your Glory,  
honoring You with all that we say, think, and do; and serving You by caring  
for the poor, and boldly confessing Your Gospel.**

P Rest Your Blessing upon Your Church, those whom You have called, gathered, and given new birth in Baptism and who have responded with faith.  
Bless all pastors, missionaries, and all church workers that they may serve You faithfully.

**C Plant us fully in Your Kingdom that we may live in the world without being led astray or deceived by the things of the moment. Teach our hearts generosity and compassion that we may serve, give, and love humbly.**

P Be the peace for the dying and the comfort for those grieving. Help us to be faithful here on earth and to be prepared for Your coming again when we shall be Yours forever in Heaven.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

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.

**C Amen.**

## ❖ **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.**

## ❖ **BENEDICTION**

P The blessing of God Almighty---the Father,  
"Who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
Who spread out the earth and what comes from it";  
the ✠ Son, "Who was raised from the dead by the Glory of the Father,  
[that] we too might walk in newness of life";  
and the Holy Spirit, Who at Jesus' Baptism, "descending like a dove  
[came] to rest on Him"---be upon you and remain with you always.

C **Amen.**



## SONG

*The Star Proclaims the King Is Here*

LSB 399, vs. 1-3 & 5

**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.**

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

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P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier* – J. S. Bach

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**Acknowledgments**

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**Servants in Worship**

Preacher.....Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke  
Liturgist.....Vicar Alan Shaw  
Assisting Minister.....Lea Webb, Director of Children’s Ministry  
Organist/Pianist.....Robert E. Unger, Director of Worship and Music Ministry  
Lector.....Roberta Danilowicz  
Greeters.....Brenda Peterson

Baptism: A “Saving Flood” (Mark 1:4–11)  
Baptism of Our Lord, Series B

A deadly disorder exists inside every human heart. Baptized into Jesus’ death and resurrection, we are people in whom the Holy Spirit lives! We enjoy new beginnings and live out a countercultural love for one another (even our enemies).

1. **Chaos existed at the \_\_\_\_\_, yet the Creator, by the Word and presence of the Spirit, brought forth life out of it (Gen 1:1–10)**
  - a. The earth was “formless and void” and the earth’s water “deep.”
  - b. God revealed as Father/Creator, Word, and Spirit is present at the beginning, speaking Life and order out of disorder and darkness.
  - c. An essentially modern worldview (progress and technology are everything) has run up against post-modernism (history has no meaning and “the Truth” = whatever I feel is “my truth”).
  - d. Into this chaos God speaks order and light today! The Word made flesh is the baptized Christ, “beloved Son” of the Father.
  
2. **Chaos tainted by violence resulted in a “saving flood,” used by God to rescue \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_...for a new beginning (Gen 6–9)**
  - a. Consider the prayer read at every baptism (*LSB* pp. 268-9); “saving flood” implies an instrument of death that brings life.
  - b. We witnessed anarchy in our nation’s capital this week, but the truth is that the anarchy of sin (the “old man/woman”) is in every human heart.
  - c. Jesus’ baptism connects His ministry as God’s Son with His death on a cross (cf. Mark 15:38-39), an instrument of death that also brings life!
  
3. **Jesus broke the power chaos in our hearts so that we the baptized, by the \_\_\_\_\_, might “\_\_\_\_\_ in newness of \_\_\_\_\_” (Rom 6:4)**
  - a. Our baptism has rescued us to live out a new beginning (1 Peter 3:21).
  - b. Confessing our sins, the “old man” in us dies to sin and we are raised with Christ again and again.
  - c. Having died to sin we live to love the un-loveable...even our enemies.