

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 10, 2021

Service Notes: **Divine Service Setting Three, page 184**
Hymns: 596, 406, 372, 384, 400, 403, 594
Old Testament Reading: Joshua 3:1-3, 7-8, 13-17
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17
Sermon: "The Beloved Son" Matthew 3:13-17

Day	Date	Time	Attendance
Thursday, New Year's Eve	12/31	7:00 p.m.	81
Sunday	01/03	8:00 a.m.	84
		10:45 a.m.	84

FLOWERS are given by the Sievert family in celebration of Katie Sievert's 18th birthday.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated today. As a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we follow the historic Christian practice of closed communion. According to the words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11, only those who share the same outward confession of faith join us at the altar. Members of other LC-MS congregations are welcome, but we ask that you please see the pastor before communing.

REMINDER Sunday School resumes *today*, January 10.

COUSINS SUBS DONATION NIGHT to support the 8th grade class will take place at the Cousins Subs located at 6201 South 27th Street in Greenfield (27th and College) on **Monday, January 11**. So mark your calendars and come help the 8th graders raise money for their class trip. Come any time between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and 15% of sales will be donated to Our Father's School.

SCRIP Orders are due today, **January 10**. The next order due date is Sunday, February 7. A Scrip order box, order forms, and envelopes are in the narthex and church/school office. Place your order and check made out to Our Father's in one of the boxes, *OR* you may order online with the Presto Pay Plan at www.shopwithscrip.com. The website has a list of participating retailers. All profits are used to help pay staff health insurance. Call Linda Hojnacki with any questions at (414) 427-5949.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday	01/10	DIVINE SERVICES	8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
		Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
		Scrip Orders Due	
Monday	01/11	Cousins Subs Donation Night	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	01/14	DIVINE SERVICE	7:00 p.m.
Friday	01/15	End of the 2 nd Quarter	
Sunday	01/17	DIVINE SERVICES	8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
		Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:30 a.m.

WE PRAY for Mary Ankerberg, Karen Awe, Mike Bice (brother-in-law of Todd Pfander), Barbara Blue, Kathleen Brook, Janet Brown, Jennifer Chapel (niece of Linda Christian), Karen Christiansen, Sandy Damms, Keith Domagalski, LaVerne Edenfield, Cheryl Fisher (sister of Lynn Hester), Daut Gaba, Gerald Garske, Carol Georgson, Glenn Georgson, Maynard Georgson, Jessica Hetts (niece of Virginia Scholz), Elaine Howe, Michelle Johnson, Delrose Krueger, Clarence Laube, Rhonda Lesniewski, Shirley Nelson, Konnie Otto, Ruth Pelican (sister of Virginia Scholz), Angeline Pence, Robert Schneider, Virginia Scholz, and Dave Sievert.

WOODMAN'S GIFT CARDS are available to purchase in the church/school office. All profits go to the Our Father's Scholarship Fund. Call Linda Hojnacki with any questions at (414) 427-5949.

ADOPT-A-BILL PROGRAM list includes: Gas Bill, Electric Bill, Front of Church Landscape, Health Insurance, High School Arrearage, Mortgage, Office Supplies, School Air Conditioner, School Boilers, School Storage Building, and Water Bill. Consider supporting this worthy cause. Envelopes are on the narthex bulletin board.

FINANCIAL REVIEW – YTD TOTAL OFFERINGS

YTD Offerings for Last Year (7/1/19-1/6/20)	\$286,465.14
YTD Offerings for Current Year (7/1/20-1/4/21)	\$304,983.57
YTD Offerings needed to meet Budget	\$308,371.06
YTD Offerings Surplus/(Shortfall)	(\$3,387.49)

**THE READINGS AND PSALMODY FOR
THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
January 10, 2021**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Joshua 3:1-3, 7-8, 13-17 (ESV)

¹ Then Joshua rose early in the morning and they set out from Shittim. And they came to the Jordan, he and all the people of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over.

² At the end of three days the officers went through the camp
³ and commanded the people, "As soon as you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God being carried by the Levitical priests, then you shall set out from your place and follow it.

⁷ The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. ⁸ And as for you, command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, 'When you come to the brink of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.' "

¹³ And when the soles of the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off from flowing, and the waters coming down from above shall stand in one heap."

¹⁴ So when the people set out from their tents to pass over the Jordan with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, ¹⁵ and as soon as those bearing the ark had come as far as the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the brink of the water (now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest), ¹⁶ the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap very far away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷ Now the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 1:26-31 (ESV)

²⁶ For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;

²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are,

²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.

³⁰ He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption.

³¹ Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 3:13-17 (ESV)

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

THE PSALMODY

Psalm 85:1-13 (ESV)

- ¹ To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
² You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.
³ You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.
⁴ Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!
⁵ Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
⁶ Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?
⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.
⁸ Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.
⁹ Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.
¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.
¹¹ Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.
¹² Yes, the Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
¹³ Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.

INTROIT

Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in his hand.
I have found David, my servant;
with my holy oil I have anointed him.
I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.
He shall cry to me, “You are my Father,
my God, and the Rock of my salvation.”
And I will make him the firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.
My steadfast love I will keep for him forever,
and my covenant will stand firm for him.
**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.**
Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in his hand.
I have found David, my servant;
with my holy oil I have anointed him.

Psalm 89:20, 1, 26-28 (trad. ant. based on 1 Chronicles 29:11)

THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

"The Beloved Son"
January 10 through January 16, 2021

If our Lord had not sanctified the waters of Baptism by His own baptism, then we would have no benefit in this water. In this baptism, our Lord joins the ranks of sinners who call upon the mercy of the Father. Though He is the Holy One of Israel, He willingly comes to the waters to exchange His holiness for our sinfulness. Our Lord desires to fulfill all righteousness, that is, to fill us up with His own righteousness in our baptisms. There the Father declares to the world that we are the beloved sons of the Father in heaven. This water is not simple water, for the command and promise of God are attached to it. In baptism, the Father reveals that we are sons of God, even though we remain sinners in the eyes of the world until the day of our death. As the Father once announced to the world that the Divine Son of God was hidden in the Son of Man Jesus, so now we can take comfort in His declaration that we are His own dear children hidden in these weak mortal bodies.

INVOCATION: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

THE CREED

VERSE: ¹⁷ If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. **2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)**

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK: O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of Your people who call upon You and grant that they both perceive and know what things they ought to do and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

PSALM OF THE WEEK:

48

PSALMODY PRAYER: Open our ears to hear, O Lord, that we may rightly see Your loving kindness in all the events of our lives. Grant that all fathers and mothers may speak of Your loving kindness to their children that they may know the God who guides us even unto death. **AMEN.**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Monday	Matthew 3:1-6, 13-17
Tuesday	John 1:19-34
Wednesday	John 3:1-16
Thursday	John 4:1-26, 39-42
Friday	John 5:2-15
Saturday	John 2:1-11

CATECHISM FOR THE WEEK: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." *Titus 3:5-8*

Luther, Sermon on Luke 2:33-40 (1531): The gospel should instill such amazement in us that we too would exult and proudly assert: I have been baptized in Christ; there is no doubt that through Lord Jesus I become a lord and can overcome death and sin, and heaven and all creation must serve my best interests. ... On the day of judgement, he will say to me, even as he already does, You are my dear brother; everything that is mine is yours, you shall live with me in eternity. ... But that I should believe this of myself or you of yourself, that is lacking because we do not see it in ourselves. We do not feel it. We do not experience it. In our thinking, St. Paul and St. Peter are lords and sovereigns over heaven and earth. But whether, I, too, am a lord and sovereign, that I do not know. But what does it mean to believe? If I do not believe it of myself, that I have become a lord and sovereign over heaven and earth because of Christ, then certainly I cannot believe the same of Peter and Paul. Again, if I do not believe that through Christ I have gained the heavenly inheritance, then I do not believe that Christ became man for me and that I have been baptized into Christ. That is why the Evangelist Luke spoke so highly of the faith of the father and mother. For where there is righteous faith, the fruit follows, that we marvel at and are happy about the great grace and blessing which is ours through this little child.

But where this fruit is not present and the heart does not marvel nor is

joyous, there either is no faith, or the faith is not as firm as it ought to be. For if such faith is present, which trusts with certainty that we poor sinners have been translated into eternal life and righteousness, a person ought to feel at least a small spark that lifts up one's heart with joy and affords courage against despair, trouble, and persecution. One will then be defiant and say to both the evil and the world, Why should I be dismayed, however much sin, death, devil, world, pope, or emperor rage against and vex me? If the pope or emperor takes my life, theirs is a far greater loss than mine. They may take the husk and peeling, but the kernel and treasure remains, that I have been made free from sin through Christ and have been rescued from eternal death and God's wrath. This they cannot take from me. If only this little child remains, the rest may go. For a Christian does not focus on this temporal and transient life as does the world, but rather on the future eternal life. (*Sermons of Martin Luther: House Postils* 1:156-158, Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996)

PRAYER: Each day a different aspect of Christian life is covered.

Monday	Our Baptism, calling, and daily work
Tuesday	Deliverance from sin and temptation
Wednesday	Marriage, family, and schools
Thursday	The Lord's Supper, the Church, and Her Pastors
Friday	The Preaching of the Cross, the persecuted, and missions
Saturday	True repentance and restoration of the withering
Sunday	The Hope of the resurrection and faithfulness to the Word

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.** **OR**

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

HYMN OF THE WEEK: LSB 406 "*To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord*" (stanza 7)

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 17, 2021
"The Creator's Gift of Life"

HYMNS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: 399, 402, 394, 412, 859, 860, 858

READINGS

Amos 9:11-15

Ephesians 5:22-33

John 2:1-11

Amos, the prophet, cries out about the faithful Bridegroom of Israel who will restore Her and cause the hills to flow with an abundance of good wine. Those whom He would destroy would be rebuilt by the Son of God. So Jesus comes to Cana on the third day, which shall also be the day of His resurrection, for He will rebuild the temple in three days. The water points to the baptismal discussion with Nicodemus in John 3, and the wine foreshadows the discussion of the abundant blessings and joy of the Lord's Supper in John 6. These two signs find their power in the blood and water which flow from the side of Christ at His death. The resurrection of Christ is the confirmation that we shall share in the benefits of the resurrection through these two sacraments. Here the bride and bridegroom are nameless, for they are simply the descendants of Adam and Eve suffering under the curse of sin. These are the ones to whom Christ brings His gracious deliverance and joy. We are those nameless descendants of our first parents who need the forgiveness that Christ pours out upon us in the Church through the means of His sacraments. The glory of Christ is revealed before us in the water of Holy Baptism as the baptized are washed by the blood of Christ. See it once more as the body and blood are offered to us on the altar for the forgiveness of our sins. There Christ reveals Himself to the eyes of faith that we might know our Bridegroom as the source of all mercy.

***OUR FATHER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
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