

LIGHT
HAS COME INTO THE WORLD



St. David's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Saturday, January 6, 2018

5:30 pm

Interims: The Reverend Larry Hoover and Bishop Emeritus Gregory Pile

Guest Pastor: The Reverend Nelson Ilgenfritz

Church: 479-4110; Fax: 479-2994

www.stdavidslutheran.org

Welcome to St. David's Lutheran Church!

We are blessed by your presence and honored that you have chosen to worship with us today. Please take a moment to sign the friendship sheet that is located in the booklet at the end of each pew, near the center aisle. These sheets will be collected with the offering.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered to all who are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit and who recognize the Sacrament as the true body and blood of our Lord. Baptized children are also welcome to the Lord's table at St. David's with the guidance and consent of their parents or guardians.

Prayer Requests may be made by placing the request in the small wooden box at the rear, near the doors through which you entered. The acolyte will collect the requests and they will be included during the prayers of the congregation.

For your comfort there is a restroom, equipped with a changing table and supplies and a water fountain located upstairs. Simply exit through the double doors back into the narthex. The restroom is straight ahead in the parlor, beside the grandfather clock, and the water fountain is to the right at the beginning of the hallway.

Devotional – The worship folder you are holding is also a weekly devotional booklet. The prayers and Scripture readings are appropriate for use at any time during the week. The liturgy itself is a Scripturally based order for daily prayer and devotion with Scriptural references noted where they apply. Even the hymns are appropriate tools for prayer and praise. Finally, there is a daily lectionary of Scripture readings for the rest of the week on the last printed page.

INTRODUCTION

Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit/wind moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly stands.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

VERSICLES

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
Nations shall come to your light
and rulers to the brightness of your rising.

PRAYER

Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

READING Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 2nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

LITANY

All the ends of the earth
have seen the salvation of our God, Alleluia!
Shout to the Lord, all the earth, Alleluia!

With joy let us pray to our Savior,
the Son of God who became one of us, saying:
The grace of God be with us all.

O Christ,
let your gospel shine in every place
where the Word of life is not yet received.
Draw the whole creation to yourself
that your salvation may be known through all the earth.
The grace of God be with us all.

O Christ, Savior and Lord,
extend your church to every place.
Make it a place of welcome for people of every race and tongue.
The grace of God be with us all.

O Christ, Ruler of rulers,
direct the work and thoughts of the leaders of nations
that they may seek justice,
and further peace and freedom for all.
The grace of God be with us all.

O Christ, Master of all,
support of the weak and comfort of the afflicted,
strengthen the tempted and raise the fallen.
Watch over the lonely and those in danger.
Give hope to the despairing
and sustain the faith of the persecuted.
The grace of God be with us all. Amen.

After a brief silence, the leader concludes the litany:

O Christ, light made manifest as the true light of God,
gladden our hearts on the joyful morning of your glory;
Call us by our name on the great Day of your coming;
and give us grace to offer,
with all the hosts in heaven,
unending praise to God
in whom all things find their ending,
now and ever.

Amen.

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-5

A reading from Genesis the 1st chapter

{Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the primeval darkness, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for any person living in the chaos and darkness of despair. God created and continues to create new life.}

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God 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 (spoken responsively)

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (*Ps. 29:3*)

¹ Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,*

ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;***

worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.

³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;*
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.

⁴ **The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;***

the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;*

the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

⁶ **he makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,***

and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.

⁷ The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;

the voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;*

the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.

⁸ **The voice of the LORD makes the | oak trees writhe***

and strips the | forests bare.

⁹ And in the temple | of the LORD*

all are | crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰ **The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;***

the LORD sits enthroned as | king forevermore.

¹¹ The LORD shall give strength | to his people;*

the LORD shall give his people the bless- | ing of peace.

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (*Ps. 29:3*)

SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7

A reading from Acts the 19th chapter.

{In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptized them, the Holy Spirit came upon them and empowered them with gifts of the Spirit.}

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the

one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

{Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.}

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." ⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

The assembly stands.

Together we confess our faith:

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**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. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For the church and the ministry of the baptized, that your Holy Spirit will teach all people to forgive sins, ending violence and ushering in peace throughout the world, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the earth and all living things, for favorable weather, for plants and animals, that you will cause all creation to thrive in the care of good stewards, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the leaders of national and local governments, agencies, and organizations, for areas of the world suffering from war (*especially*), that you will bless all people with plenty, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the sick and suffering, the imprisoned and hungry, the lonely and grieving (*especially*), that Christ our great physician will soothe and console all in need, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For our local community, (*for those baptized this day,*) and for this congregation, that in our joys and sorrows we remember that we are God's beloved children, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In thanksgiving for our ancestors in the faith, both distant and near, who have taught us to believe the good news of Christ, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you.

Peace be with you.

Please be seated after the Peace is shared.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

He was born to dwell among us, full of grace and truth;

in him we have seen your glory.

Baptized by John in the Jordan, he lived for you,

spoke your truth, showed your love, and gave himself for others.

In his dying and rising, you gave birth to your church,

delivered us from slavery to sin and death,

and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

We give you thanks that on the night before he died,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,
that the bread we break and the cup we bless
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.
Illumine our hearts, O God, with the radiance of Christ's presence,
that our lives may show forth his love in this weary world.
Teach us to befriend the lost, to serve the poor,
to reconcile our enemies, and to love our neighbors.
Give us courage to speak Jesus' truth, to seek his justice, and love with his love;
until Christ comes in final victory and we shall feast with all your saints
in the joy of your eternal realm.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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.

LAMB OF GOD

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.

The assembly is seated.

The Holy Communion is distributed with these or similar words:

The body of Christ, given for you

The blood of Christ, shed for you

COMMUNION HYMN

Following the Holy Communion the congregation stands:

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God of glory and baptism dwell in you richly, shower you with faith, and shine brightly on your path.

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

QUIET MEDITATION

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

January 7, 2018

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Always a New Beginning

Sometimes life feels like a dead end. We get stuck. Bad things happen and things don't get better. Long awaited change seems like it will never come. What do we do when life feels like a dead end?

The story of Jesus' baptism in Mark is about a radically new beginning. Mark describes the baptism like this: "And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him" (Mark 1:10). All the signs are there, telling us that whatever dead end the world has hit, Jesus is a new beginning.

In Genesis 1 we read that the Spirit moves to form the new creation, and a dome is placed over the newly created land, with water above and below it. Later, in Genesis 7, we read that the flood comes when windows in the dome are opened and water pours in from above and below. In both stories, a new creation is formed out of the old through water and Spirit. Now in Mark we hear again that the heavens are opened, and there is water, and there is Spirit pouring out. In Jesus' baptism, God is creating again. Jesus is God's new beginning for all who face dead ends.

Today is a day to remember your baptism, and to do so along with all your brothers and sisters gathered around font, word, and table. This is a day to give thanks that in Jesus God created a new beginning for all persons, all humanity, and all creation, a fresh start poured out of the open windows of God's loving heart. Today is a day to contemplate all the ways we face dead ends in life, even in death itself. Today we remember that God's Spirit creates us anew out of God's free flowing grace in the new life that is Jesus Christ.

Daily Readings for the Week January 7-13

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Baptism of Our Lord</i> Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11
<i>Monday</i>	Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36 Genesis 17:1-13 Romans 4:1-12
<i>Tuesday</i>	Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36 Exodus 30:22-38 Acts 22:2-16
<i>Wednesday</i>	Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36 Isaiah 41:14-20 John 1:29-34
<i>Thursday</i>	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 Judges 2:6-15 2 Corinthians 10:1-11
<i>Friday</i>	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 Judges 2:16-23 Acts 13:16-25
<i>Saturday</i>	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 1 Samuel 2:21-25 Matthew 25:1-13

Copyright © 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006303.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.