

Baptism of Our Lord 9 January 2022



This is the Kvindherred Church in Rosendal, Norway established in 1255. Many of our early pioneers were baptized and confirmed in this church. On leaving Norway, some of our people carried letters written by the Kvindherred pastor attesting to their membership.



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Service of Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 3

*The liturgy is in the front of the ELW with numbers at the bottom of the pages.
The hymns begin in the middle of the ELW with numbers at the top of the pages.*

Prelude

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness (pages 94-96)

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.
There is a time of silence for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Hymn #267 “Joy to the World”

Greeting (page 138)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie (pages 138-139; spoken responsively)

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Canticle of Praise: "This is the feast..." (pages 140-141)

Prayer of the Day

Readings

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia” (page 142)

Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Sermon – Pastor Roberta

Sermon – Pastor Roberta

Hymn #448 “This Is the Spirit’s Entry Now”

Confession of Faith: Nicene Creed (page 104)

**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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

(Each petition ends: P: Merciful God)

C: receive our prayer

Offering

Great Thanksgiving (page 144; spoken responsively)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right....and join their unending hymn:

"Holy, holy, holy Lord..." (page 144)

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer (page 145)

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.

Holy Communion is celebrated today.

All who are baptized into Christ Jesus are invited to receive Holy Communion

Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.

"Lamb of God..." (page 146)

Hymn #302 "As with Gladness Men of Old"

Post Communion Blessing & Prayer

Blessing

Hymn #800 "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart"

Dismissal

P: Go in Peace. Share the gift of Jesus. **C: Thanks be to God!**

Ringin of the Bell / Postlude

Pastor: Rev. Roberta Pierce
Organist: Jason Bousselot or Linda Whitman
Acolyte: Kara Olson
Lector: Joyce McCutcheon
Communion Assistant: Cindy Burke
Usher: Joe Morehead
Cleaners: Dan and Cindy Burke

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This Week At A Glance

Wednesday 6:00 pm Confirmation class at Faith
7:00 pm Bible Jam at Faith
Sunday 8:00 am Worship Service at Faith
9:25 am Sunday School at Our Savior's
10:30 am Worship Service at Our Savior's
am

Those to keep in prayer: Yale Christensen, Paul Rock, Megan Mineck Wentland, Ryan Dick, Neil Mason, Betty Schau, Tim Burke, Jim Goddard, Barb Johnson; the homebound: Bus Seastrand, Rusty Porth, Hazel Richards, Ron Gasper, Norman Bousselot, Joan Shelton, and Myrna Kay Petersen; and those serving in the military.

Financial reports, budgets, and audit reports are due in the church office by Monday, January 17, 2022.

Epiphany and the Baptism of Our Lord

“And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him.”

-Matthew 3:26

Two Feast Days

The feast of the Epiphany is January 6th. On the following Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of our Lord. The first Sunday after Epiphany always commemorates Christ’s baptism.

Sometimes these two feast days sneak up on us, especially when there is only one additional Sunday during the 12 days of Christmas.

So January 6th is Epiphany, and Sunday is Baptism of our Lord. One caveat though: some churches move the feast of the Epiphany to the nearest Sunday. For example, the Roman Catholic Church in the United States often makes this transfer. Either way, having Epiphany and Baptism of our Lord so close together can seem like a challenge for churches, especially when it comes to teaching. Here are some points to keep in mind:

Baptism and Epiphany go hand-in-hand

There is a good reason for the first Sunday after Epiphany to focus on Baptism. In fact, many churches will baptize children and adults on this Sunday, as it is one of the most appropriate days for baptisms. The key here is that Baptism is all about beginning. Jesus began his ministry with his own baptism, and today Christians see Baptism as beginning a committed journey with Jesus.

The season after Epiphany, as a whole, has much to do with beginnings: the beginning of Jesus’ life, the start of his ministry,

the calling of the disciples, and his first miracle. All of this helps us see Baptism as an important beginning, both for Jesus, and for us.

What about the magi?

The Revised Common Lectionary is clear that the gospel reading for Sunday January 9th is the story of Jesus being baptized in the river Jordan. So what do we say or do about the magi, who had their gospel reading on the day of Epiphany itself?

Well, both stories carry forward the theme of Jesus' identity taking shape. The magi identify Jesus as a king and because the magi are from foreign lands, they identify Jesus as a king for all people. In the baptism story, Jesus is also identified, but in this case his identity is the beloved son of God. As a teaching point, we may link the magi story with the baptism story by saying: "These Epiphany stories work together to show us who Jesus is... revealing the fullness of his identity. The magi show us one part of Jesus' identity, the baptism shows us another part."

The Trinity

One of my favorite teaching points for the Baptism of Christ involves the Trinity. The moment when Jesus is baptized is one of the only times in the Bible that the entire Trinity appears together. Consider the passage: the Son stands in the river, the Spirit descends like a dove, and the Father speaks from heaven. This Epiphany moment reveals yet another aspect of Jesus' identity: his place as the second person of the Trinity.

As you observe these two feast days, we hope you rejoice in this important season of Epiphany. Jesus Christ has arrived, and there are many beginnings to celebrate.