

Zion Lutheran Church

Baptism of Our Lord ~ January 10, 2021



Today we celebrate the baptisms that have taken place here at Zion in 2020.

Blaine Opdahl

Zoe Lee

Brylee Opdahl

Jaxen Schneider

Layla Mansk

Brooks Thompson

Oliver Harger

Lincoln Fortune

Brycen Gustin

Addison Henningson

Navy Beito

John Besserud

Matilda Gerszweski

Call to Worship

Welcome

Invocation

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Hymn

“When Jesus Came to Jordan”

ELW #305

Prayer of the Day

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.**

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-5

God creates light God creates light

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The word of the Lord...Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 29

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters.

- ¹Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- ²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**
- ³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.
- ⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.**
- ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- ⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**
- ⁷The voice | of the LORD
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.
- ⁸**The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
- ⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, "Glory!"
- ¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned asking forevermore.**
- ¹¹O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7

Baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."
³Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism."
⁴Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them. *The word of the Lord...Thanks be to God.*

Children's Sermon

Madison Crane

GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

Revelation of Christ as God's servant

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate

locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Sermon

PRECIOUS IN HIS SIGHT

Pastor Ale Tulu

Hymn of the Day

"Borning Cry"

ELW #732

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession *response: Have mercy, O God.*

Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymn

"Baptized in Water"

ELW #456

Benediction

When Jesus Came to Jordan

- 1 When Jesus came to Jordan
to be baptized by John,
he did not come for pardon
but as the Sinless One.
He came to share repentance
with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence
with which good news begins.
- 2 He came to share temptation,
our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation
to die upon the cross.
So when the dove descended
on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended,
the age of grace began.
- 3 Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make;
this very day invade us,
and ev'ry bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most:
to share the resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000
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Borning Cry

- 1 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."
- 2 "When you heard the wonder of the
Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."
- 3 "In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the
night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise."
- 4 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937 Text © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker
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Baptized in Water

- 1 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
faithfully now God's praise we sing.

- 2 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our king:
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praise we sing.

- 3 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our king:
born of the Spirit, we are God's children;
joyfully now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Seward, b. 1932

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WELCOME! ZION'S LAY MINISTRY/EVANGELISM BOARD SAYS A SPECIAL WELCOME TO YOU THIS MORNING AND MAY YOU BE FED SPIRITUALLY DURING THIS TIME OF WORSHIP.

OUR THANKS TO TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Musician: Phyllis Dalager

Reader: Jamie Bakken

Acolyte: Olivia Tougas

Worship assistant: Millie Reierson

Tech assist:

BROADCASTS today are sponsored in memory of Alfred Hanson by his family.

ZION'S WEBSITE Sponsor for January is Zion memorials

REMINDER to those hospitalized to please notify Zion as the hospital does not inform us.

ZION WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE Sunday mornings you can listen to the 8:30AM service online. Go to: www.ziontrf.org. in the black banner click Listen Online, Click on the RED link to KTRF.

STEWARDSHIP (Envelopes/Vanco Electronic Giving/Silver Creek included in all totals)

Dec 1—Dec 31: income: \$68,997.

Year to Date income January 1– Dec 31: \$371,432.

2020 Budget \$389,621. /\$7,493. needed per week to meet budgeted expenses

January 1– Jan 4, 2021: income \$4,012.

MEALS ON WHEELS—DRIVERS NEEDED January 18-22. Call Koni Johnson if you can help PH 681-1344 or cell 689-7746.

HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated January 17th at Zion & Silver Creek.

Home communion packets are available for pick-up at the church.

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS may sign-up to Acolyte, Read, or Tech Crew for Sunday worship. Sign-up sheets on Madison's office door

SILVER CREEK ANNUNAL MEETING will be held January 17th following worship.

ZION ANNUAL MEETING will be held January 31st following worship. Please have all committee reports, organization reports and financial reports to the office by January 13th to allow for audit and printing.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Sunday , January 10: Baptism of Our Lord 8:30 Zion worship/ Broadcasts Cable 3, KTRF radio; 9:30 Online Sunday School resumes; 6/7 Grade Zoom devotional; 10:00 Silver Creek Worship; 7 PM 4-H at Zion

Monday, Jan 11: Parish Nurse available by appointment

Tuesday, Jan 12: 9:30 Staff meeting; Pastor's Text study; 7 Zion Council

Wednesday, Jan 13: 6pm Confirmation Classes via Zoom

Sunday , January 17: 8:30 Zion Holy Communion worship/ Broadcasts Cable 3, KTRF radio; 9:30 Online Sunday School; 10:00 Silver Creek Holy Communion Worship, Annual Meeting following worship

Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation

Office Phone: 681-3296 *Fax:* 681-3048

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Linda Hamrick, *Office Manager* ziontrf@mncable.net; Tiffany Sterry & David Lee, *Custodial*

Madison Crane, *Youth & Family Ministries* rzyouthfam@gmail.com; Sandy Knutson, *Parish Nurse*

GOSPEL MESSAGE

January 10, 2021

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

A Hitch in the Story

Was it wildfire nerve? Unchecked audacity? Holy purpose? The hammering of parents' expectations? Maybe the privilege of being kin to Jesus? Or was it eccentricity as peculiar as his diet and wardrobe? What desire drove John to the wilderness, into the water of the Jordan? What ignited his fiery proclamation of repentance and forgiveness? What current pulled crowds from city and country into the water?

One can say, rightly, that it was ordained by God, compelled by the Holy Spirit, predicted by an angel. Yet there is a hitch in the story. Four easily missed but utterly important words gum up the works of any timid or tidy explanations: "I am not worthy" (Mark 1:7).

Something in John's four words opens the baptismal story to torrents of wonder, floods of hope, drenching relief and recovery.

For some years the two friends had been together through what we often call the thick and the thin. They knew this and that, bits and pieces, the here and there of one another's lives. And not only the trivial. They probed each other's shadowed corridors and crumbling edges. Still, there were secrets, withholdings. One day, for reasons wrapped with nothing but the ragged swaddling of unaccountable grace, one said to the other, "It has been such a long, lonely journey, carrying a suitcase filled with secrets, the shames and deceptions I've folded and packed." Then he began to tell. To confess. A repenting, a turning. His friend's eyes filled with tears that watered his cheeks and dripped into his lap. All he could say through the flood was, "I love you all the more."

Born literally of grace, breaking the dam of John's four words, "I am not worthy," is one stronger word, the word of the more powerful one: *forgiveness*. To John and to us who say, "I am not worthy," Jesus answers, "Yes, yes, yes, you are."

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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