



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Baptism of our Lord

January 9, 2022

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We wish to acknowledge this land on which St. Philip's Lutheran Church is located. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples. We are grateful to have the opportunity to meet, worship, and serve on this land.

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG

"This is the Spirit's Entry Now"

vs. 1, 4 ELW 448

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

READING

Isaiah 43: 1 - 7

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

¹But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— ⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

BIBLE BUNCH

"Bugs for Lunch"

GOSPEL

Luke 3: 15 – 17, 21 – 22

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the

Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Crashing Waters at Creation"

vs. 3, 4 ELW 455

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

We give you thanks, holy and gracious God,
for you created the waters of the earth:
wide oceans, rushing streams, clear lakes, mighty rivers.

You led your people through the sea and called them to life in
covenant with you.

Your Son was baptized in the river Jordan to begin his mission
among us.

You pour out your Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.

Through this water remind us of the gift of baptism.

Renew us in your promise so that we may serve this world in all its
need;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and forever.

Amen.

Almighty God,

who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit
and forgives us all our sins,
strengthen us in all goodness

and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends: God of grace,
Response: **hear our prayer.**

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

In everything give thanks. 1 Thessalonians 5:18

SHARING OF PEACE

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

PRAYER

We give you thanks, gracious God,
for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.
Send us to bring good news
and to proclaim your favor to all,
strengthened with the richness of your grace
in your Son, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,
and who calls you by name,
✠ bless your going out and your coming in,
today and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me” *vs. 1, 3, 5* ACS 1084

DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a weary world.
Share the good news.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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SERVING TODAY

Rev. Tuula Van Gaasbeek	Pastor
Marcia Powers-Dunlop	Lay Assistant
Chris Ritcey-Conrad	Music Director
Judy and Sam Marcuson	Cantors
Gary Wuschnakowski	Reader
Karen Adolph	Livestream Usher
Dave Pascoe	Audio Visual

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN OUR PRAYERS

Gus Berndt, Kevin Cartwright, Rodney Erlandson, Al Jacksteit, Matt Kirkpatrick, Mona Kibsey, Mark Kieswetter, Fran Moore, Pat Penney, Julie Potocny, and Helen Scollnik.

WAYS TO BE INVOLVED

While we can't be in the building, there are still ways to stay involved and in community with others. Here are a few:

- Tuesday Bible Study via Zoom @ 7:00 pm starting January 18
- Join in the Virtual Coffee Hour @ 11:00 am on Sunday mornings.

PASS THE OFFERING PLATE PLEASE

Thanks for giving your offering regularly. Even while our doors are closed, our hearts and hands are open and busy. Our ministries need your support. Details for how to give are on our website: stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/



ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR VISION

Freed by the grace of Christ, we seek to connect with God, neighbour and self.

VISION STATEMENT:

We are a diverse and inclusive Lutheran faith community freed by the grace of Christ to find God and self as we connect with our neighbours. We **practise hospitality** of open hearts and open arms. We **unite with partners** to make a difference in our neighbourhood. We **nurture** the community of Christ.

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