

ABOUT THE DAY: *Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Dearest Jesus, We Are Here*

-setting by Karl Osterland

All who are able are invited to stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy.

Amen.

PEACE

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

GATHERING HYMN: *Down Galilee's Slow Roadways p. 11*

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.
All may be seated*

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-5

Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for us. God created and continues to create new life.

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. *The word of the Lord.*

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 29 (read responsively – congregation reads bold)

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)

¹Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God’s name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.

⁴**The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**

⁷The voice | of the LORD
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.

⁸**The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.**

⁹The 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!”

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**

¹¹O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7

In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John’s baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptizes them, the Holy Spirit comes upon them and empowers them with gifts of the Spirit.

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. *The word of the Lord.*

Thanks be to God.

All who are able are invited to stand

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

Mark’s gospel reports the story of Jesus’ baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

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." *The Gospel of the Lord.*
Praise to you, O Christ.

All may be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

All who are able are invited to stand

HYMN: *When Jesus Came to Jordan* p. 12

All who are able are invited to stand

NICENE CREED

In the words of the Creed, let us confess our faith:

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they proclaim the forgiveness of sins, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God's goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the nations of the world and their leaders, for laborers busy both day and night, and for peacemakers amid strife, that God inspire all people to use their strength wisely, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the congregation gathered here and virtually, for students returning to school, for those seeking renewal in their daily work, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, that their witness inspire us in our baptismal vocations, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the sick and those who provide medical care, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer, (*especially Linda, Dorothy, Jim, Shirley, Clark, Lois, Dan, Richard, Kaylie, Dave, Louise, Stan, Theresa, Reed, Robin, Louise, Christopher, Karen, Tammy, Julie*), that God shower compassion, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those celebrating birthdays this week. May they continue to grow in faith as they grow in years, *especially Joan, Tyler, Lori, Christopher, Steve, Aubrey, Marie, Ulla, Sawyer, Taylor*, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those celebrating anniversaries this week. May they be bound together by your love, now and forever *especially Tom & Carina*, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Gracious Lord, as our shepherd, guide the ministries of all our siblings in Christ in congregations who continue to do your work. Through your Holy Spirit provide courage, perseverance, and resources to those who speak your word of truth and love. We give thanks this day for our sisters and brothers united through you. We pray especially for Morganland, Lowhill Township, and their pastor, Sally Zelker. May they be filled with your Holy Spirit, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

OUR OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

O God, receive these gifts as you receive us:

like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.

OFFERTORY:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as our Lord taught us:

**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.**

BLESSING

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *Beautiful Savior* p. 13

EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Crashing Waters at Creation*

-setting by David McCarthy

THIS WEEK (Jan. 10-16)

TODAY (10th)

-9:15am, LIVE-STREAMED Worship Service
-10:30 am, Sunday School (virtual)
-6:30pm, New Beginnings, M3/5/7

MON (11th)

-7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Social Hall

WED (13th)

-5:30pm, Jr. Gyros
-6:15pm, Friendship Ringers

THU (14th)

-7:00pm, Church Council (virtual)

NEXT WEEK (Jan. 10 – 16)

SUN (17th)

-9:15am, LIVE-STREAMED Worship Service with communion

-10:15am, Sunday School (virtual)
-10:15-11:00am, Drive-thru Communion

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

After careful consideration, the Relaunch Committee has recommended we continue VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICES through the end of January, at which time, conditions will be re-evaluated, and we will either continue our “pause” or resume in-person worship.

Assisting at Worship this Morning

Lector: Carol Rabenold
Cantor: Glenn Wagner
Video: Tom Daniels, Ken Gross

Say a Prayer ✨ Send a Card ✨ Pay a Visit

Fellowship Mnr: Florence Roth

Lehigh Commons: Barbara Diehl

Mosser: Arlene Miller

The Palmerton: Ferne Rock

Manor Care: MaryAnn Rau

Home: Margaret Smith, Olive Wood, Warren Gressley, George Hein, Loretta Hein

Please keep these people in your prayers:

Linda Grantz, Dorothy Diehl, Jim Miller, Shirley Hamm, Clark Snyder, Lois Heisler, Dan Stark, Richard Seltzer, Kaylie Radocha, Dave Ludwig, Louise Quaintance, Stan Sockel, Theresa Hedrick, Reed Klotz, Robin Jensen, Louise Stettler, Christopher Fish, Karen Hahn, Tammy Klotz, Julie Boyer

Birthdays this week:

Joan DuBois, Tyler Keinert, Lori Shortell, Christopher Boscia, Steve Laudenslager, Aubrey Filipovits, Marie Mikols, Ulla Martz. Sawyer Martz-Shelton, Taylor Shortell

Anniversaries this week:

Tom & Carina Epting (15)

How to contact us:

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2021 SPONSORSHIPS

All sponsorships have been temporarily suspended until we are back to live worship.

Thanks for understanding!

HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIPS: Contact Donna Hahn at 610-395-0613 or dhahn16@gmail.com with your choice of dates(s) and sponsorships(s). **Please indicate when reserving your date whether you wish to pick up the flowers after the 9:15 service or want them taken to shut-ins.** If no preference is given, flowers will be taken to shut-ins.

Altar flowers are \$40. Bulletins are \$20. Checks may be made payable to JELC and either mailed or dropped in the offering plate.

SPONSORSHIP POLICY: Flowers and other sponsorships may be reserved no earlier than one year from the chosen date. If you wish to reserve the same weekend for the following year, you may do so the day after the current year's sponsorship. No dates will be held; the first request for a date (within the one year limit) will be taken regardless of the previous year's sponsor.

**Treasurer's Report
for November 2020**

	Month	YTD	Budget Amounts	
			Month	YTD
Income:				
Operating Income	\$ 19,390.00	\$ 279,215.00	\$ 28,950.00	\$ 318,450.00
Benevolence	\$ 1,070.00	\$ 13,110.00	\$ 1,667.00	\$ 18,337.00
Property	\$ 2,009.00	\$ 24,252.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 27,500.00
Deficit Reduction	\$ 546.00	\$ 9,045.00	\$ -	\$ -
Total Income	\$ 23,015.00	\$ 325,622.00	\$ 33,117.00	\$ 364,287.00
Expenses:				
Administration	\$ 1,898.00	\$ 13,995.00	\$ 1,985.00	\$ 21,835.00
Ministries	\$ 1,002.00	\$ 8,755.00	\$ 1,437.00	\$ 15,807.00
Payroll	\$ 20,884.00	\$ 233,984.00	\$ 22,049.00	\$ 242,539.00
Property-Utilities, grounds, etc	\$ 3,156.00	\$ 69,319.00	\$ 7,942.00	\$ 87,362.00
Benevolence	\$ 1,767.00	\$ 19,592.00	\$ 1,917.00	\$ 21,087.00
Total Expenses	\$ 28,707.00	\$ 345,645.00	\$ 35,330.00	\$ 388,630.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (5,692.00)	\$ (20,023.00)	\$ (2,213.00)	\$ (24,343.00)

We are now seeing updates on the Truist website for the next phase of the PPP SBA process where we apply for the loan forgiveness but we are in a holding pattern as Truist is finishing their online application process. So, we are still tracking our employee payroll expenses and utilities (electric & oil), which are being paid for through PPP SBA loan funds. We are required to track all these expenses separately for the necessary documentation in our forgiveness application with Truist Bank to show that we have met qualifications for possible forgiveness and conversion to a grant.

In this month's Treasurer's Report, the dollar amounts show the full expenses associated with Payroll and the Property-Utilities, grounds, etc. in the expenses section of the report. These expenses are still being tracked separately from our normal income and expense records using features of our PowerChurch software. This month's Treasurer's Report shows a deficit for the YTD (year to date) a little **more than (\$20,000)**. Treasurer's Reports will NOT be reporting any surplus amounts due to the \$ 47,400 SBA Loan, since this amount was deposited into our Operating Income as a balance adjustment until we are potentially granted forgiveness.



A gentle reminder about appropriate masks that are required to be worn whenever in the Jordan building: The masks should be either the disposable type or two-layer fabric masks of a similar design that cover both the nose and mouth. Face coverings such as plastic shields (unless used in conjunction with an appropriate mask) and masks with vent valves included, are not considered by the CDC to provide adequate protection. CDC approved masks are available in Monica's office if needed.

Having all abide by the CDC guidelines will enhance the safety of others within the building. The responsible focus here is not our own personal preferences, it is based upon our loving consideration for those around us and reliable information. Please enjoy our streamed services from the comfort of your home now through January 31st, 2021.

The Relaunch Committee

Church Office Hours: The office is still open! Hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:00 noon, to take your phone calls, drop off your offering envelopes, etc. Every effort will be made to do so contact-free.

Our clothing collection: is TEMPORARILY ON HOLD due to the collection company's inability to schedule a pick up. We are out of storage space right now so, please, no clothing drop offs till further notice.

Living Lutheran Magazine, Upper Room, and Christ in Our Home: are all available from the church. Please call and we can make arrangements for you to pick one up while we are here, or put one on the bench for you to pick up at your convenience.

Annual Cemetery Lot Holder's Meeting: is postponed until regular church services are reestablished. A notice will be posted 2 weeks prior to that date.

Dear friends and fellow members: Lee and I appreciate the colorful poinsettia plant. It brightens up our cottage and we think of our Jordan family whenever we see it's red blooms. HAPPY and HEALTHY 2021 to all. Barb & Lee Kreidler

Family Promise Update (from Ingrid Martz & Dean Wagaman, Family Promise Host Coordinators)

Jordan is one of the 15 Host Congregations supporting Family Promise. Thank you everyone!

We currently have four (4) families in the program. Three families are in a hotel and one is in an apartment at the Sixth Street Shelter. All families are progressing. Each family is working and saving money. Two families are looking for apartments. Apartments are very limited. Please keep your eyes and ears open. Roslyn (Director of FP) meets regularly with Host Coordinators. Meals were delivered on Thanksgiving to each family (by Jordan UCC). Volunteers made Christmas stockings (and filled them). New pajamas were donated by Temple Keneseth Israel.

We send our gratitude to those who continue to faithfully make their offerings!

We highly recommend that at this time you prayerfully consider using online giving. Here is how you sign up:

WEBSITE – go to www.jordanlutheran.org click on the **SUPPORT** tab, then **Electronic Giving** and you will be offered two options to set up your electronic giving

GIVE+ PLUS (a free, secure phone app) download this free app to your mobile phone, search by zip code 18069 and when you see Jordan, follow the instructions to make your donation.

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Beautiful Savior (*Schönster Herr Jesu*) ELW 838 Public Domain

Down Galilee's Slow Roadways

G C D Em D

1 Down Gal - i - lee's slow road - ways a strang - er trav - eled on
 2 A - ris - ing from the riv - er he saw the heav - ens torn;
 3 We too have found a road - way; it led us to this place.

G C D C Am⁷ D G

from Naz - a - reth to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John.
 it seemed the sky so o - pen re - vealed the Spir - it's form.
 We all have had to trav - el in search of hope and grace.

C Am G Am Dsus D

He went down to the wa - ters like sol - dier, scribe, and slave,
 The ho - ly dove de - scend - ed a - mid a glo - rious voice:
 But now be - side this wa - ter a - gain a voice is heard.

G C D C Am⁷ D G

but there with - in the riv - er the sign was birth and grave.
 "You are my own be - lov - ed, my child, my heart, my choice."
 "You are my own, my cho - sen, be - lov - ed of your Lord."

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
 Music: Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933
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 Music © 1983 Hope Publishing Company

MERLE'S TUNE
 7 6 7 6 D

When Jesus Came to Jordan



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John,
2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,
3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.
for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.
this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond-age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,
So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,
Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.
the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.
to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune

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Beautiful Savior

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.