

As We Gather

Today we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. Such a day is also a good time to remember our own Baptism. In Baptism, we are united with Christ in a death like His. In Baptism, we are also raised to new life as re-creations. Because we are united to Christ in death, we will also be united with Him in resurrection when He returns.

Welcome & Announcements

9:30 am

Opening Prayer & Invocation

P Heavenly Father, at the Baptism of Jesus, You revealed Him as Your beloved Son.

C **Unite us to Christ, that we may daily die to sin and arise to newness of life, and thereby share the truth of Your Gospel;**

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

C **Amen.**

394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

LSB 394 v. 1-2

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.**

Text: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

P In Holy Baptism, each of us was baptized into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. In Baptism, we were united with Christ. Yet, we have often lived as if we were entirely independent and autonomous. We have lived as if our identity were not in Jesus, but in our own selfish desires. Graciously, our heavenly Father invites us to turn back to Him and ask for His forgiveness. *(brief silence for reflection)*

P Heavenly Father,

C **we confess that we are by nature sinful and have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. On account of Jesus, forgive us, renew us, and unite us to Your name.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for you. In Baptism, you were united to Christ in both His death and resurrection. You were buried with Him, but also raised to walk in newness of life. 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 ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen. We are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

605 Father Welcomes

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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Children's Message

Old Testament: Psalm 51:7; Psalm 29:3-4,10-11

(responsive reading)

- L** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
C **wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**
L The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
C **the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.**
L The voice of the LORD is powerful;
C **the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**
L The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
C **the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**
L May the LORD give strength to his people!
C **May the LORD bless his people with peace!**
L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle: Acts 19:1-7

ESV

¹And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. ²And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." ⁴And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying. ⁷There were about twelve men in all.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

God Said: "Yes to You!"

(AGPS 269)

**Refrain: And God said: Yes to you! He said Yes to me,
When the Baptism water flowed freely.
In the name of the Father, the Spirit, the Son,
Our journey of faith had begun.**

- 1 Oh, it's amazing grace indeed
That would save someone like me:
Saved by grace so amazingly free.
Oh, it's an awesome, lovely sound,
It's the sweetest sound around;
It's the Good News for you and for me. Refrain.**
- 2 But there's the devil on the prowl
Seeking whom he may devour
Off'ring all kinds of fortune and fame.
But when the devil seeks his due
For the things he's offered you,
Just say, "No! I don't play Satan's game!" Refrain.**

**3 Oh, each and every day is great
It's a day to celebrate
What the Lord, in His mercy, has done.
Whatever any day shall bring
Live each day for Christ the King!
Live each day as a victory won! Refrain.**

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Holy Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

CSB

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

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

⁴ John came baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. ⁶ John wore a camel-hair garment with a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey.

⁷ He proclaimed, "One who is more powerful than I am is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. ⁸ I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. ¹⁰ As soon as he came up out of the water, he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.

¹¹ 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.**

Message: The Gift of LIFE - United with Christ

Profession of Faith (Affirmation of Baptism)

P In Holy Baptism our sins are forgiven and we are granted a new life in Christ, our Lord. I ask you, as a reaffirmation of what God has done for you in your Baptism, 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?

C **Yes, I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

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

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 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 Is it your earnest intention to continue steadfast in this faith and in the promise of your Baptism, and as a member of the Church, to be diligent in the use of the Means of Grace and prayer?

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

P Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

C **Amen.**

You Are Beloved in the Lord

- 1 You are beloved in the Lord And in His name baptized;
You have, according to His Word, Been taught and catechized.**
- 2 Renounce the devil's works and ways; His promises are lies.
He tempts God's people all their days To faithless compromise.**
- 3 God goes behind you as a shield Protecting you from harm;
To Him each deadly foe must yield Before His mighty arm.**
- 4 God goes beside you as a friend To strengthen you when faint;
On Him you always can depend To hear your soul's complaint.**

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Installation of Congregational Leaders

Prayers of the Church & Lord's Prayer

You Are Beloved in the Lord

(tune: LSB 526; Dundee)

- 5 God goes before you and He leads And guides you day by day.
God knows your hurts and deepest needs; He hears you when you pray.**
- 6 Dear child of God, your cares commit To God, the Lord of all;
He will sustain and not permit His righteous ones to fall.**

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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.

G Amen.

Offering (*"Each one should give what they have decided in their heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."* 2 Corinthians 9:7)
The offering is provided for those who have been led to support the Lord's work through Mt. Calvary. Give cheerfully, as the Holy Spirit guides you. You're invited to Give Online at www.mclc908.org/cms/generous-giving/ or use electronic "Bill Pay" from your Bank to send a donation, or mail your offering to Mount Calvary, 908 W. Oak St., Greenville, MI 48838. Please contact the church office to let us know of your worship participation online. If you do not currently have a church home, you're invited to become a part of the Lord's family here at Mt. Calvary.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in POINTing the Way!

Epiphany Reflection

Sacrament of the Altar

- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord, and POINT the Way.
G Thanks be to God!

+ *ENTER TO WORSHIP* + *EXIT TO WITNESS* +

The VISION of Mount Calvary is to be a growing community of believers transformed by the power of God's love in Jesus Christ, positively impacting people's lives in our congregation and community, now and for eternity.