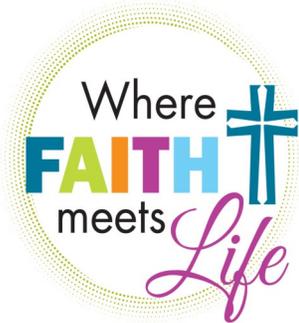


# Welcome to worship at Augustana Lutheran Church



January 9, 2022, 8:30 & 9:45 am Sanctuary Worship

## Baptism of Our Lord

### Liturgical Season: Epiphany

*What does this mean?*

The season of Epiphany is a bridge between Christmas and Lent. The Day of Epiphany remembers the Magi's visit to the young Jesus. This event and its celebratory white color remind us that the good news of God's Son has come to the whole world. The season of Epiphany continues to reveal Jesus' identity as son of God in his baptism and in the miracles he performs. The color green signifies this season's growth in our understanding of Jesus' identity and what that means for followers of Jesus.

### TODAY'S THEME: Baptism

Jesus' public ministry began with his baptism. He is anointed by the Spirit as God declares Jesus as his beloved Son. Baptism is a threshold for us as well. In baptism, we publicly turn from sin and death and immerse ourselves into a new life in Christ. We are given a new identity, a new calling and a new future.

*Today's prelude is Bach's setting of Martin Luther's hymn recounting Christ's baptism. Bach's ability to musically paint a story shows forth in this work. The right hand plays a crisscrossing motive representing the pastor's sign of the cross during the baptismal rite, while the left hand plays constant running 16th note motives representing the Jordan River current and the descent of the Holy Spirit. The melody is placed in the tenor voice (a middle voice) perhaps signifying the place of Christ as the second person of the Trinity.*

#### Prelude

*To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord* Johann Sebastian Bach

#### Announcements

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#### GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God

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#### Confession and Forgiveness

ELW pg.94

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.**

#### Opening Hymn

*Crashing Waters at Creation*

ELW #455

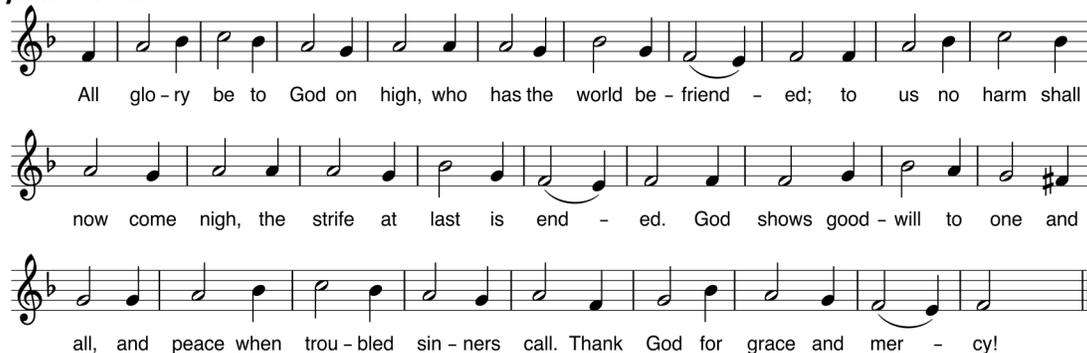
#### Greeting

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

**And also with you.**

Our Hymn of Praise dates to early 16th century Germany. It spread rapidly throughout northern Europe along with worship practices associated with Luther's Reformation. It was brought to America by German and Scandinavian immigrants and was used weekly in worship by many congregations of the Swedish-American Augustana Synod, of which Augustana was a part.

### Hymn of Praise



All glo-ry be to God on high, who has the world be-friend-ed; to us no harm shall now come nigh, the strife at last is end-ed. God shows good-will to one and all, and peace when trou-bled sin-ners call. Thank God for grace and mer-cy!

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, 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.**

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### WORD

God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, and song

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### Lesson

Isaiah 43:1- 7 NRSV

But 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. When 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. For 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. Because 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. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I 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 — everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

### Anthem

*Like a Dove the Spirit Comes to Us*  
Senior Choir

John Purifoy

### Gospel

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 NRSV

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John 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. His 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." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and 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."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Questions:

God continually calls us to turn from sin and death and to be fully immersed in the life of Christ. How might you 'take on Christ' this new year?

What does it mean to you that God calls you a beloved child?

Sermon

Baptism Threshold

Pastor Deb Kielsmeier

Hymn of the Day

When Jesus Came to Jordan

ELW #305

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.

I am baptized.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow. Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you. You are the fountain of resurrection.

I am baptized.

Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.

I am baptized.

At this font, holy God, we pray:

**Praise to you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us in this water. Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation. Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us. Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The Prayers

After each portion of the prayers:

Lord, in your mercy,  
hear our prayer.

Offering

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord

Andreas Armsdorf

Offertory

See the Bright and Morning Star

See the bright and Morn - ing Star, Je - sus, the Light of the world.

He has ris - en in our hearts Je - sus, the light of the world. We'll

walk in the light, beau - ti - ful light, come where the dew - drops of mer - cy shine bright.

Shine all a - round us by day and by night, Je - sus, the Light of the world.

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**SENDING**

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The Holy Spirit sends us into the world

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**Blessing**

God the creator strengthen you;  
Jesus the beloved fill you;  
and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace.

**Amen.**

**Closing Hymn**

*Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized*

ELW #304

**Sending**

Go with Christ into a weary world.  
Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

*Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove*

Flor Peeters

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*Music and liturgy are reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress, account A-729793.*

**SERVING TODAY**

Pastor Arne Bergland  
Pastor Deb Kielsmeier  
Kathy Andrews, Choir Director  
Andy Jacob, organist  
Lay Reader:  
(8:30) Tim Aune  
(9:45) David Ocar

*Following worship we invite you to stop at the Information Center. It is staffed with individuals eager to answer any questions you may have. You are welcome to pick up our monthly newsletter, Augustana Life, at the Information Kiosk in the Narthex. It is also available online at [augustana.com](http://augustana.com).*

*Augustana uses the Narrative Lectionary as a basis for our weekly Bible readings. Next week we will read John 1:35-51.*