

The Reading: Luke 3:1-22

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar – when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Tracoonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene – ²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. ⁵Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. ⁶And all people will see God’s salvation.’” ⁷John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.” ¹⁰“What should we do then?” the crowd asked. ¹¹John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.” ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?” ¹³“Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them. ¹⁴Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?” He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely – be content with your pay.” ¹⁵The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. 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 barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them. ¹⁹But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother’s wife, and all the other evil things he had done, ²⁰Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison. ²¹When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord, **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

PreK-1st Grade Children Sing: *“Go Tell It On The Mountain” ELW #290 (congregation to join on verses 1-3)*

Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev’rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.

Verse 1: While shepherds kept their watching O’er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens There shone a holy light. [Refrain]

Verse 2: The shepherds feared and trembled When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior’s birth. [Refrain]

Verse 3: Down in a lowly manger The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn. [Refrain]

Sermon: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

Hymn of the Day & Offering: *Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.*

“Borning Cry” ELW #732

Vs 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.

Vs 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 rhyme from dusk ‘till rising sun.

Vs 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.

Vs 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.

Offertory Response: *“Give Thanks” W&P 41 (ushers bring offerings forward)*

**Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.
And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.
Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.**

Offertory Prayer: L: God of grace,

C: Your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

Baptism of Lillian Sue Gilsdorf, the daughter of Deidre & Jacob Gilsdorf

The Prayers: *(call and response)*

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.* You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news, especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans. Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city & county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery especially Keith Brown, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Shawn Fredrixon, Marc Bode, Harlan Reese, Beth Carlson, Gage Miller, Alex Stehr, Maria Starr Quiggle, Perry Fitzgerald, Tanya Bakken, Lorraine Hinsch, Jeff Ferkinhoff, Henry Strauss, Diane Krenke, Steve Pabst, Rollie Quade, Bob Eppen, & Chase Hanson. Accompany individuals & families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure & certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace: P: The peace of Christ be with you always, **C: And also with you.**

The Great Thanksgiving: P: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give Him thanks & praise.**

The Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Meal and Hymns: *(you may be seated)*

All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.

Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.

“Shall We Gather At The River” ELW #423

Verse 1: Shall we gather at the river, Where bright angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever Flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain: Yes, we'll gather at the river, The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river That flows by the throne of God.

Verse 2: On the margin of the river, Washing up its silver spray,
We will walk and worship ever, All the happy golden day. [refrain]

Verse 3: Ere we reach the shining river, Lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, And provide a robe and crown. [refrain]

Verse 4: Soon we'll reach the shining river, Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver With the melody of peace. [refrain]

“Nothing But The Blood” (CCLI Licensed)

Vs 1: What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus: Oh! precious is the flow That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Vs 2: For my pardon, this I see, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
For my cleansing this my plea, Nothing but the blood of Jesus. [Chorus]

Vs 3: Nothing can for sin atone, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Naught of good that I have done, Nothing but the blood of Jesus. [Chorus]

Vs 4: This is all my hope and peace, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness, Nothing but the blood of Jesus. [Chorus]

Communion Prayer: *(Please stand as you are able)*

P: Let us pray together,

C: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

Blessing: P: The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, & send you in love. C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: *“Jesus Name Above All Names”* W&P 77

Vs. 1: Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

Vs. 2: Jesus, loving Shepherd, Vine of the branches, Son of God.
Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Lord of the universe, Light of the world.

Vs. 3: Jesus, way of salvation King of Kings, Lord of Lords.
The Way, the truth, and the life Mighty Creator, My Savior and Friend.

Dismissal: P: Go in peace. Live in hope. C: Thanks be to God.

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Kamie Lodermeier, Ben Zillgitt, Char Volkmann, Maggie Voth, Scott Peterson, and Calvin Ryan

Welcome

We're Glad You're Here

St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson Baptism of our Lord • 9:30AM • January 12, 2025

Prelude: *“You Are The Light”* written and sung by Debbi St. John

Welcome & Announcements

Greeting: *(please stand as you are able)*

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

C: **Come Holy Spirit, Come!**

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. C: **Amen.**

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Merciful God,

C: **you speak blessing & compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

P: God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. C: **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: *“On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry”* ELW 249

Vs 1: On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh; awake and hearken,
for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!

Vs 2: Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin; make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

Vs 3: We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away like flow'rs that wither and decay.

Vs 4: Stretch forth your hand, our health restore, and make us rise to fall no more; oh,
let your face upon us shine and fill the world with love divine.

Vs 5: All praise to you, eternal Son, whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit, evermore.

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray together.

C: Heavenly Father, With joy and awe we praise you for claiming us as your sons and daughters, and for pouring your Holy Spirit upon us. Help us to prepare this earth for your glory, and shine your light on all your faithful children, for the sake of the one whose birth & baptism brought renewal & transformation to this world, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Praise for the Word: *“You Are Holy”* by Clark Richy (CCLI Licensed)

Chorus: You are holy oh so holy. You are holy Lord of all.

You are holy oh so holy. You are holy Lord of all. Lord of all.