

Welcome

Prelude

Baptismal Hymn

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

- 1 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."
- 2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses
- 3 In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in,
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise."
- 4 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold."

Text: John Ylvisaker, 1937–2017

Invocation

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In remembrance of our Baptism we begin in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Harvey Bernard Morton

Rite of Holy Baptism

Baptismal Hymn

594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

- 1 God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!
- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me
Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood,
Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?
- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!
- 4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
To make life immortal mine.
- 5 There is nothing worth comparing
To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ;
I'm a child of paradise!

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957

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Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 117; antiphon: Psalm 96:6a; 115:18

- P** Splendor and majesty are before him; we will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!
- C** **Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!**
- P** For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**
- P** Splendor and majesty are before him; we will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P We pray.

O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 66:18–23

¹⁸“For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, ¹⁹and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. ²⁰And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. ²¹And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD.

²²“For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain.

²³From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Hebrews 12:4–24

⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him.

⁶For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.”

⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

¹²Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

¹⁸For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn

968 My Lord, What a Morning

ref My Lord, what a morning;
My Lord, what a morning;
Oh, my Lord, what a morning,
When the stars begin to fall,
When the stars begin to fall.

1 You'll hear the trumpet sound,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall. Refrain

2 You'll hear the sinner cry,
To wake the nations underground,

Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall. Refrain

- 3 You'll hear the Christian shout,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall. Refrain

Text: African American spiritual
Text: Public domain

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:22–30

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.
G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²²[Jesus] went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. ²³And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, ²⁴“Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ ²⁶Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ ²⁷But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’ ²⁸In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. ²⁹And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. ³⁰And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

433 Glory Be to Jesus

- 1 Glory be to Jesus,
Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood
From His sacred veins!
- 2 Grace and life eternal
In that blood I find;
Blest be His compassion,
Infinitely kind!
- 3 Blest through endless ages
Be the precious stream
Which from endless torment
Did the world redeem!
- 4 Abel's blood for vengeance
Pleaded to the skies;
But the blood of Jesus
For our pardon cries.
- 5 Oft as earth exulting
Wafts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing
Make their glad reply.
- 6 Lift we, then, our voices,
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious blood!

Text: Italian, c. 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

“The Narrow Door”

Luke 13:22-30

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

G 1 O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding through all eternity.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and +I+ give you peace.

G Amen.

Closing Hymn

411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus. Refrain

ref In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. Refrain

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934–2025

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Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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