



*At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee
and was baptized by John in the Jordan.*

Mark 1

WELCOME

Good morning and welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran!

Recently we celebrated the Festival of the Epiphany in candlelight recalling the Magi's arrival to worship and bestow their gifts upon the baby King. Today begins the Epiphany *season* during which Jesus is progressively revealed as God and human, the one Savior of humankind. The baptism of our Lord in the Jordan River by John is our first step on our Epiphany journey of revelation. This event serves not only as the inauguration of the Christ's ministry but offers us marvelous certainty that Jesus the Christ has his heavenly Father's full approval and delight.



We are very pleased that this weekend Pastors Jeremy Laitinen & Tom Bauer of Shoreland Lutheran High School are with us along with other SLHS staff members and students taking a lead role in presenting Jesus as God's only chosen One in Word and song. We thank them for the blessing they are among us. If you have questions about SLHS, please feel free to ask anyone from SLHS after any worship service.

It is a privilege to worship with you this weekend. Please join us for worship again very soon.

OUR FACILITIES

Our restrooms are located just to the left of the tower entrance. A family restroom is also available there. The members of Faith believe that families should be allowed to worship together. If your young one needs some "time out," we have an audio-equipped children's room just outside of the church doors to your right. If you need anything during the service, please feel free to ask an usher.

LISTENING ASSISTANCE & LARGE PRINT MATERIALS



Large print service folders and hearing assistance devices are available from an usher at your request. Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assist T-loop. If your hearing assist device is T-coil equipped you may switch to T-coil so sound can be transmitted directly to your hearing assist device.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O Holy Spirit, as I worship today come to me with your comforting Word, which alone can drive away my doubts. Direct me to my Savior, Jesus, that I may trust in him with my whole heart. Give me a faith that dares to come to him, trusting only in his love. Then grow in me a love that accepts others, as I have been accepted by my heavenly Father, that we might offer our united praise to your eternal glory. Amen.



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

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First Sunday after the Epiphany
January 9-10, 2021

SLHS SUNDAY The Baptism of Our Lord

COVID 19 ACCOMMODATIONS – Following the research and recommendations currently available Faith worship leaders are choosing to significantly reduce the total amount of singing by the entire assembly during the course of each service and also abbreviate our time gathered together. Worship as we've known it and prefer it will return in its full vibrancy when the pandemic is over.

OPENING HYMN

“The Only Son from Heaven”
Christian Worship # 86:1-3

1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, Fore - told by
2 Oh, time of God ap - point - ed, Oh, bright and
3 A - wak - en, Lord, our spir - it To know and

an - cient seers, By God the Fa - ther giv - en,
ho - ly morn! He comes, the King a - noint - ed,
love you more, In faith to stand un - shak - en,

In hu - man form ap - pears. No sphere his
The Christ, the vir - gin - born, Grim death to
In spir - it to a - dore, That we, through

light con - fin - ing, No star so bright - ly
con - quer for us, To o - pen heav'n be -
this world mov - ing, Each glimpse of heav - en

shin - ing As he, our Morn - ing Star.
fore us And bring us life a - gain.
prov - ing, May reap its full - ness there.

Stand

Presiding Minister [M]: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (+) and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation [C]: And also with you.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

Christian Worship # 86:4

4 O Fa - ther, here be - fore you With God the
Ho - ly Ghost And Je - sus, we a - dore you,
O Pride of an - gel host. Be - fore you
mor - tals low - ly Cry "Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly, O - bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be Seated

THE WORD OF GOD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 49:1-6

The prophet sings a “servant song” which presents the Messiah as “restoring tribes to Jacob” and being “a light for Gentiles.”

¹Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations:
Before I was born the LORD called me; from my birth he has made mention of my name.
²He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver.
³He said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor.”
⁴But I said, “I have labored to no purpose; I have spent my strength in vain and for nothing.
Yet what is due me is in the LORD’s hand, and my reward is with my God.”
⁵And now the LORD says — he who formed me in the womb to be his servant
to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself,
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength—
⁶he says: “It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.”

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 2 (*Christian Worship* p. 65)

***Refrain:* Great are the works of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Great are the works of the Lord.**

Why do the nations conspire*
and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD*
and against his Anointed One.

***Refrain:* Great are the works of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Great are the works of the Lord.**

The One enthroned in heaven laughs;*
the Lord scoffs at them.

Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,*
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:*
He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.”

**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.**

***Refrain:* Great are the works of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Great are the works of the Lord.**

NEW TESTAMENT EPISTLE LESSON

Acts 16:25-34

The jailer asked a most important question. The answer led away from works and led to the baptizing of his whole family.

²⁵About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everybody's chains came loose. ²⁷The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

²⁹The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

³¹They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." ³²Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. ³³At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. ³⁴The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Mark 1:11b

C: Alleluia. Alleluia!

M: You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.

C: Alleluia!

Please stand out of respect for the words and works of Christ.

GOSPEL

St. Mark 1:4-11

The Baptizer uniquely prepares the people for Christ's arrival, then is privileged to anoint the Messiah at his unique baptism.

⁴And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And this was his message: "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

M: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

“To Jordan’s River Came our Lord”
Christian Worship # 89



1 To Jor - dan’s riv - er came our Lord, The
2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— The
3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood And
4 Then from God’s throne with thun - d’rous sound Came
5 The Fa - ther’s word, the Spir - it’s flight A -



Christ, whom heav’n - ly hosts a - dored, The
Son of God in flesh dis - guised— To
John bap - tized the Lamb of God, The
God’s own voice with words pro - found: “This
noit - ed Christ in glo - rious sight As



God from God, the Light from Light, The
stand be - neath the Fa - ther’s will And
Ho - ly Spir - it, heav’n - ly dove, De -
is my Son,” was his de - cree, “The
God’s own choice, from A - dam’s fall To



Lord of glo - ry, pow’r, and might.
all his prom - is - es ful - fill.
scend - ed on him from a - bove.
one I love, who pleas - es me.”
save the world and free us all.

6 Now rise, faint hearts: be resolute!
This man in Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan’s stream,
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

SERMON

based upon Acts 8:26-39
Pastor Tom Bauer, SLHS

ON OUR WAY... REJOICING!

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” ²⁷So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, ²⁸and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. ²⁹The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

³⁰Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.

³¹“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

³²The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture:

“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants?
For his life was taken from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

³⁶As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. Why shouldn’t I be baptized?” ³⁸And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.

Stand

APOSTLES’ CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated

OFFERTORY (a musical piece played during the gathering of the offering) & OFFERING PRAYER

During the Covid crisis our preference is to gather our offerings electronically or through the mail but for those who do choose to bring offerings with them to worship there is a large offering basket at the main worship area doors for you to drop in your offerings later as you are dismissed from worship.

If you are not a member of Faith, we do not want you to feel obligated to participate in the offering. (God desires cheerful givers - not gifts based on a sense of guilt or obligation.) We gather our offerings during worship, because the Bible teaches that giving is *an act of worship*. Most of our church and school ministry is

carried out by what is given in weekly worship offerings. May the Lord bless you, and may he use every one of our offerings to him as a blessing to many others.

Stand

**C: Forgiven, free of guilt and shame, grant me some time to render
A gift to glorify your name, love to reflect your splendor:
This world must know what I have learned,
That you bestow what none have earned:
The joy of full forgiveness! Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

M: Lord of the Church, we were once aliens and strangers to your family. That is why you came into our world. You found us who were dead in sin and took pity on us. You became sin for us when you became flesh and blood for us. You carried our sins to the cross and paid for them one by one with perfect blood and perfect obedience. In your splendid rising from the dead you conquered the last enemy that stood between us and you. By faith you connected us to you. Such is the height, width and depth of your love for us. May we never lose sight of your mercy and mighty acts.

C: Lord, in mercy hear our prayer.

M: Lord of the Church, you not only connected us to you, but also to one another. Strengthen us with your mighty Spirit to treat one another with love, to deal compassionately with one another, to be respectful of each other's gifts and vision, and to shape our hearts with the forgiving love that flows from your love for us.

C: Lord, in mercy hear our prayer.

M: Lord of the Church, your Son grew in wisdom, stature and favor with God and all people. Bless and guide the children and youth of your Church by your Holy Spirit, that they may grow in grace and knowledge of your Word. Fill them with a sense of a high calling to be about preparing themselves for service to you and your people. Grant them the joy of salvation which You promise through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Lord, in mercy, hear our prayer.

M: Savior of all, we pray that this congregation may be a place that welcomes the lost and enriches the poor in spirit. Teach us to love as you have loved, to accept those who are different from us, to nurture the weak and brokenhearted, to correct those who have strayed, to guide those who are inclined to wander, and to share with others the gentle spirit of forgiveness.

C: Lord, in mercy hear our prayer.

M: Lord of our youth, we pray that this body of believers will be loyal and faithful in their support of the Christian education of its youth. Bless Shoreland and all our schools with teachers who display a love for souls, a curiosity to learn and a joyful desire to teach. Bless us and our congregation with willingness to support our school, and remember that your Word, which is taught in our schools, will not return to you empty, but will produce abundant fruit for the welfare of your people and the glory of your holy name.

C: Lord, in mercy hear our prayer.

M: Lord of compassion, we offer our prayers today for (*intercessory prayers will be inserted here as requested*). We also ask you to hear us as we offer you our private petitions.

Silent prayer

M: We come before you with child-like confidence, knowing that you will answer all our prayers with perfect wisdom and loving kindness to us.

C: Amen.

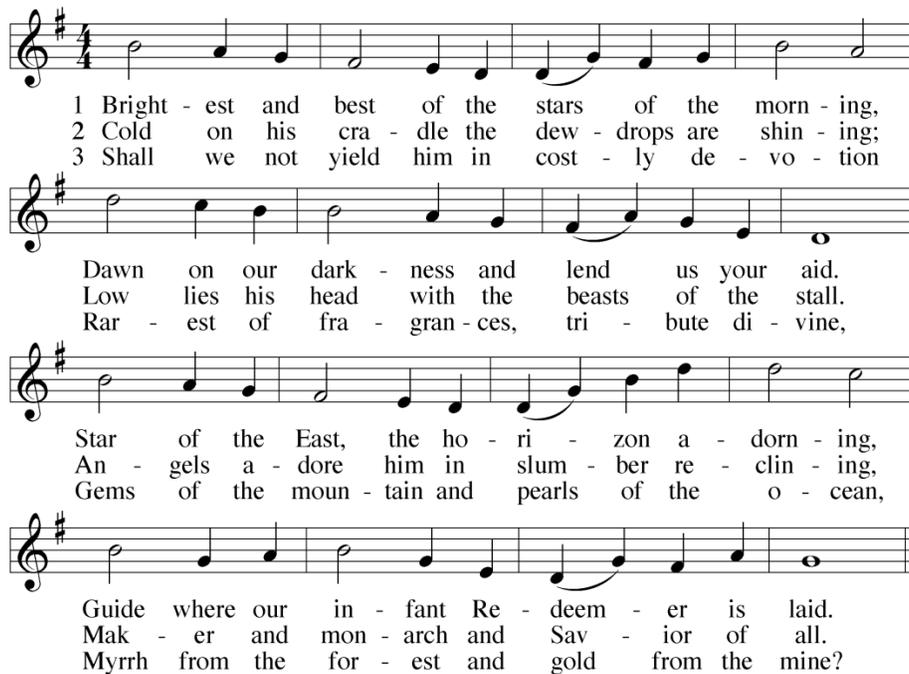
LORD'S PRAYER

C: **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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Be seated

HYMN

"Brightest and Best"
Christian Worship # 92:1-3



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;
3 Shall we not yield him in cost - ly de - vo - tion

Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.
Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall.
Rar - est of fra - gran - ces, tri - bute di - vine,

Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
An - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
Gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,

Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
Mak - er and mon - arch and Sav - ior of all.
Myrrh from the for - est and gold from the mine?

Stand

PRAYER & BLESSING

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving

peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN

“Brightest and Best”
Christian Worship # 92:4-5



4 Vain - ly we bring him the fin - est of of - f' rings,
5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
Vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure.
Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.
Rich - er by far is the praise that the heart brings;
Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
Dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

If you are new to Faith and have not yet introduced yourself to one of our pastors, please feel free to do so after any worship service. If you would like to receive updates or more information, visit faithantioch.org and click on **Contact Us**.

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