



Divine Service

Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021 • 10:45 am

CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH • LUFKIN, TEXAS

*The people's spoken responses are in **bold**; sung responses are in **bold**. For those worshipers who desire it, concurrent care for children through 5 years of age is available. Should you be led to worship through giving, brass offering boxes are located in the wall on the narthex side of the center aisle doors. Kindly silence all cell phones and electronic devices.*

THE ENTRANCE RITE

CALL TO WORSHIP

The entrance tower bell and carillon bells are rung.

ORGAN PRELUDE

"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

arr. Gordon Young (1919-1998)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN • 236 (vv. 1, 2, 3, 6)

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

OPENING PRAYER

The people sit.

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 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. 3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God 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 29

R Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. *R*

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
**the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over many waters.**
The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.
May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace! *R*

The people stand.

THE GLORIA PATRI • 615

Meineke

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:4-11

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 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. 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. 7 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. 8 I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to Christ.

HYMN • 55

"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

St. Agnes

The people sit.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Randall K. Green

"The Voice of the Lord Is Over the Waters"

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

INTRODUCTION

The minister introduces the covenant renewal, bidding the congregation confess their sins:

Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us and forgive us our sins, including those particular ones which we, in this time of silent confession, now bring before you.

The minister pronounces a Scriptural affirmation of pardon, saying:

Since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. (*Hebrews 10.19-22*)

The people stand.

REAFFIRMATION OF COVENANTAL PROMISES AND BAPTISMAL VOWS

The minister addresses baptized Christians, saying:

Do you this day reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

I do.

Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

I do, and with God's grace, I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of salvation, seeking and serving Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

THE DOXOLOGY • 621

Old 100th

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. Amen.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The minister invites all baptized Christians, and the candidate for Baptism, Barrett Allen, to confess their faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

The people are seated.

THANKSGIVING AND REMEMBRANCE

The minister offers a prayer of thanksgiving for the gift of water, after which, as directed by the ushers, all baptized Christians are invited to come forward to dip their fingers into the water of the baptismal font, not as a sacramental act, but as an act of grateful remembrance of their baptism into Christ.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

All stand to sing the hymn following the Baptism.

HYMN • 13

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Nettleton

THE PRAYERS

A prayer of consecration if offered, after which the people pray,

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. Amen.

The people stand.

THE CLOSING RITE

RECESSIONAL HYMN • 217

“Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

Morecambe

BENEDICTION

*The minister pronounces the benediction, and the people respond, **Amen.***

ORGAN POSTLUDE

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

arr. Paul Manz (1919-2009)



WORSHIP LEADERS The Reverend Randall K. Green, *minister*; Mr. M. Todd Stracener, *lector*; Mr. David C. Lawson, *organist*; *The Christ Church Chorale*; Mason Eppley, *acolyte*.

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CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

A MEMBER OF THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

105 Saddle Creek Drive • Lufkin, Texas 75904
www.christchurchlufkin.com • (936) 634-2009 • FAX (936) 634-8564
Office Hours • Monday-Thursday • 9-11:30 am • 1:30-4 pm