

January 8, 2023

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Claimed for Ministry

Who is this one for whom the heavens opened? His beginning was not auspicious, at least not as we might rate it today: A teenage mother, an out-of-wedlock pregnancy, stable-born in poverty, of a class vulnerable to the whims of power.

His childhood, though we hear little of it, was probably the same. Unremarkable to outside observers, he learned to walk and talk, to obey and honor, to worship and pray. But this apparently unremarkable boy bore promise in his soul, not just to him, but to all of us.

Once a young man, it was time for that promise to begin to reveal itself, to begin to unfold *in* the world, *for* the world. There had been mysteries before for those who were close to this young man: angels bringing messages and wondrous, unexpected visitors bringing gifts. There had been the flight to Egypt, and safety.

John, the wild baptizer, presided over the water and wilderness. His was a ministry to the common people, and he scorned the religious leaders who came to him. *His* beginning was auspicious, the son of priestly lines, and now one making public pleas for repentance. Like his parents before him, his was a public life.

When Jesus appeared before him at the Jordan River, the public John deferred to him whose life thus far had been mostly veiled in normalcy. When Jesus rose up from the waters, his privacy was ended. "This is my Son, the Beloved." The heavens opened, and the voice declared that God's very presence stood in the river water, dripping with promise and love for all of us. Jesus was publicly claimed for his ministry, as we all are when we emerge from baptismal waters. Now we know. Now we praise. Now we hope. God is here.

First St. John Lutheran Church

2471 Seaman Street
Toledo, Ohio 43605
419-691-7222

office@firststjohn.com

www.firststjohn.com

Rev. Jerald K. Rayl

Dr. Anthony Pattin - Church Musician
Jacob Kelly - Youth & Family Minister
Toni Wilbarger - Office Manager



Called through faith; Gathered in worship; Serving the community

January 8, 2023 - 10:30 am

January 8, 2023

Baptism of Our Lord

Welcome to First St. John Lutheran Church! We offer two services with Sunday School for youth and adults and catechism between the services. Our regular Sunday schedule is:

8:00 am	Early Worship
9:15 am	Sunday School / 1st Year Catechism
9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
10:30 am	Late Worship
11:30 am	2nd Year Catechism every other Sunday

Livestream and Recorded Worship: We livestream the service on our church website at www.firststjohn.com. Also, the service will be recorded and published to the website.

Adult Sunday School meets at 9:15 am in the Youth Room area in the basement of the Educational Building.

Children ages 3 through 5th grade will meet at 9:15 am for Sunday School in the basement of the church (the JAM Room!).

Catechism Classes: First year class will be held from 9:15 to 10:15 am each Sunday. Second year class will meet every other Sunday from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Nursery is in the church basement and is currently unstaffed; you are welcome to sit with your child. A diaper changing table is available in the ladies restroom in the basement of the church.

Restrooms are in the church basement. Go to the Narthex (lobby) and take either set of steps to the basement hallway. The ladies room is at one end, and the men's room is at the other.

Flowers: If you would like to sign up for altar flowers, there is a book in the lounge. Or, you can call the church office during the week to check on availability.

Memorials: If you wish to give a memorial in honor or memory of a loved one, you may mail it in or pick up a memorial card in the church office.

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY

Please purchase full size items.

dish soap	shampoo, child	disposable razors
paper towel	laundry soap	toothbrush, adult
toilet paper	fabric softener sheets	toothpaste, adult
tissues	body lotion	sanitary pads
deodorant	body soap	band aids
shampoo, adult		

This is a list of the items that will provide a month's worth of hygiene supplies to families or individuals in our neighborhood to help them stay clean and healthy. We always welcome any donations from our congregation members. **If you would like to donate items, please donate only full size products as sample sizes will not last a month.**

If you would prefer a Pantry volunteer to do the shopping for you, we welcome monetary donations. Please make out checks to First St. John Lutheran Church and write Personal Needs Pantry on the memo line.



(After all have received communion, please stand.)

P: Now may the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray. Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod ☩ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn *"As With Gladness Men of Old"* No. 302 v. 1-4

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Dr. Pattin

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

ELDER

Dave Wilbarger

SOUND BOARD

Mark Ackerman

ORDER OF WORSHIP—10:30 am

Prelude

Dr. Pattin

Ring of the Bell

(Please stand)

Opening Hymn *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"* No. 283 v. 1-3

Opening Praise

P: O Lord, I cry to you for help.

C: In the morning my prayer comes before you.

P: Give me the joy of your saving help again,

C: and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

P: Let my mouth be full of your praise

C: and your glory all the day long.

P: Every day will I bless you,

C: and praise your name forever and ever.

P: Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,

C: O God of our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.

P: Bless the Lord, O my soul,

C: And all that is within me, bless his holy name.

P: He redeems my life from the grave,

C: and crowns me with mercy and lovingkindness.

P: Lord, hear my prayer,

C: and let my cry come before you.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be our daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

Announcements

J.A.M. CHRSTIMAS PROGRAM

"A Night Like No Other"

(Please stand)

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 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.

(Please be seated)

Installation of Officers

(All newly elected and currently serving officers of WELCA, Church Council, Day School Board, and Altar Guild please come forward.)

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 for the remembrance of me. With joy we tell your story:

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

P: We call for your Spirit on us and this meal. Refresh our souls with this heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son. Nourish us as branches of your tree, and enlighten us with your undying flame. We sing out to the Father, we ring out to the Son, we exult in the Spirit. Transport us in our yearning, and be for us the end and the beginning, our purest pleasure, our victorious crown, our never-ending love. And so we pray and praise:

P: Amen, amen, amen, and again, amen.

C: Amen, amen, amen, and again, amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P: With humble confidence we join our voices in the prayer gifted by our brother and Lord, Jesus Christ:

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Come and taste the joy of God!

C: We come to the holy meal.

The Communion *(distribution will be continuous)*

If you wish to receive apple juice instead of wine, place your hand over your shoulder as you approach the person distributing the wine.

"All baptized Christians, believing that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's table. Infants, children and others who have not been baptized are welcome to come to receive a blessing; please make an X with your arms across your chest."

Response: We will, and we ask God to help us.

*(Those being installed face the presiding minister,
who addresses them.)*

P: I now declare you installed as Leaders of this congregation.
Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in
peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

C: Amen.

The Offering

Offertory Music

Dr. Pattin

Offering Prayer

P: Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the
oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for
all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your
justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus
our Savior,

C: Amen.

Dialogue Of Thanksgiving

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.

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

Words of Thanksgiving

P: Almighty Lord, we praise your shining light, your glowing grace.
From before the earth's foundation, you loved us and promised
us life forever. Within the earth's deep sadness, we laud your
great and glorious might. Despite our tears and sinning, we sing
of the gladness of your mercy.

We praise your Son, our Morning Star. Christ is our diamond
bright, our treasure dear. He is our living Savior who has
ransomed us in love. He keeps us yours and fails us never—
today, tomorrow, and every day.

On the night before his great salvation, he 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 for the remembrance
of me.

P: The following people have been elected by the congregation to
positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to
serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and
sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that
these sisters and brothers will lead us in our common life and
our mutual mission as a congregation.

(The presiding minister addresses those being installed.)

P: A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but
the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same
Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God
who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the
manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

(1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

P: You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in
this congregation.

P: You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of
faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with
the whole church.

P: You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in
worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the
mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider
church, in this community, and in the whole world.

P: You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the
Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

P: You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace,
harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

(The presiding minister addresses those being installed.)

P: On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Will
you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices o
which you have been elected?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

*(The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly.
The presiding minister addresses the assembly.)*

P: People of God, I ask you: Will you support these,
your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry
that Christ has given to all who are baptized?