

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

January 9, 2005

The Baptism of the Lord

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

THE PEOPLE GATHER. . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit *“Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun”*

The Call To Worship

(from Psalm 29)

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings;
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
**Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God’s name;
worship the Lord in holy splendor.**
The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.
**May the Lord give strength to God’s people!
May the Lord bless the people with peace.**

The Prayer of Praise

*The Hymn 70 *“Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized”*

*The Prayer of Confession

We know you are partial to the least among us, gracious God. We are partial, God of Justice, not to do right, but to do wrong; not to build others up, but to pull others down. We embrace those most like us, and push others away. Often it’s just thoughtless habit. Sometimes it’s on purpose. Men put women down when they can. Whites put other races down when they can. Old put young down when they can; young put old down when they can. No one has to tell us. We know when we do it. And so do you. In your mercy, forgive us. . .(time for silent confession). . .

*The Choral Response

*The Assurance of Pardon

(from Acts 10:42-43)

Christ alone is the One ordained by God
as Judge of the living and the dead.
**Yet everyone who believes in Him
receives forgiveness of sins through His name.**
Believe the Good News of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*The Gloria Patri

p. 579 in the Hymnal

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**
(Please exchange this ancient greeting with worshippers seated near you.
Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The *Old Testament* Lesson: *Isaiah 42:1-9* p. 622 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 29* p. 478 in the pew Bible

The Anthem "Down to the River to Pray" Sheldon Curry

The *Gospel* Lesson: *Matthew 3:13-17* p. 836 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

*The Hymn 72 "When Jesus Came to Jordan"

The *Epistle* Lesson: *Acts 10:34-43* p. 956 in the pew Bible

The Sermon "Is God Impartial?"
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

AND TO MAKE PROPER RESPONSE. . .

*The *Nicene Creed* p. 15 in the Hymnal

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Service of Offering
The Gathering of Our Gifts

The Offertory

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER. . .

*The Hymn of Preparation 510 "Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts"

The Invitation

The Call to Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

. . .who forever sing to the glory of your name:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. . .**

. . .Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. . .

The Lord's Prayer

p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Communion

(Worshippers may take the bread and the cup as they are offered,
following their own quiet moments of preparation.)

The Prayer after Communion

GO IN GOD'S NAME. . .

*The Hymn 108

"Christ is Alive!"

*The Charge & Benediction

"Go Ye Now in Peace"

*The Postlude