

Sunday, January 10, 2021

Baptism of Our Lord

Open Song: “Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized”

ELW #304

- 1 Christ, when for us you were baptized,
God's Spirit on you came,
as peaceful as a dove, and yet
as urgent as a flame,
as urgent as a flame.

- 4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord;
your cross on us be signed,
that likewise in God's service we
may perfect freedom find,
may perfect freedom find.

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Psalm: Psalm 29

Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.
The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, “Glory!”
The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.
O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.”⁴Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—altogether there were about twelve of them.

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

HOD: “I went Down to the River to Pray”

As I went down in the river to pray
Studyin' about that good ole way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord show me the way

Oh sisters (brothers sinners) let's go down
Let's go down come on down
Oh sisters (brothers sinners) let's go down
Down in the river to pray (refrain)

As I went down in the river to pray
Studyin' about that good ole way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord show me the way

As I went down in the river to pray
Studyin' about that good ole way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord show me the way

Closing Song: "God, Whose Almighty Word"

ELW #673

- 1 God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

- 3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

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