

**Baptism of Our Lord**  
**January 10, 2021**



**GOLD HILL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*A CONGREGATION OF THE MONTANA SYNOD OF  
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA)*

*Welcome to Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church,  
and a special welcome to our guests and those returning after a time away.  
We're gathered as a Christian community to worship the Lord!*

*Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!  
Please let us know if there are other ways we can be of service.*

***Our Congregation's Mission Statement:  
EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE***

***The Guiding Principles of God's People at Gold Hill Lutheran***

*Principle 1: Jesus Christ is our Lord & Savior*

*Principle 2: The Holy Spirit & worship strengthen us*

*Principle 3: We are a welcoming & inviting community in Christ*

*Principle 4: We share the Word with confidence and courage*

*Principle 5: Our faith leads us to serve joyfully*

*Principle 6: We are generous with our gifts*

**[www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT](http://www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT)  
Check out our **GROWING** website at [www.GoldHillLutheran.org](http://www.GoldHillLutheran.org)**

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**Today's Worship Leader**

**Worship Leader:**

**Pastor Marlow Carrels**

**Lector:**

**Chris Ketchum**

**Music Leader:**

**Dave Coleman**

**Ushers:**

**Chris Ketchum**

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# Baptism of Our Lord

## January 3, 2021

Bolded texts are said in unison.

### **Gathering**

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

### **Invocation**

We gather in the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin  
to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit  
that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness,  
and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin  
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight  
in your will and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and  
ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority,  
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,  
in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

### **Announcements**

**Entrance Hymn: *Bright and Glorious Is the Sky ELW 301 [vs. 1-3]***

- 1     Bright and glorious is the sky,  
      radiant are the heavens high  
      where the golden stars are shining.  
      All their rays to earth inclining  
      beckon us to heav'n above,  
      beckon us to heav'n above.
  
- 2     On that holy Christmas night  
      through the darkness beamed a light;  
      all the stars above were paling,  
      all their luster slowly failing  
      as the wondrous star drew nigh,  
      as the wondrous star drew nigh.
  
- 3     Sages from the east afar,  
      when they saw this wondrous star,  
      went to find the king of nations  
      and to offer their oblations  
      to the child, the newborn king,  
      to the child, the newborn king.

Text: Nikolai F.S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877-1970, alt.

**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.*

### **Blessing of Lectors**

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from you. Bless those who will read to us the scriptures. Make us hunger for the Word of life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **First Reading:           Genesis 1:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the 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.

<sup>3</sup>Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

<sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

<sup>5</sup>God 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**

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God’s name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders;  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup>**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD

bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**<sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup>The 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!”**

<sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

**<sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.**

**Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples.

<sup>2</sup>He 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.”

<sup>3</sup>Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.”

<sup>4</sup>Paul 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.”

<sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—<sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them.

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**Gospel: Mark 1:4-11**

*As the gospel is announced:*

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And 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.

<sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

<sup>7</sup>He 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. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

<sup>10</sup>And 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.

<sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

*As the gospel is concluded:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

Pastor Marlow Carrels

**Hymn of the Day: *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry ELW 249***

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

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite

**Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell. \*  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

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*\*Or, He descended to the dead.*

### **The Prayers**

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation,  
let us pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

*Each portion of the prayer concludes:*

**Your mercy is great.**

### **Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### **Meal**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### **Offering Prayer**

Gracious God,  
you came to us as one unknown,  
bringing joy and salvation to the earth.  
Nourish us at your banquet table,  
that with all who welcome your birth  
we may proclaim your peace,  
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen**

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.**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Although our road has been stony going, you have given us the power to stand firm in the face of wickedness and to rejoice in triumph over death and the grave. And so, with the multitude from east and west, from north and south, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we lift our voices in the unending hymn:

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the redemption you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts to establish in us a living faith and prepare us joyfully to receive our Redeemer who comes to us in his body and blood.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Through him, with him, in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours,  
almighty Father, now and forever.  
Amen**

## **The 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**

## **Distribution of Communion**

### **Prayer**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, gracious God,  
that you have once again fed us from your very self  
with the body and blood of Christ.

Through this mystery, send us forth  
to proclaim your promise to a world in need,  
through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen**

*Silence for reflection.*

## **Sending**

### **Benediction**

Almighty God,  
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,  
proclaimed joy through the angels,  
sent the shepherds with good news,  
and led the magi by a star,  
bless you this day ✠ through the Word made flesh.

**Amen**

**Sending Hymn: *Bright and Glorious Is the Sky ELW 301 [vs. 4-6]***

- 4     Him they found in Bethlehem,  
       yet he wore no diadem;  
       there they saw a maiden lowly  
       with an infant pure and holy  
       resting in her loving arms,  
       resting in here loving arms.
- 5     Guided by the star, they found  
       him whose praise the ages sound.  
       We too have a star to guide us,  
       which forever will provide us  
       with the light to find our Lord,  
       with the light to find our Lord.
- 6     And this star, as bright as day,  
       that will never lead astray  
       with its message so appealing,  
       is the word of God, revealing  
       Christ, the way, the truth, the life,  
       Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

Text: Nikolai F.S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877-1970, alt.

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**