

The Baptism of our Lord

OPENING HYMN: Revelation Song

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat

Chorus: Holy holy holy Is the Lord God Almighty
 Who was and is and is to come
 With all creation I sing Praise to the King of kings
 You are my ev'rything And I will adore You

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King (Chorus)

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name
Jesus Your name is power breath and living water
Such a marv'lous mystery (Chorus)

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INVOCATION:

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

C **Amen.**

P With these words you are baptized into Christ and given the new birth of water and the Spirit.

C **So shall we stand in faith without fear now and forever.**

P Our Lord came to the waters of the Jordan to usher in the beginning of the Kingdom. Standing in the waters with John, He took upon Himself the burden of the law. He proved Himself the obedient child we could not be, and through Him God has counted us righteous. He entered the realm of sin and death in order to grant us forgiveness and life. After the crucifixion and death, He rose with new life and commanded that His disciples make disciples of all nations by baptizing them in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

You and I were baptized in the name of the triune God. In fulfilment of our Lord's command and that we might receive the forgiveness and life He offered there, we were brought to this water and life and received into His Kingdom.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Romans 6:1-11

(One of the most eloquent statements of what takes place in baptism.)

CONFESSION OF FAITH

P In Holy Baptism we are forgiven our sins and granted new life in Christ, our Lord. We renounce the devil and all his works and ways; we confess our faith in God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I invite you now to give answer to the questions I ask you anew.

P Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

C **I do renounce them.**

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

C **Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

C **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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C **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**

P What is baptism?

C **Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word.**

P What does baptism give?

C **Baptism works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.**

P How can water do such great things?

C **Certainly, it is not just water, but the word of God in and with the water that does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water.**

P What does such baptizing with water indicate?

C **It indicates that the Old Adam in us---our sinful nature---should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION:

P Yet even as God's people in this world, when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find that we daily struggle against our weakness and sin that so easily besets us. Therefore, let us confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

C **God our Father, though You have made us Your own possession by our Baptism into Christ, still we struggle to live as Your redeemed children in this fallen world. Therefore, we confess our sin and weakness to You and in repentance pray You of Your mercy to forgive our sins and grant us Your grace and strength.**

P 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 forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: Forever

Give thanks to the Lord our God and King
His love endures forever

For He is good, He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise

Chorus: Forever God is faithful Forever God is strong
Forever God is with us Forever

From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
By the grace of God we will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise (Chorus)

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SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY:

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

P 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 LESSON: Isaiah 43:1-7

CHILDREN'S TALK:

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 3:15-22

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN: *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

How deep the Father's love for us How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice Call out among the scoffers

It was my sin that held Him there Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything No gifts no pow'r no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart His wounds have paid my ransom

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SERMON: Hand In Hand With Our Lord - Isaiah 43:1-7

OFFERING:

HYMN: This I Believe

Our Father everlasting The all creating One
God Almighty Through Your Holy Spirit
Conceiving Christ the Son Jesus our Saviour

Chorus I believe in God our Father I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit Our God is three in One
I believe in the resurrection That we will rise again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus

Our judge and our defender Suffered and crucified
Forgiveness is in You Descended into darkness
You rose in glorious life Forever seated high

I believe in You I believe You rose again
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord

Chorus I believe in life eternal I believe in the virgin birth
I believe in the saints' communion And in Your holy Church
I believe in the resurrection When Jesus comes again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus

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PRAYERS:

P Gracious and merciful God, as the heavens were opened at the Baptism of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, so You have opened the very heavens to us as Your baptized people. Give to us the confidence of faith and the power of Your love that we may live as Your children even now amid the changes of this fallen world, ever rejoicing in Your constant mercy and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Grant Your constant blessing upon Your whole Church. Give wisdom and confidence to all pastors and servants of Your Word and faithfulness and love to all Your people that Your truth may sound forth and prevail in our lives and through our service in the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Preserve our nation in the ways of righteousness and peace. Guide the leaders of all nations to pursue justice and peace. Guard and protect all who serve in the armed forces of our country, [especially . . .], and all who protect us in our land. Grant to all faithfulness in their service. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Comfort and help all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity, [especially . . .]. Have mercy on all to whom death draws near, [especially . . .]. Sustain and bless all who care for those who suffer.
Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors, [especially . . .]. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord God, You have made each person unique. You have given unique gifts to each of your unique people. We pray that each of us would use the gifts that you have given to us in service to You and to others, that we might be a blessing to people, a reflection of Your light and love in Christ to the world. As we observe LWMLC Sunday, may the Holy Spirit encourage us to use those unique gifts to Your Glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

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

C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER:

COLLECT FOR THE WORD:

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LWML-CANADA LEAGUE PLEDGE

C In fervent gratitude for the Saviour's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption, we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us.

We consecrate to our Saviour our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His kingdom, our will to do His Will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and erring into eternal fellowship with Him.

BENEDICTION:

P Now may the Lord hold you in the power of the Holy Spirit, keeping you always in the grace and peace won for us all by Jesus Christ. May the Lord bless you and lift you up in the freedom of divine grace and love; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: Lord Jesus, You Have Called Us

Lord Jesus, You have called us to be Your servants true,
Empow'r us by Your Spirit to serve in all we do.

Grant us Your grace and mercy, Your wisdom from above,
That we may heed Your calling to serve in truth and love.

You've called us out of darkness into Your marv'lous light.
Once bound by sin and Satan, we're set free by Your might.
Baptized into Your Kingdom, our lives were cleansed from sin.
Now, as Your sons and daughters, our hearts know peace within.

Lord Jesus, as You humbled Yourself and bore the cross,
Move us to serve Your people through suff'ring, pain, or loss;
And when, through sin, we wander or fail Your law to keep,
Eternal, tender Shepherd, recall Your ransomed sheep.

Grant us Your Holy Spirit; renew us with Your Word.
Move us to spread Your Gospel to those who have not heard.
Now clothed in servant's garments, robed in Your righteousness,
May we through loving service Your holy name confess.

Dear Father, may we fear You and walk in all Your ways.
Empow'r us, Holy Spirit, to use Your gifts in praise.
Move us, dear King and Saviour, to serve with heart and soul,
Grant steadfastness and call us to reach our heavenly goal.

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