

The Baptism of Our Lord

January 8, 2017



Isaiah Guides Us From Advent To Epiphany
Week 7:
God Strengthens His Son For His Task

BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Joel F. Kluender

Vicki Fronk, Preschool Teacher

Office: 724-443-3890/Cell: (724) 810-1813

5155 N. Pioneer Rd., Gibsonia (Hampton Twp.), PA 15044

www.bethanylutherangibsonia.com

HYMN— #91—*The Star Proclaims the King Is Here*

STAND

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

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

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.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

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.



BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

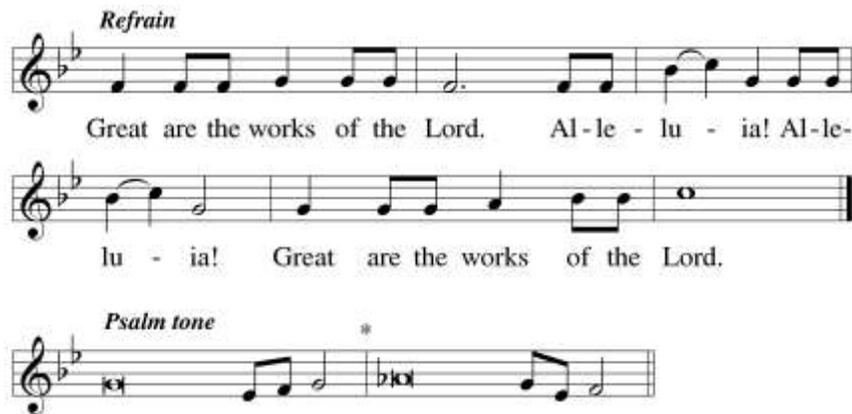
Isaiah 42:1-7 (EHV)

¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight. I am placing my Spirit upon him. He will bring forth the verdict for the nations. ² He will not cry out. He will not raise his voice. He will not make his voice heard in the street. ³ A bent reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not snuff out. He will faithfully bring forth the verdict. ⁴ He will not grow dim, and he will not be crushed until he establishes the verdict on the earth. The coastlands will wait for his teaching. ⁵ This is what the true God says, the LORD, who creates the heavens and stretches them out, who spreads out the earth and everything that comes out of it, who gives breath to the people upon it and life to those who walk on it.

⁶ "I am the LORD. I am calling you in righteousness. I will grasp your hand, and I will guard you. I will appoint you to be a covenant for the people, to be a light for the nations, ⁷ to open blind eyes, to bring the prisoners out of the dungeon and to bring those who live in darkness out of prison.

PSALM

Psalm 45



Refrain

My heart is stirred by a noble theme*
as I recite my verses for the King.
You are the most excellent of men,*
and your lips have been anointed with grace.
Gird your sword upon your side, O Mighty One;*
clothe yourself with splendor and majesty.
In your majesty ride forth victoriously;
let your right hand display awesome deeds.

Refrain

Your throne, O God, will last forever and ever;^{*}
 a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.
 You love righteousness and hate wickedness;^{*}
 therefore God has anointed you with the oil of joy.
 I will perpetuate your memory through all generations;^{*}
 therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever.
 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

SECOND LESSON

Acts 10:34-38 (EHV)

³⁴Then Peter began to speak: "Now I really am beginning to understand that God does not show favoritism,
³⁵but in every nation, anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶He sent his word to the people of Israel, proclaiming the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

³⁷"You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached.
³⁸God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the Devil, because God was with him.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. You are my son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia. *(Mark 1:11b)*

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that
 Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

STAND

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:13-17 (EHV)

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to be baptized by John at the Jordan. ¹⁴But John tried to stop him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you come to me?"

¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, because it is proper for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then John let him. ¹⁶After Jesus was baptized, he immediately went up out of the water. Suddenly, the heavens were opened for him! He saw the Spirit of God, descending like a dove and landing on him, ¹⁷and a voice out of the heavens said, "This is my Son, whom I love. I am well pleased with him."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY— #89—*To Jordan's River Came Our Lord*

SERMON (sermon text Isaiah 42:1-7)

"God Strengthens His Son For His Task"

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

OFFERING

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

M: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

M: Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.

C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

C: Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

BE SEATED

HYMN #577—*Rise, O Light of Gentile Nations*

STAND

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.



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.



HYMN #299—*All Who Believe and Are Baptized*

Service of the Word © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Wise Men Still Seek Him!



News And Notes

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCOME!

Welcome to worship! We consider it a privilege to have you worship with us today. Guests, if there is anything we can do to make your worship more meaningful, please do not hesitate to ask us. Pastor, the ushers, and all members of our Bethany family stand ready to serve you. May the Lord bless your worship!

THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

A special "thank you" to those who served their Lord by serving us this morning, our violinists, our organist, and our ushers. Thank you for edifying and beautifying our worship with your service.

MLS CONCERT CHOIR AT BETHANY SUNDAY, MARCH 26 — COORDINATOR AND HOSTS NEEDED

On Sunday, March 26th, the Michigan Lutheran Seminary Concert Choir will be singing at our Sunday worship service. This is an amazing privilege for such a small congregation as Bethany. To keep the travel costs down, the choir is seeking hosting in Bethany members' homes for as many of the 37 students and 4 adults as possible. They are prepared to pay for hotel accommodations for those whom we can not host, but the more we can host the better. If you are able to help with this, please talk to pastor ASAP with number of females and/or males you could house. Also, we are seeking one person to be the coordinator for all of our efforts in hosting, feeding and fellowshiping with them.

WELS SCHOOL OF OUTREACH — PLEASE JOIN THE CONTINUING EFFORT — SECOND SESSION MARCH 18

2017 brings us many new opportunities to reach out with the gospel of Jesus Christ in our community and Pastor is looking for new people to join him in (a) working on materials we received at the first session of the school of outreach and (b) preparing for (and possibly attending) the next session in Strongsville, Ohio on Saturday, March 18th. If you are interested in any part of this work, please speak with Pastor Kluender ASAP. Thanks!

NEW MINISTRY IDEAS? PASS THEM ON!

Do you have ideas for any new or enhanced ministries at (or through) Bethany? Do you have thoughts how we might improve our current ministries? If so, please take the opportunity to communicate your thoughts to Pastor Kluender in the near future. Now is the time to get working at this. THANK YOU.

LAST WEEK'S WORSHIP

In last Sunday's worship, __ people were fed and strengthened by the Word of God and __ took communion.

Our Walk For God

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY...

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
9	10 <i>7:00p Bible Study</i>	11 6:00p Elders' Meeting	12	13	14	15 <i>9:00a Sunday School and Adult Bible Study</i> <i>10:30a Worship</i> <i>Pastor leaves for Conference</i>
<i>Serving next Sunday: Altar: Stadler; Greeter: Proctor; Ushers: Team B/G</i>						