

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

People: Lord Jesus, we should stand in awe of your baptism today. You had no need to be cleansed of sin, while our need for forgiveness is desperate. You chose to count yourself among the sinners to bring salvation to all in need. We confess our need and our sin before you today. Forgive us and heal us and save us from the punishment we deserve. By your grace renew in us a joy of doing your will and walking in your ways. Amen.

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

Leader: In Holy Baptism our sins are forgiven and we are granted a new life in Christ, our Lord. Today we remember our baptism and confess the faith into which we were baptized. I ask you again: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

People: I do renounce them.

Leader: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

People: Yes, 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: Yes, 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

Scripture Readings

January 11, 2009

2 Kings 5:7-15

As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!" When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed." But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage. Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. Please accept now a gift from your servant."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Romans 6:1-11

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we

will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Mark 1:4-13

And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The 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. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And 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. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Outline - January 11, 2009

"One for all and all for One" • Baptism of our Lord

Mark 1:4-13

Introduction: A unique baptism.

The Baptism of Jesus

1. A Baptism of _____.

"At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan." v. 9

- Jesus identifies with sinners.

2. A Baptism of the _____.

"As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.""

v. 10-11

- Jesus identified as God.

3. A Baptism by _____.

"At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan." v. 12-13

- Jesus goes to war.

Answers - water, the spirit, fire

THE BENEDICTION

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: And the people took the blessing and held it in their hearts.

Leader: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!