

**The First Sunday After Epiphany
The Baptism Of Our Lord
January 14, 2024
Heritage Lutheran Church
Apple Valley, MN
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.**



The Order of Matins - ELH page 109

1. Welcome

2. The Confession Of Sin

Pastor Dearly Beloved: We have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at His hand, to set forth His most worthy praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. O come, let us worship Him! Let us kneel and bow down before Him. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts, and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

Congregation Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us and restore us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name.

Absolution

Pastor The almighty and most merciful Lord has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Amen.

3. Opening Hymn #243 “The Power Of Sin No Longer” (Tune: Aus Meines Herzens Grunde, ELH #79)

1 The pow'r of sin no longer Within my heart shall reign;
Faith must grow ever stronger And fleshly lust be slain;
For when I was baptized, The bonds of sin were severed
And I by grace delivered To live for Jesus Christ.

2 By faith I claim the merit Of my baptismal grace,
And with my heart and spirit My Savior's cross embrace.
How great would be my blame Should I abide in evil
And not renounce the devil In Christ's almighty name!

3 It would bestow no treasure On me that Christ arose,
If I will not with pleasure The pow'r of death oppose.
Each day I will embrace The Savior who is risen
And has from error's prison Redeemed me by His grace.

4 Lord Jesus, help me ever To drown my nature, so
That it shall not deliver Me to eternal woe;
But that I daily die To sin and all offenses,
And by the blood that cleanses Attain my home on high.

4. Opening Versicles

Pastor O Lord, open my lips.

♪ **Congregation** And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

Pastor Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

♪ **Congregation** Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: Forevermore. Amen. Alleluia.

5. The Invitatory and Venite

Pastor Oh come, let us worship the Lord.

♪ **Congregation** For He is our Maker.

Oh, come let us sing to the Lord:

let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving:

and make a joyful noise to Him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God: and a great King above all Gods.

In His hand are the deep places of the earth:

the strength of the hills is His also.

The sea is His, for He made it: and His hands form-ed the dry land.

Oh, come, let us worship and bow down:

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

For He is our God: and we are the people of His pasture

and the sheep of His hand.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

6. Hymn #241 "He That Believes And Is Baptized"

1 He that believes and is baptized

Shall see the Lord's salvation;

Baptized into the death of Christ,

He is a new creation.

Through Christ's redemption he shall stand

Among the glorious heav'nly band

Of ev'ry tribe and nation.

2 With one accord, O God, we pray:

Grant us Thy Holy Spirit;

Look Thou on our infirmity

Through Jesus' blood and merit.

Grant us to grow in grace each day

By holy baptism that we may

Eternal life inherit.

7. Psalm 45:6-9 (read responsively by whole verse)

⁶ Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;

⁷ you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

⁸ your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;

⁹ daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

8. Old Testament Lesson *Isaiah 42:1-7*

¹ Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ² He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.

⁵ Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶ "I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

9. The Epistle *Acts 10:34-38*

³⁴ So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷ you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

10. Heritage Choir "Climb To The Top Of The Highest Mountain" *Carolyn Jennings*

Climb to the top of the highest mountain, Joyous tidings proclaim to the world,
Lift up your voice, Shout the good news: Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd, He will carry the lambs in his arms,
He will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He who made the stars in the heaven, He who fashioned the earth and the sea,
From time eternal He was God, the Alpha and Omega, He. Behold, behold your Lord!

He will come in power and glory. He will rule with mercy and truth,
Hope of the nations, Light of all the world, Light of all the world.

He will love the little children, He will hold them in his arms.
Love him and trust him as a child, Behold, your Lord comes to you.
Love Him, trust Him as a child.

11. The Gospel *Mark 1:4-11*

⁴ John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the

strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” ⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And when he came up out of the water, immediately 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.”

Pastor O Lord, have mercy upon us!

♪ **Congregation** Thanks be to You, O Lord!

12. Children’s Message

13. Sermon Hymn #246 “God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It”

1. God’s own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it, Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth’s treasures many? I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free Lasting to eternity!
2. Sins, disturb my soul no longer; I am baptized into Christ.
I have comfort even stronger: Jesus’ cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood, Sprinkling me with Jesus’ blood?
3. Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ.
Drop your ugly accusation, I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I’ve travelled, All your might has come unravelled,
And, against your tyranny, God my Lord unites with me!
4. Death, you cannot end my gladness; I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness To inherit Paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes Faith’s assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine To make life immortal mine.
5. There is nothing worth comparing To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring; Even there I’ll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising, Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ; I’m a child of Paradise!

14. Sermon – “Heaven Is Open To You” *Mark 1:9-11*

15. The Offering

16. Prayer

17. Te Deum Laudamus pg. 114

♪ **Congregation** We praise You, O God, we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
All the earth worships You, the Father ev-er last-ing.
To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers there-in;
To You cherubim and seraphim con-tin-ual-ly do cry:
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab-a-oth;
heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Your glo-ry.
The glorious company of the Apostles praise You.
The goodly fellowship of the proph-ets praise You.
The noble army of martyrs praise You.
The holy Church throughout all the world does ac-know-ledge You:
The father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable true and on-ly Son;

also the Holy Spirit, the Com-for-ter.
 You are the King of Glory, O Christ. You are the everlasting Son of the Fa-ther.
 When You took upon Yourself to de-liv-er man,
 You humbled Yourself to be born of a Vir-gin.
 When You had overcome the sharp-ness of death,
 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be-liev-ers.
 You are seated at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fath-er.
 We believe that You will come to be our Judge.
 We therefore pray You, help Your ser-vants,
 whom You have redeemed with Your pre-cious blood.
 Make them to be numbered with Your saints in glory ev-er-last-ing.
 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your her-i-tage.
 Govern them and lift them up for-ev-er.
 Day by day we magni-fy You.
 And we worship Your name now and ev-er-more.
 Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up-on us.
 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, for our trust is in You.
 O Lord, in You I have trusted; let me never be con-found-ed.

18. Prayers

The Kyrie Sung by All

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer Sung by 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.

The Collect

Pastor Let us pray: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, having safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doing, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

19. Benedicamus & Benediction

Pastor Let us bless the Lord!

♪ **Congregation** Thanks be to God!

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

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

20. Benediction Hymn #239 "I Lay My Sins On Jesus" (Tune: Aurelia, ELH #486)

1 I lay my sins on Jesus,
 The spotless Lamb of God;
 He bears them all and frees us
 From the accursed load.
 I bring my guilt to Jesus
 To wash my crimson stains
 White in His blood most precious
 Till not a spot remains.

2 I lay my wants on Jesus,
All fulness dwells in Him;
He healeth my diseases,
He doth my soul redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus,
My burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases,
He all my sorrows shares.

3 I rest my soul on Jesus,
This weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces,
I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus,
"God with us," Christ the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes
His name abroad is poured.

4 I long to be like Jesus,
Meek, loving, lowly, mild;
I long to be like Jesus,
The Father's holy Child.
I long to be with Jesus
Amid the heav'nly throng
To sing with saints His praises,
To learn the angels' song.

Announcements

Women's Bible Study – The Monday Evening Bible Class is studying Ecclesiastes. The group meets at church at 6:30 pm. Contact Ruth Braun if you would like more information.

Men's Bible Study – Men's Bible study meets on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. Please note the new time. We will be studying I Kings.

Choir – The choir meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. New members are always welcome!

Heritage School Call Extended - At the recent call meeting, the voters of Heritage extended a Divine Call to Miss Nicole Roper to teach in our new K-2 classroom. She is currently serving as preschool director and teacher at Cross of Christ in Coon Rapids. Please pray for her as she deliberates her new call to Heritage as well as her current call at Cross of Christ. May the Lord guide her to what is best for his Kingdom.

2024 Offering Envelopes – Please pick up your 2024 offering envelopes from the table in the narthex.

Fellowship - Volunteers are always needed to provide fellowship food every Sunday. Please sign up on the volunteer board.

Heritage School Open House – Our annual Open House is coming up on Sunday, January 28th from noon – 2 pm. Please help spread the word to your friends and neighbors!

Cleaning Schedule – Help is needed to clean the sanctuary, narthex and gym. There is a sign-up sheet on the volunteer board if you are able to help out. Thank you!