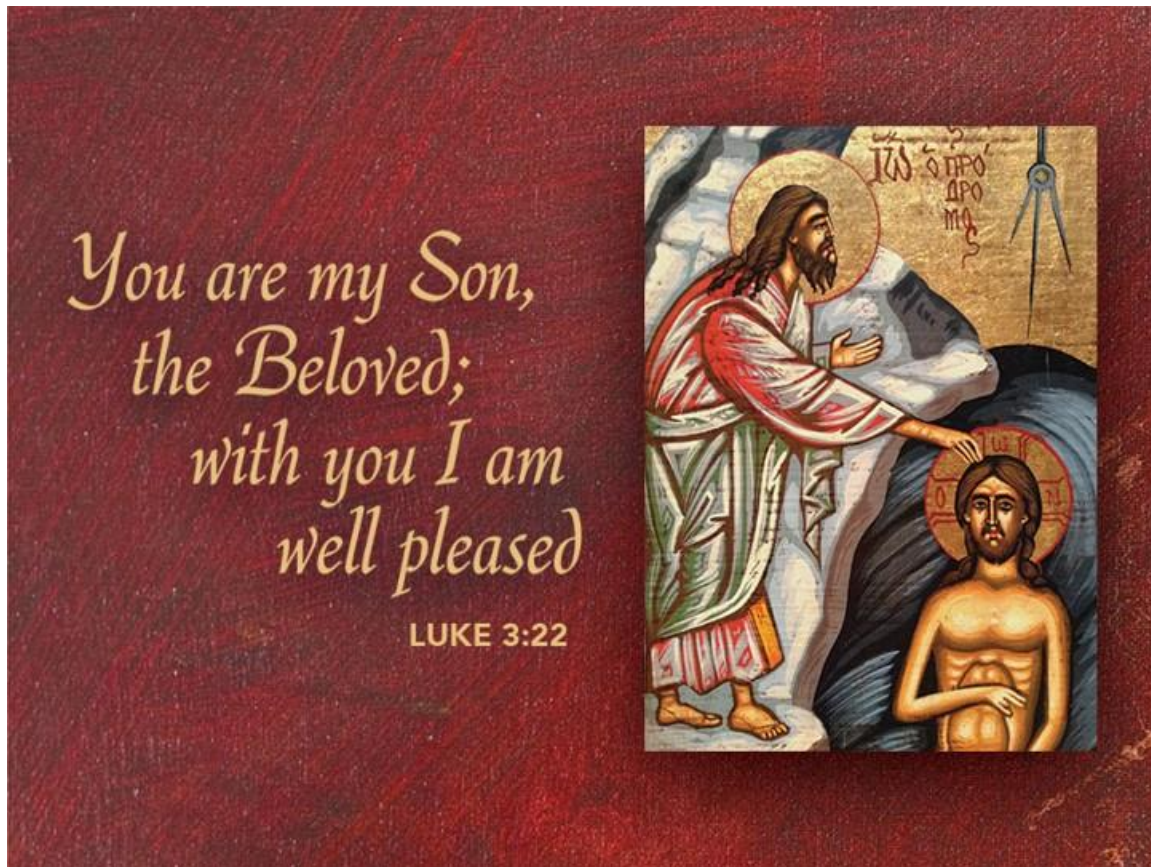


FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

The Baptism of our Lord

January 9, 2022 ♦ 9:00 am



WELCOME TO GRACE OF GOD

A note to first time visitors:

Whoever you are, wherever you have come from, whatever you believe, you are welcome here. God welcomes ALL to receive his love and know his grace. That is what we celebrate in our gathering together here at Grace of God. If you are new here, we invite you to participate in our worship that includes the singing of hymns and songs, the reading of Scripture, and hearing God's love proclaimed. We celebrate the Lord's Supper (Communion) every Sunday. We believe in this eating and drinking Christ is present and we receive the gift of God's love. We are glad you are with us today and look forward to meeting you and knowing you better.

Small children are welcome in worship

"Busy bags" for young children are available in the "Good Shepherd" room adjacent to the worship space near the doors. That room also has a speaker to hear the worship service.

GATHERING

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who creates us,
redeems us,
and calls us by name.

☞ **Amen**

☞ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

☞ Most merciful God,

☞ **we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.**

**We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.**

**We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.**

**We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.**

**Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.**

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.**

Amen.

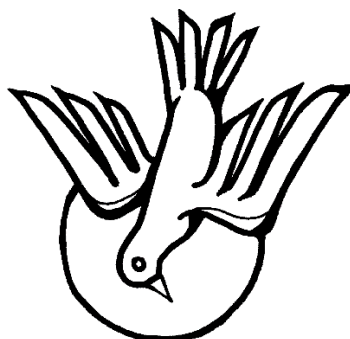
☞ Rejoice in this good news:

In ☩ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

☞ **Amen**



HYMN “Christ, Your Footprints Through the Desert” (Stanzas 1 – 3)



1 Christ, your foot - prints through the des - ert Led to
 2 Christ, you heard the stir - ring sum - mons As by
 3 Son of God, the road from Jor - dan Led at
 4 God, in Bap - tism you have made us One with



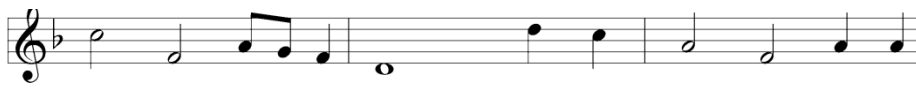
Jor - dan's flow - ing stream. There you heard the
 Jor - dan's bank you stood; Bathed, though sin - less,
 last to Cal - v'ry's hill. There up - on the
 Christ, our ris - en Lord; Freed us, claimed us,



her - ald cry - ing Is - rael's old pro - phet - ic
 with your peo - ple In the riv - er's cleans - ing
 cross for - sak - en, You ful - filled the Fa - ther's
 cleansed, for - giv - en Through the wa - ter and the



dream: “He is com - ing! He is com - ing! He will
 flood. High a - bove, the heav - ens o - pened; Came the
 will. Lamb of God, we see you dy - ing, Sin - less,
 Word. Help us hear your ur - gent sum - mons, Call - ing



cleanse the earth with flame! Sin - ners, plunge be - neath the
 Spir - it as a dove; Spoke a voice be - yond all
 yet for sin - ners slain. But where death rose up to
 us to serve you now. Send us forth, your sons and



wa - ters! Wash a - way your guilt and shame!”
 hear - ing: “See my Son, the one I love!”
 tri - umph, You be - gan your glo - rious reign!
 daugh - ters, With the cross up - on our brow.

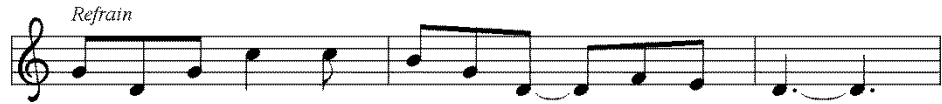
Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007 © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights Reserved. Used by Permission.
 Tune: BEACH SPRING (87 87 D) *The Sacred Harp*,

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
A And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE "This is the feast . . ."

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



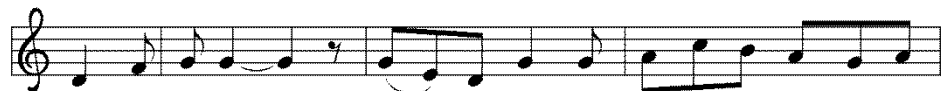
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



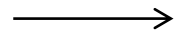
2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of



all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. Almighty God,
C you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

SERVICE OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 43:1-7

¹But now thus says the LORD,
 he who created you, O Jacob,
 he who formed you, O Israel:
 Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
 I have called you by name, you are mine.
²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
 and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
 when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
 and the flame shall not consume you.
³For I am the LORD your God,
 the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
 I give Egypt as your ransom,
 Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
⁴Because you are precious in my sight,

and honored, and I love you,
 I give people in return for you,
 nations in exchange for your life.
⁵Do not fear, for I am with you;
 I will bring your offspring from the east,
 and from the west I will gather you;
⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
 and to the south, "Do not withhold;
 bring my sons from far away
 and my daughters from the end of the earth—
⁷everyone who is called by my name,
 whom I created for my glory,
 whom I formed and made."

- L** Word of God, Word of Life.
C Thanks be to God.

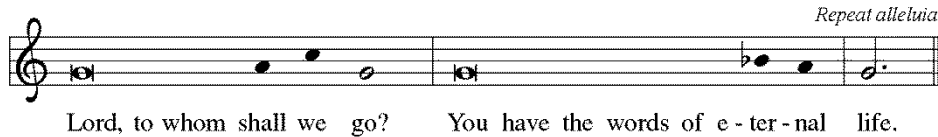
SECOND READING Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been

baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

- L** Word of God, Word of Life.
C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

G **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

RECEIVING THE SIGN OF BAPTISM

During the hymn, all are invited to come to the baptismal font to mark the sign of the cross with water on the forehead and to receive a blessing.

You are my child, the Beloved.
With you I am well pleased.



HYMN OF THE DAY “Song Over the Waters” (Cantor sings verses; **ALL SING REFRAIN**)

Cantor: refrain

All refrain

God, you have moved up - on the wa - ters,
you have sung in the rush of wind and flame;
and in your love you have called us sons and daugh-ters,
make us peo - ple of the wa - ter and your name.

to section A

The image shows four staves of musical notation in treble clef. The first staff is in 4/4 time, the second in 3/4, the third in 3/4, and the fourth in 3/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. A box labeled 'to section A' is placed above the final note of the fourth staff.

NICENE CREED

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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

PRAYERS

(Response to each petition)

- P** God of grace,
- C** Hear our prayer.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

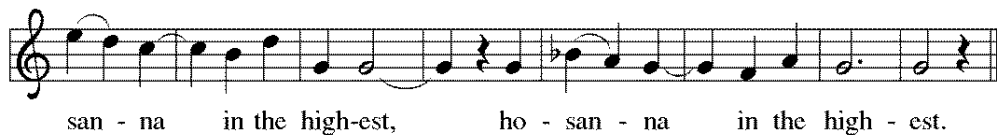
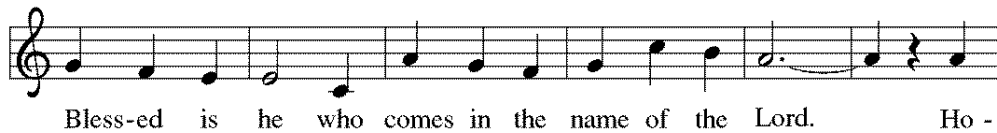
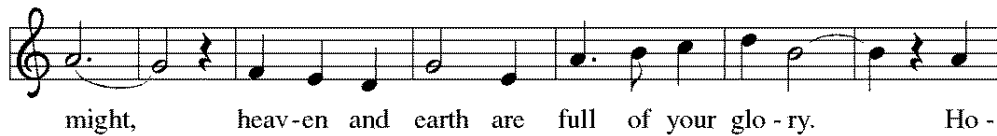
PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

P Arise, shine; for your light has come,

C **and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us!**

P Thanks and praise to you, heavenly Father, for the epiphany of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, the light shining in the darkness. Through signs and wonders, you revealed him to be your beloved Son and in him we know your grace and favor. Therefore, with angels and archangels, the saints in heaven and those on earth, we glorify your name, praising you and singing:

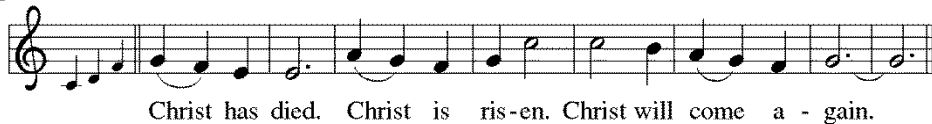
SANCTUS



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All



P To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

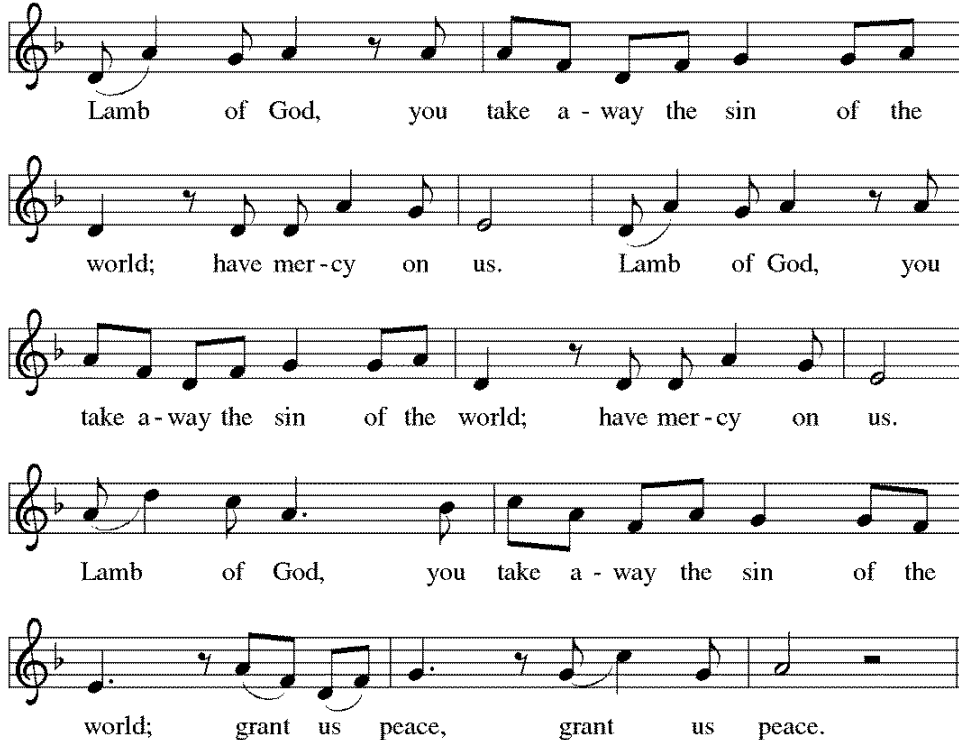
All



LORD'S PRAYER

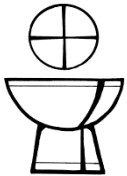
All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

AGNUS DEI ("Lamb of God")



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION



Scripture says, "Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." Martin Luther's *Small Catechism* says, "Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and drink." All baptized Christians who desire to receive the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins are invited to the Lord's Table today. Children who have not received their first communion are invited to come to the table and receive a blessing.

- As you approach the altar down the aisle, receive an empty cup from the cart. (non-alcoholic wine is offered in pre-filled cups for those who cannot drink alcohol. These cups are marked in the rack.)
- Maintain physical distance in line.
- Receive the bread (Gluten-free/dairy-free/nut-free wafers are offered)
- Proceed to the right to receive the wine.
- As you return to your seat, place your cup in the rack on the table to your right.

DISTRIBUTION SONG “O Christ, Surround Me” (Cantor sings verses; **All sing refrain**)

ALL SING REFRAIN



DISMISSAL

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

- P** Let us pray:
- C** **We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your love. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen**

SENDING

BLESSING

- P** God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,
and who calls you by name,
✠ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.
- C Amen**
- P** Go in peace. Christ lives in you.
- C Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN

**God, in Baptism you have made us,
one with Christ, our risen Lord;
Freed us, claimed us, cleansed, forgiven;
through the water and the Word.
Help us hear your urgent summons,
calling us to serve you now.
Send us forth, your sons and daughters,
with the cross upon our brow.**

REMEMBER TO SUPPORT OUR CONGREGATION with your offerings.
You may place them in the plate in the entryway this morning, mail it to the
church or make your offering online.



Hope for the Journey Home Service Week February 20-26

Let's Help our Neighbors! Please sign up now!

Grace of God is scheduled to volunteer at the shelter February 20-26.
There are 3 ways to sign up volunteer:

1. Use the online sign up <https://www.timetosignup.com/hjhshelter/sheet/1320462>
2. Use the paper sign up sheet located in the fellowship area.
3. Connect with Audrey Gilman after church, by phone 651-352-2888 or by email aggilman@comcast.net

Dinner shift-- available starting between 4:30-5PM and ending between 7:00-7:30PM. Help prepare dinner and serve guests.
Light housekeeping tasks to complete.

Overnight shift-- Overnight volunteers have a private room and private bathroom. Overnight shift is from 8:00 pm to 9:00 am.

As in the past, if you choose to serve at the shelter you'll need a background check (every 3 years) and if you haven't already done so, safe environment training will need to be completed.

Here are some of the Covid safety practices being used at the shelter:

1. All families, volunteers and staff are masked when in any common areas of the house
2. Enhanced cleaning practices are being used at the shelter.
3. Plexiglass barriers are at all guests tables and are at the serving counter
4. There are 2 overnight volunteer rooms. The rooms are aired out and sprayed after each use and the bathroom is wiped down as well.
5. Unvaccinated adult guests are tested weekly. Children will be tested if an adult family member tests positive or if there is an outbreak at the child's school and or classroom.

CHILDREN'S Sunday School

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 16 at 10:15 am

PARENTS CAN FEEL FREE TO . . .

- drop off children for Sunday School at 10:15 and pick them up again at 11:00
- stay with your children during Sunday School class
- enjoy coffee in the entryway during Sunday School with other adults
- join in on the Adult Bible study that will take place at the same time



NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY

begins **Sunday, January 16** at 10:15 am. We will be going through the entire Bible using amazing, animated video introductions from the Bible Project.

wherever you are on your search, you are always welcome at



GRACE OF GOD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

420 Hayward Avenue North ♦ Oakdale, Minnesota 55128
651.730.4900 ♦ www.graceofgodlutheran.com
Jon Marxhausen, Pastor
