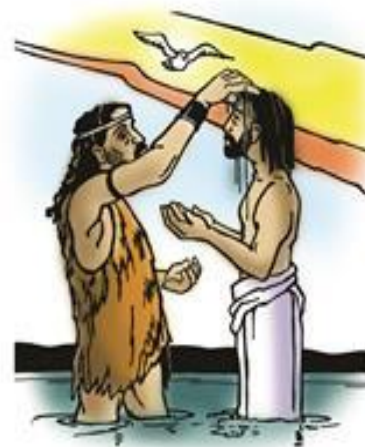


St. James Lutheran Church

205 E 1st Ave. N. Columbus, MT 59019
Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher (406) 656-9557
Email: toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com



January 10th, 2021 – Baptism of Our Lord

Our Mission: "We worship together, grow in faith, share our faith and serve with the love of God"

Welcome to Worship!

We are glad you have joined us here at St. James Lutheran Church.

► To those watching from home – Watch live on St. James' FB Page

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." Ps 122:1

Welcome

Announcements & Opportunities for Serving

Let us stand, as you are able, and prepare our hearts for worship

GATHERING

Confession & Forgiveness

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.

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: "Baptized and Set Free"

- Vs 1 We are people created, chosen by God.
Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love.
Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door
To a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.
- Vs 2 We are fed and we're nourished, filled and refreshed.
Then our hunger returns and again we are blessed.
For whatever the need, God is greater indeed;
Endless ocean, always deeper than all of our need
- Vs 3 We are nourished by water, all living things,
And by life that the Spirit abundantly brings.
As we journey toward home, may your presence be known;
Precious river, ever-flowing, now carry us home.
- Vs 4 Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song.
All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong
Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be
One in Jesus one in water, baptized and set free!

Prayer of the Day:

God of Peace, come to us now. **Strengthen us to stand up in the peace which comes from our faith in Christ. We pray for our nation, for leaders, and all who dwell in this land. Help us as Christ followers to model purity and meekness before God. May we each follow Your command to love our neighbor. We remember with Christ there is only truth, we pray the words of the Psalmist, “O Lord, give strength to your people; give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace.” Amen**

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

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.

Word of Wisdom, Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

Hear Psalm 29

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. ²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God’s name; worship the LORD in the beauty 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 powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.** ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars 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 wilderness 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 above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.** ¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Hear the 2nd Reading: Acts 19:1-7

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.

Word of Wisdom, Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the Gospel.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Hear the Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

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.**

Sermon: “Order Out of Chaos”

Hymn for Reflection: “Crashing Waters at Creation”

- Vs 1 Crashing waters at creation, ordered by the Spirit’s breath,
first to witness days beginning from the brightness of night’s death.
- Vs 2 Parting water stood and trembled as the captives passed on through,
Washing off the chains of bondage channel to a life made new.
- Vs 3 Cleansing water once at Jordan closed around the one foretold,
Opened to reveal the glory every new and ever old.
- Vs 4 Living water, never ending, quench the thirst and flood the soul,
Well-spring, source of life eternal, drench our dryness, make us whole.

Apostle’s Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose
again; he ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will
come 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.**

Prayers of the People:

Peace, be yours. We pray to you O God.

Passing of the Peace

MEAL

*....we thank you for your faithfulness to St. James in sharing your tithes and offerings and allowing us
to do God’s work with our hands.*

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.**

Great Thanksgiving

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 ...**

we join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow’r and might, heav’n 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.**

Words of Institution

Mystery of our Faith. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Lord’s Prayer

Invitation to Communion

Communion will look a little different during our season of Covid-19.

It will still be the Lord's supper.

We **will** partake the body of Christ **with Pastor.**

We **will** partake the blood of Christ **with Pastor.**

Prayer after Communion..... and we say: **Amen**

SENDING

Blessing..... and we say: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: "God, Whose Almighty Word"

- Vs 1 God, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard, and took their flight;
Hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel, day sheds not it's glorious ray,
Let there be light!
- Vs 2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your redeeming wing, healing and sight;
Health to the troubled mind, sight where illusions blind; oh, now to human-kind,
Let there be light!
- Vs 3 Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy dove, speed forth your flight;
Move on the water's face bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place,
Let there be light!
- Vs 4 Holy and blessed three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might;
Boundless as ocean's tide, rolling in fullest pride, through the earth, far and wide,
Let there be light!

Dismissal:

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ **as we go out to reflect the love of God.**

*Music Published by Permission, CCLI #11445215
Worship Service recorded by Permission, CSPL #168651*

Coming this week....

- Bible Study - Tuesday January 12th @ 2pm
- Watch Pastor Tonia's a "Word on Wednesday" live on FB January 13th and catch up on past letters you may have missed.
- Watch for more information and an invitation to join Pastor Tonia's Zoom Socials - Wednesday January 13th @ 7pm and Friday January 15th @ 10am.