

# THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY: THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 10, 2021

## Worship Focus

“The Mysterious Jesus” – A Teasing Glimpse



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≡ Order of Service for

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**OPENING HYMN**

89 (vs.1) - To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

**To Jordan's river came our Lord,  
The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,  
The God from God, the Light from Light,  
The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.**

**INVOCATION**

**Minister**

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



**Congregation**

**A - men.**

**M** Beloved in the Lord: Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C** Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.

**LORD HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)**



## ABSOLUTION

**M** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



## ✠ The Word ✠

### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 49:1-6

*The Servant of the Lord speaks the mission God gave him – a mission that the Epiphany season makes known to us.*

- ISAIAH 49:1 Listen to me, you islands;  
hear this, you distant nations:  
Before I was born the LORD called me;  
from my birth he has made mention of my name.
- <sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharpened sword,  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me into a polished arrow  
and concealed me in his quiver.
- <sup>3</sup> He said to me, “You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will display my splendor.”
- <sup>4</sup> But I said, “I have labored to no purpose;  
I have spent my strength in vain and for nothing.  
Yet what is due me is in the LORD’s hand,  
and my reward is with my God.”
- <sup>5</sup> And now the LORD says—  
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant  
to bring Jacob back to him  
and gather Israel to himself,

for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD  
and my God has been my strength-

<sup>6</sup> he says:

“It is too small a thing for you to be my servant  
to restore the tribes of Jacob  
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.  
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,  
that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.”

## SECOND LESSON

Acts 16:25-34

*The world-wide mission and ministry that was given to the Servant of the Lord was carried out by Paul, as he both preached and baptized.*

ACTS 16:25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup>Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everybody's chains came loose. <sup>27</sup>The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup>But Paul shouted, “Don't harm yourself! We are all here!”

<sup>29</sup>The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup>He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

<sup>31</sup>They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” <sup>32</sup>Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. <sup>33</sup>At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. <sup>34</sup>The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family.

## GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:4-11

*At the baptism of Jesus, we see John's ministry come to an end and the ministry of the Christ – the Anointed One – begin.*

MARK 1:4 And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. <sup>6</sup>John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And this was his message: “After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup>At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

## HYMN OF THE DAY

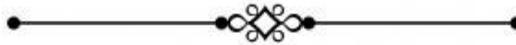
89 (vs. 5) - To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

**The Father's word, the Spirit's flight  
Anointed Christ in glorious sight  
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall  
To save the world and free us all.**

### ✠ Sermon ✠

Mark 1:4-11

### Jesus is the One!



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the baptized, that united with Christ in His death we may daily die to sin and rise with Him, set free from the dominion of sin and death, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the nations of the world still in darkness, that the Spirit would bring them life and light through the preaching of the Gospel and call them to the waters of the new creation, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who serve in the Office of the Ministry, that all their preaching and teaching may faithfully point to the Mightier One with zeal, as did John the Baptist, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who make, administer and judge the laws of our land, that they be given wisdom, integrity and honor to serve according to God's good will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the lonely and homebound; the grieving and dying; and all who are afflicted in body, mind or spirit, [*and especially for \_\_\_\_\_,*] that Christ would be their companion in solitude, their comfort in sorrow, their health in sickness and their life in death, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the faithful departed who rest now in Christ, let us give God our thanks and praise, and ask Him to grant us our portion with the saints in light on the joyous day of Christ's appearing, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## BLESSING

**M** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



**C: A - men. A - men. A - men.**

## CLOSING HYMN

334 – Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!**

**I** have baptized you  
with **WATER;**  
but he  
will baptize you  
with the  
**HOLY  
SPIRIT.**

**Mark 1:8**



*And a voice came  
“from heaven,  
You are my Son,  
the Beloved;  
with you I am  
well pleased.”*

*Mark 1:11, NRSV*

