



The Season of Epiphany

“Epiphany” comes from a Greek word that means “reveal.” When someone has an epiphany, it’s not that reality changed. The way they see that reality is what changed because a deeper truth has been revealed. An epiphany is an “a-ha!” moment causing us to look at things very differently. In the Church Year, Epiphany is the season where we see Jesus begin his ministry, revealing the reason the Son of God came to earth. In this season we will come to understand that when we have Jesus in our lives, it does not always mean our reality drastically changes. It simply means that we see reality differently (and better). Jesus always provides an abundance of epiphany moments.

The Baptism of Jesus

At his baptism in the Jordan River Jesus was publicly anointed with the Holy Spirit and announced by God the Father as his chosen Messiah. Thus, Jesus’ baptism was the beginning of his public ministry. He was God’s chosen servant, the one who had come to bring salvation to the ends of the earth. Jesus is the one willing to stand in our place as our substitute and Savior. Jesus’ baptism reveals him to us and our baptism into him connect us to him! Our baptism was the beginning of a new and better life—eternal life!—a gift graciously given to us by our truest friend.

Jesus’ ministry and our eternity with him. It begins with baptism.

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 14, 2025 ✠ 8:00 AND 10:15 AM

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We're thrilled that you are here and we want you to feel at home.

- * Restrooms are near the door that you came in today.
- * The service is printed in this worship folder. Join in as your comfortable. Ask anyone if you're lost - they'll be glad to help!
- * We're glad you brought your kids! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If your little one is restless, feel free to spend a minute in the entryway, you should still be able to hear through speakers.
- * If you could use some hearing assistance, please ask the usher in the entryway, we have headsets available.

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!

THE DIVINE SERVICE

🌀 *The congregation speaks and sings the words in **BOLD type**.* 🌀

Gathering Rite on Holy Baptism

The minister conducts the gathering rite at the baptismal font. Please stand.

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The congregation sings:



1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap-tized
2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap-tized
3 Sa - tan, hear this proc - la - ma - tion: I am bap-tized



in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it, gave my
in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong - er: Je - sus'
in - to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion, I am



full re - demp-tion price. Do I need earth's trea - sures man - y?
cleans-ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y con - science seize me
not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the font I've trav - eled,



I have one worth more than an - y that brought me sal -
since my bap - tism did re - lease me in a dear for -
all your might has come un - rav - eled, and, a - gainst your



va - tion free, last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!
 giv - ing flood, sprink - ling me with Je - sus' blood?
 tyr - an - ny, God, my Lord, u - nites with me!

I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.
Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. *John 3:5,6*

Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. *Psalm 51:5*
**But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ
 and by the Spirit of our God.** *cf 1 Cor 6:11*

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

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.

Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (*Ephesians 5:25-27*). 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.

Amen.

The congregation sings:

**Death, you cannot end my gladness:
 I am baptized into Christ!
 When I die, I leave all sadness
 to inherit paradise!
 Though I lie in dust and ashes
 faith's assurance brightly flashes:
 Baptism has the strength divine
 to make life immortal mine.**

**There is nothing worth comparing
 to this lifelong comfort sure!
 Open-eyed my grave is staring:
 even there I'll sleep secure.
 Though my flesh awaits its raising,
 still my soul continues praising:
 I am baptized into Christ;
 I'm a child of paradise!**

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children, and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

To the eyes of the average Israelite, the young boy David was not the best choice to be king. Yet he was God's choice, a man after God's heart. The Lord made his choice known through an anointing.

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."

But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."

The Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate."

Samuel did what the Lord said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?"

Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord."

But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at

the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The Lord has not chosen this one either." Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the Lord chosen this one."

Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The Lord has not chosen these." So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?"

"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep."

Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives."

So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one."

So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 89 *selected verses*

I will sing of the LORD'S great love forever;
I will make Your faithfulness known through all generations.

I will declare that Your love stands firm forever,
that You established Your faithfulness in heaven itself.

The heavens praise Your wonders, O LORD,
Your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.

O LORD God Almighty, who is like You?

You are mighty, O LORD, and Your faithfulness surrounds You.

Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim You,

Who walk in the light of Your presence, O LORD.

They rejoice in Your name all day long;
They exult in Your righteousness.

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.

Second Reading

Romans 6:1-11

In the eyes of the world, baptism appears to be just a ceremonial washing. St. Paul tells us it is so much more - it is a second birth that gives you the identity of God's child and heir!

But when the kindness and love of God our

Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of

righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. 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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 1:11

Alleluia! You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.
Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

In the eyes of the Israelites, John the Baptist looked like he could be the Messiah. He was a powerful preacher who lived a unique life. Jesus looked ordinary by comparison. Yet, he was God's Anointed One, a choice made clear in Jesus' baptism. This lesson is the basis of the sermon this morning.

The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. 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 barn, but he will

burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to You, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day | 377 To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

Sermon Luke 3 Never get over it!

Please stand.

Remembrance of Baptism

Holy Baptism is the precious means of grace by which our Father in heaven connects us with Christ in his life, death, and resurrection. The apostle Paul says: "Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just

as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."

In Holy Baptism, God takes away our sins and gives new life in Christ our Lord. We solemnly renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways; we confess the gift of faith in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Renunciation of the Devil and Confession of Faith

I ask you: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

Yes, and I ask God to help me.

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

Yes, I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Heavenly Father, we give You thanks that our Lord Jesus entered the waters of the Jordan to take our place under the law and fulfill all righteousness for us. Renew within us the promise of our baptism that we may daily die to sin and arise to live holy and righteous lives of faith and good works. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all the baptized, those preparing for baptism, and those who have wandered from Your way, that they may show forth the words and works of Your new life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give You thanks for standing with us in times of weakness, illness, despair and death. Give us every aid of Your Holy Spirit that we may endure these afflictions and find comfort in the healing wounds of our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give You thanks for all the material things

Do you intend to continue in this faith, to be diligent in the use of Word and sacrament and in faith and action remain true to God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—as long as you live?

Yes, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with his grace to life everlasting.

Amen.

You have entrusted to our care. Help us to receive them with gratitude and use them faithfully and for Your glory. Guide us to know and care for those in need, both near and far. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for...

Harry Calvert (Nancy Brandt's brother-in-law with serious health struggles), Sam (cancer), Frankie (Robyn's young friend with cancer), Chaunc (Krystal's son), Nathan (Zahn's nephew on military deployment), JoElla (recovering from radiation treatment), Craig (chronic back issues), Janice and Julia (cancer diagnosis), Paul (Pam Farrel's nephew with serious health issues), Tim (Pastor Peil's father hospitalized with pneumonia), Angie (Mert and Francine's daughter with health issues), Kaylee Hahn's grandmother called home to heaven

We give You thanks, O Lord, that You both hear and answer the prayers of Your people. Grant us grace to trust in You for all things; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Offering



Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.

There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give in that way.

*To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to **(833) 693-7056**. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.*

THE SACRAMENT

Stand

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O

Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts: heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's

body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we 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 and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord Jesus

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

Be seated

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS *Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this.*

Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how. Because we believe from these words that Jesus' body and blood is really present in and with the bread and wine, we want to be sure that it is received in the manner He has commanded us.

*Please speak to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. **Thank you for your understanding!***

Hymn | 681 Christ Is With Me

Hymn | 510 In Christ Alone

Hymn | 674 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

After the distribution, the minister speaks this blessing:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting.
Your † sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Stand

Prayer

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

His mercy endures forever.

Psalms 118:1

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

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.

Amen.

Stand

Closing Hymn | 385 Christ Begins



Thank you to Amy Sehloff for using her gifts to serve us and our Savior with music this morning!

