



Order of Worship

January 7th, 2018



Baptism of the Lord Sunday

*This liturgy was written by the Rev. Dr. Scotty J. Williams
and was celebrated in St. Gallen, Switzerland at
All Souls Protestant Church which is now dissolved.*

LITURGY

January 7, 2018

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

PRELUDE

“Down To The River To Pray”

† PRAYER OF APPROACH

Lector: Ascribe to the Lord, O mighty ones, ascribe to the Lord all glory and strength!

People: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to His name, and worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness!

Lector: The Lord sits enthroned above the flood, and the Lord is enthroned as King forever!

People: The Lord gives strength to His people, and the Lord blesses His people with peace!

Lector: Brothers and Sisters, let us pray to Him who sits enthroned above....

ALL: Most Wonderful God, though foolish and flawed, we ascribe to You all glory and strength. And we gather here in Jesus' name, the One Who came to do Your will. Lord, as we remember His baptism, and give You thanks for our baptisms, open up the heavens that we might greet Your light this day. The light that shines with love through Christ, our sure Redeemer, Who greets us now. To Him, to You, and to the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.

† SONG OF APPROACH

"I Greet Thee"

words by John Calvin 1545, music by Louis Bourgeois, 1551

1. I greet Thee, who my sure Re - deem - er art,
 2. Thou art the King of mer - cy and of grace,
 3. Thou art the life, by which a - lone we live,
 4. Our hope is in no oth - er save in Thee;

My on - ly Trust and Sav - ior of my heart,
 Reign - ing om - nip - o - tent in ev - ery place:
 And all our sub - stance and our strength re - ceive;
 Our faith is built up - on Thy prom - ise free;

Who pain didst un - der - go for my poor sake;
 So come, O King, and our whole be - ing sway;
 Sus - tain us by Thy faith and by Thy pow'r,
 Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,

I pray Thee from our hearts all cares to take.
 Shine on us with the light of Thy pure day.
 And give us strength in ev - ery try - ing hour.
 That in Thy strength we ev - er - more en - dure. A - men.

WELCOME

† PRAYER OF ADORATION / THE LORD'S PRAYER

The people join hands

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.

† SONG OF ADORATION

“Down To The River To Pray”

words and music by Anonymous

[CHORUS]

As I went down to the river to pray,
 Studying about that good old way
 And who shall wear the starry crown,
 Good Lord, show me the way.

Oh, sisters, let's go down. Let's go down, come on down.
 Oh, sisters, let's go down. Down to the river to pray.

[CHORUS]

Oh, brothers, let's go down. Let's go down, come on down,
 Oh, brothers, let's go down. Down to the river to pray.

[CHORUS]

Oh, fathers, let's go down. Let's go down, come on down,
 Oh, fathers, let's go down. Down to the river to pray.

[CHORUS]

Oh, mothers, let's go down. Let's go down, come on down,
 Oh, mothers, let's go down. Down to the river to pray.

[CHORUS]

Oh, sinners, let's go down. Let's go down, come on down,
 Oh, sinners, let's go down. Down to the river to pray.

† CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor: Brothers and Sisters, as we come to river to study and pray, let us wash our sins in the waters of grace. Holy Father....

ALL: We confess to You that we are incredibly stubborn, and despite Your blessings and love poured out, we wallow in the muck foolish ways. Lord, help us to desire You, and help us to yearn for Your presence. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us again, that we might be Your children in whom You are well-pleased. Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, we pray. Amen.

(Confess in Silence)

† SONG OF CONFESSION

“Trisagion”

words by the Eastern Church, 433; music by Fernando Ortega, 2011

Holy God,
 Holy and Mighty,
 Holy Immortal One.
 Have mercy, Have mercy on us.

† CONFESSION OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Friends, the love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, and for all eternity. And by this we can rejoice and know that we are His and He is well-pleased. Therefore, in light of God's promises and love, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all of our sins. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made righteous!
 Thanks be to God!

† CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles Creed

Pastor: Let us confess our faith together saying:

ALL: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth,
 And 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 to the dead;
 On the third day He rose again;
 He ascended into heaven,
 And He 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.

*The word *catholic* means “universal” or “for all people” (not the Roman Catholic Church).

† PASSING OF PEACE

Pastor: Friends, the peace of the Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Pastor: Please take this time to offer the peace of Christ to those around you.

† SONG OF PEACE

“Nothing But The Blood Of Jesus”

words and music by Robert Lowrey, 1876 (Indelible Grace)

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
 What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

[CHORUS]

Oh! Precious is the flow

That makes me white as snow;

No other fount I know,

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon, this I see, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
 For my cleansing, this my plea, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

[CHORUS]

Nothing can for sin atone, Nothing but the blood of Jesus
 Naught of good that I have done, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

[CHORUS]

This is all my hope and peace, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
 This is all my righteousness, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

[CHORUS]

+ OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 29 (ESV)

Ascribe to the Lord Glory

Lector: Children of God and friends of Christ, hear these words from
the twenty-ninth Psalm:

¹ Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. ² Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

³ The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters. ⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. ⁶ He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

⁷ The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. ⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in His temple all cry, "Glory!"

¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as King forever. ¹¹ May the LORD give strength to His people! May the LORD bless His people with peace!

Lector: This is the Word of God for you, the people of God!

People: Thanks be to God!

+ NEW TESTAMENT READING

Mark 1:4-11 (ESV)

The Baptism of Jesus

Pastor: And now friends, a reading from the Gospel of Mark.
Listen and hear the Word of God:

⁴ Then John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he preached, saying, "After me comes He who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I have baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹ Then in those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And when He came up out of the water, immediately He saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven saying, "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased."

Pastor: This too is the Word of God for you, the people of God!

People: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Scotty J. Williams

WORSHIP IN GIVING

If you are our guest today, please feel under no compulsion to give, but if you choose to give we thank you and pray that you are blessed.

† DOXOLOGY *words by Thomas Ken, 1674; music by Louis Bourgeois, 1551*

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise *him, all crea-tures
here be - low; praise *him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

† INVITATION TO THANKSGIVING (Eucharist)

Pastor: In the ancient Church a greeting was given at the breaking of bread, and like those before us I greet you with the joy of God. Friends, the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: Let us pray...It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to You, O God, through Jesus Christ, Who calls us to follow His way of humble service and love. And so with the Church on earth, all creation and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn....

† SANCTUS *words by Reginald Heber, 1826; music by John B. Dykes 1861*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
All, Thy works shall praise Thy Name in earth, and sky, and sea;
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and Might - y!
God in three Per - sons bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

† WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND INSTRUCTION

Pastor: On the night He was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take this and eat of it; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me until I come again.”

And in the same way, after supper, He also took the cup, and said, “Take this and drink of it; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me.”

Gracious Father, we thank You for sending Your Son Jesus Christ, Who gave His life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live. Send down Your Holy Spirit upon these Your gifts of bread and wine that they might be for us His body and His blood. Amen.

Friends, in the breaking of His body, Christ received our brokenness and gave us the blessings of heaven. Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of faith in Him.

ALL: Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Pastor: Behold the gifts of God for you, the people of God. Let us keep the feast!

DISTRIBUTION

We welcome all baptized Christians and those who wish to follow Jesus to come to the Table and receive Communion. We take the elements by *intinction* or dipping the bread into the cup, so once you receive the bread please hold on to it that you might dip it into the cup. To ensure that all can partake our bread is gluten-free, and we use grape juice.

† SONG OF THANKSGIVING

“Gather Us In”

words and music by Marty Haugen, 1979

Here in this place new light is streaming,
Now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
Brought here to You in the light of this day.

*Gather us in - the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
We shall arise at the sound of our name.*

We are the young our lives are a mystery
We are the old who yearn for Your face,
We have been sung throughout all of history,
Called to be light to the whole human race.

*Gather us in the rich and the haughty,
Gather us in the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
Give us the courage to enter the song.*

Here we will take the wine and the water,
Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Here You shall call Your sons and your daughters,
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.

*Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
Give us to eat the bread that is You;
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.*

† RENEWAL OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Pastor: Friends, as we celebrate our Lord's baptism, let us remember our own baptisms and pray to the Lord saying:

ALL: Lord, drown our sins and raise us to new life with You.

Pastor: Almighty Father, we renounce the ways of sin and death that separate us from You, and we turn away from darkness to the light and hope of Jesus Christ:

ALL: Lord, drown our sins and raise us to new life with You.

Pastor: O saving God, we turn to Christ as Savior and Lord, and trust within His matchless grace and perfect love that knows no end:

ALL: Lord, drown our sins and raise us to new life with You.

Pastor: O God of freedom, we promise to be Your faithful disciples, and to keep Your Word with obedience that all the world might know Your love:

ALL: Lord, drown our sins and raise us to new life with You.

Pastor: O God, our Provider, we promise to be faithful in this fellowship, share in its ministry through our prayers, gifts, study, and service, and so fulfill the calling You have given.

ALL: Lord, drown our sins and raise us to new life with You.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Almighty Father, we thank You for our baptisms, and we ask that You pour out Your Spirit that we might live as Jesus lived. May all of us, who have passed through the waters and found Your grace, be delivered from death to life, from bondage to freedom, and from sin to righteousness. Lord, bind us to the household of faith, guard us from every evil, and strengthen us to serve You with joy until the day when You make all things new. We ask all this through Jesus Christ Your beloved Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, both now and forever. Amen.

† SONG OF SENDING

“Christ, You Are The Fullness”

words by Bertus F. Polman, 1986; music by Korean Folk Melody (Arirang)

Unison

1 Christ, you are the full - ness of God, first - born of ev - ery-thing.
 2 Since we have been raised with you, Lord, help keep our hearts and minds
 3 Help us live in peace as true mem - bers of your bod - y.

For by you — all things were — made; you hold them up.
 pure and set on things that build your rule o'er all the earth.
 Let your word dwell rich - ly in us as we teach and sing.

You are head of the church, which is your bod - y.
 All our life is now hid - den with — you in God.
 Thanks and praise be to God through you, Lord Je - sus.

First - born from the dead, you in all things are su - preme!
 When you come a - gain, we will share your glo - ry.
 In what - e'er we do let your name re - ceive the praise!

† BENEDICTION

Irish Blessing

Pastor: May the road rise to meet you,
 May the wind be always at your back,
 May the sun shine warm upon your face,
 May the sweet and fragrant rain of God's blessing fall
 soft upon your lives,
 And until we meet again, brothers and sisters, family
 and friends in Christ
 May Almighty God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 hold you in the hollow of His hand.

† CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

Threefold (Danish) Amen

A - men. A - men. A - men.