

The Sunday Messenger

Memorial Lutheran Church, Nevada Iowa ♦ January 10, 2021

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of 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.

Prayer of the Day

First Lesson *Genesis 1:1-5*

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the 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. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Psalm "*Baptized and Set Free*"

Second Reading *Acts 19:1-7*

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He 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." ³Then 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." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

Gospel *Mark 1:4-11*

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And 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. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He 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. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Sermon



Installation of Council Members

The Council gathered for their annual retreat on January 9. At the first meeting of the year the Council elects officers and is installed.

2021 Council Members

Kenzie Alderson
Sandy Christian
Phyllis Fevold
Jeanie Gibson
Carol Golden
Kathy Lynn Johnson
Carl Link
Larry Parker
Jerome Rewerts
Dan Stieler

Prayers of Intercession

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be Part of Online Fellowship After Worship Each Sunday. We will use Zoom as a way to connect with each other after worship. The same link will be used each week: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83367838198> For those interested in the Book of Faith adult study, a break out room will be created after a little time of fellowship.

7th and 8th Grade Confirmation Continues. Pastor Duane will meet with the students over Zoom for the six Wednesdays. The students will explore the Apostles' Creed and Lord's Prayer.

2020 Statements Mailed This Week. 2020 giving statements will be mailed this coming week. Bulk mail can take up to a week for delivery. If you should need a copy of your statements earlier for tax purposes, please contact the church office.

Devotions With Holy Communion Continue in 2021. Beginning January 14 Pastor Duane offers weekly devotions with Holy Communion during the daytime hours on Thursdays and at 10:15 am on Saturday mornings. Call the church office at 382-6509 to reserve a slot or use the new Sign Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094CA8AC2EA20-weekly>

At-Home Sunday School Resumes Today. Families with children through fourth grade receive materials for conducting Sunday School at home each week until we can safely gather together again.

Church Office Closed January 18. In observation of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the church office will be closed on January 18.

FAITH AND LIFE TOGETHER

For Those Hospitalized

.Don Hackbarth, *Story Medical Skilled Care*

Prayers for Healing

Gary Kluever, Harriet Flick *sister of De Carsrud*, Shellie Black, Harlen Johnsen, Jim Pappas, Karen Anderson, Almeda Warner, Janeen Driscoll, Darren Kluever, Jaylee Bartleson, Larry Christian, Julie Sutherland, Sheila Collingwood *Lyndsey De Vos' mother*, Lynn Harris, George Forsyth, Cassie Harrell, Jeff Sebring *son-in-law of Ernie and Marlene Ruhde*, Norma Gandrup, Linda Horn, Tom Nervig, Glenda Day, Ginny Hausner, Ken Johnson, Camden Kelsey, Cooper Leeman, Jan Cook, Margie Nahnsen