

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024 – 5:00 PM
A BLENDED SERVICE**

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

OPENING SONG

Hymn of Heaven

How I long to breathe the air of Heaven
Where pain is gone and mercy fills the streets
To look upon the one who bled to save me
And walk with Him for all eternity

There will be a day
When all will bow before Him
There will be a day
When death will be no more
Standing face to face
With He who died and rose again
Holy holy is the Lord

And ev'ry prayer we prayed in desperation
The songs of faith
We sang through doubt and fear
In the end we'll see that it was worth it
When He returns to wipe away our tears

There will be a day
When all will bow before Him
There will be a day
When death will be no more
Standing face to face
With He who died and rose again
Holy holy is the Lord

And on that day we join the resurrection
And stand beside the heroes of the faith
With one voice a thousand generations
Sing worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Forever He shall reign

So let it be today
We shout the hymn of Heaven
With angels and the Saints
We raise a mighty roar
Glory to our God
Who gave us life beyond the grave
Holy holy is the Lord

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We shout the hymn of Heaven
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Holy holy is the Lord
Holy holy is the Lord
Holy holy is the Lord

Text: Phil Wickham; Chris Davenport; Brian Johnson; Bill Johnson
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CONFESSION

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God, our Father. In today's Second Reading from Romans, the apostle Paul asks, "Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? . . . How can we who died to sin still live in it?"
- C** **We are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 God with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**
- P** "We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."
- C** **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.**

ABSOLUTION

- P** We know that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.
- C** **For one who has died has been set free from sin.**
- P** The death Christ died He died to sin, once for all,
- C** **but the life He lives He lives to God.**

- P** So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore announce the grace of God to all of you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 1:1–5

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 6:1–11

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:4–11

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 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. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey.

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. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SONG OF THE DAY

405 To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

- 1 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.

- 2 The Savior came to be baptized—
The Son of God in flesh disguised—
To stand beneath the Father's will
And all His righteousness fulfill.

- 3 As Jesus in the Jordan stood
And John baptized the Lamb of God,
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,
Descended on Him from above.

- 4 Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound
Came God's own voice with words profound:
"This is My Son," was His decree,
"The one I love, who pleases Me."

Text: James P. Tiefel, 1949, alt.

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NICENE CREED

☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down
from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin
Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the
living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is
worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic
Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of
sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Together we pray our family prayer:
- C** 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 WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world
Have mercy on us

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world
Have mercy on us

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world
Grant us peace
Grant us peace

Text: John Strege

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION SONG

Grace Alone

Ev'ry promise we can make,
Ev'ry prayer and step of faith,
Ev'ry diff'rence we will make,
Is only by His grace.

Ev'ry mountain we will climb,
Ev'ry ray of hope we shine,
Ev'ry blessing left behind,
Is only by His grace.

Grace alone, which God supplies,
Strength unknown, He will provide,
Christ in us our Cornerstone;
We will go forth in grace alone.

Ev'ry soul we long to reach,
Ev'ry heart we hope to teach,
Ev'rywhere we share His peace,
Is only by His grace.

Ev'ry loving word we say,
Ev'ry tear we wipe a-way,
Ev'ry sorrow turned to praise,
Is only by His grace.

Grace alone, which God supplies,
Strength unknown, He will provide,
Christ in us our Cornerstone;
We will go forth in grace alone.

Grace alone, which God supplies,
Strength unknown, He will provide,
Christ in us our Cornerstone;
We will go forth in grace alone.
We will go forth in grace alone.
We will go forth in grace alone.

Text: Scott Wesley Brown

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DISMISSAL

BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING SONG

We Believe

In this time of desperation
When all we know is doubt and fear
There is only one foundation -We believe - we believe
In this broken generation
When all is dark You help us see
There is only one salvation - We believe - we believe

We believe in God the Father -
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's coming back again - We believe

So let our faith be more than anthems
Greater than the songs we sing
In our weakness and temptations -
We believe - we believe

We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's coming back again

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised
In the here and now let love invade
Let the church live loud our God we'll say
We believe we believe
And the gates of hell will not prevail
For the pow'r of God has torn the veil
Now we know Your love will never fail
We believe - we believe

We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's coming back
He's coming back again
He's coming back again
We believe we believe

Text: Travis Ryan

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SERVING THE LORD IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES:

ELDER: *Gerran Batterberry, Tom Weber*

READER: *Tom Weber*

ALTAR GUILD: *Dawn Patterson*

MUSICIANS/VOCALISTS: *Saturday Praise Team: (Leader – Julie Sawusch) Vocalists: Mary Fleck; Piano: Julie Sawusch; Acoustic Guitar: Tom Vitacco; Bass Guitar: Ron Hilger*

SPEAKER: *Reverend Jerry D. Hays*