

EPIPHANY 2

JANUARY 17, 2021

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP: Holy Baptism – page 12 in the front of the hymnal

HYMNS: 300, 297, 453, 309,

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN 300: See This Wonder in the Making

**1 See this wonder in the making: God himself this child is taking
As a lamb safe in his keeping, His to be, awake or sleeping.**

**2 Miracle each time it happens As the door to heaven opens
And the Father beams, “Beloved, heir of gifts a king would covet!”**

**3 Far more tender than a mother, Far more caring than a father,
God, into your arms we place her, With your love and peace embrace her.**

**4 Here we bring a child of nature; Home we take a new-born creature,
Now God’s precious son or daughter, Born again by Word and water.**

HOLY BAPTISM: Page 12 in the front of the hymnal

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Confession of Sins

Pastor: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded baptism when he said: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” All of us are born into this world with a deep need for baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But Jesus took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. At our baptism he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. Our sinful nature need not

control us any longer. We recall what baptism means for our daily lives as we speak these words:

Congregation: Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Pastor: As baptized children of God we confess our sins:

Congregation: 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.

Pastor: God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

Congregation: Amen

Sacrament of Baptism

Pastor: In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought _____ to be baptized. Jesus told us: "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy, and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

Pastor: Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

_____ I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven. May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

Exhortation

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that _____ may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

Congregation: Yes, as God gives me strength.

Pastor: Let us pray:

Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of baptism by which you offer and grant the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Help us to regard our baptism as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our life. Look with special favor on _____ and grant _____ a rich measure of your Spirit that he may grow in faith and godly living. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to those who have been baptized, so that all of us may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus our Lord.

Congregation: Amen

HYMN 297: Baptized in Water

**1 Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Heirs of salvation, Trusting his promise,
Faithfully now God's praise we sing.**

**2 Baptized in water; Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
One with his rising, Freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God's praise we sing.**

**3 Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our King;**

**Born of one Father, We are his children;
Joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

THE FIRST LESSON: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

1 The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions. 2 One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. 4 Then the LORD called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." 5 And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. 6 Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. 8 The LORD called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. 9 So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10 The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

THE PSALM: Psalm 67

This psalm is a prayer for the blessings of salvation for us and for the world.

Pastor: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us,

Congregation: That your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.

Pastor: May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. May the nations be glad and sing for joy,

Congregation: For you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth.

Pastor: May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. Then the land will yield its harvest, and God, our God, will bless us.

Congregation: God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

THE SECOND LESSON: John 1:43-51

43 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.” 44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. 45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote — Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” 46 “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked. “Come and see,” said Philip. 47 When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false.” 48 “How do you know me?” Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.” 49 Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel.” 50 Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You shall see greater things than that.” 51 He then added, “I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

HYMN 453: Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spoke

**1 “Come, follow me,” the Savior spoke, “All in my way abiding.
Deny yourselves; the world forsake; Obey my call and guiding.
Oh, bear the cross, whate’er betide; Take my example for your guide.**

**2 “I am the light; I light the way, A godly life displaying.
I bid you walk as in the day; I keep your feet from straying.
I am the way, and well I show How you should journey here below.**

**3 “My heart abounds in lowliness, My soul with love is glowing,
And gracious words my lips express, With meekness overflowing.
My heart, my mind, my strength, my all To God I yield; on him I call.**

**4 “I teach you how to shun and flee What harms you souls’ salvation,
Your hearts from ev’ry guile to free, From sin and its temptation.
I am the refuge of the soul And lead you to your heaven’nly goal.”**

**5 Then let us follow Christ our Lord And take the cross appointed
And, firmly clinging to his Word, In suff’ring be undaunted.
For those who bear the battle’s strain the crown of heav’nly life obtain.**

OUR MEDITATION: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

12 “Everything is permissible for me”—but not everything is beneficial.
“Everything is permissible for me”—but I will not be mastered by anything. 13
“Food for the stomach and the stomach for food”—but God will destroy them
both. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord
for the body. 14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise
us also. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall
I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! 16 Do
you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body?
For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.” 17 But he who unites himself with
the Lord is one with him in spirit. 18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a
man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own
body. 19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in
you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were
bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Christians, We Have Choices To Make!

1. Which of the following statements best describes our mission?

- A. Everything is permissible for me.**
- B. Honor God with your body.**

2. Isn't Christian liberty a Scriptural teaching?

- Verse 12 Yes!**
- Verses 13 and 15-18 Yes!**

3. How did I become a member of Christ himself and a temple of the Holy Spirit?

- Verses 14, 17, 19-20**

4. How do I make the right choices?

- Verses 15 and 19**

- Verses 19-20**

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

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 SACRAMENT

HYMN 309 – Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

**1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured.
Offered was he for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and himself the priest.**

**2 He that his saints in this world rules and shields
To all believers life eternal yields,
When heav'nly bread makes them that hunger whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsty soul.**

**3 Come forward, then, with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
Before your altar, Lord, your servants bow;
In this your feast of love be with us now.**

SILENT PRAYER

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others.

LORD'S SUPPER CONSECRATION AND DISTRIBUTION

SILENT PRAYER

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

BLESSING

FINAL HYMN 249: God of Mercy, God of Grace

**1 God of mercy, God of grace, Show the brightness of your face.
Shine upon us, Savior, shine; Fill your Church with light divine,
And your saving health extend To the earth's remotest end.**

**2 Let the people praise you, Lord! Be by all that live adored.
Let the nations shout and sing Glory to their Savior King,
At your feet their tribute pay, And your holy will obey.**

**3 Let the people praise you, Lord, Then enjoy your rich reward!
God to us his blessing give, We to God devoted live,
All below and all above one in joy and light and love.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Bible Hour follows our worship this morning.
In adult Bible hour we are studying Paul's letter to Titus. Join us!
2. Confirmation meets on Monday, January 18th, 3:30-5:00 pm.

3. Council meets this Tuesday, January 19, at 7:00 pm.

4. Online Bible Class Continues.

The Format:

I send out weekly study guides in a congregational email on Mondays. You have an opportunity to work through the study guides at home.

I post an online video in which I work through the weekly study guide on Wednesdays. This video is sent out as a congregational email, just like our weekly worship services.

This week, we begin our study of Peter's first epistle.

5. Thursday morning Bible class meets at 10:00 am. We are currently Studying the book of Numbers.