**St. Mark’s Worship Sunday January 10, 2021**

**Welcome to our Online Worship**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Call to Worship**

***Opening Song - I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light Verse 1-3 ELW 815***

I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,

And show me the way to the Father. Refrain

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,

We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain

**Mission Statement**

**“**Celebrating God’s Love and Forgiveness, we serve others”

**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.**

How vast is God’s grace!

Through the power and promise of ☩ Christ Jesus,

our sins are washed away

and we are claimed as God’s own beloved.

Indeed, we are forgiven.

In the wake of God’s forgiveness,

we are called to be the beloved community

living out Christ’s justice

and the Spirit’s reconciling peace.

**Amen.**

**Greeting**

From the one who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty; grace, light, and peace be with you all.

**And also, with you.**

***Hymn of Praise – We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus Verse 1 ELW 451***

We are baptized in Christ Jesus,

We are baptized in his death;

That as Christ is raised victorious,

We might live a brand new life.

And if we have been united

In a dreadful death like his,

We will all be reunited, for he lives.

**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.**

**Reading 1 – 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.

***Hymn of the Day – Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized Verse 1, 2 ELW 304***

### Christ, when for us you were baptized,

### God's Spirit on you came,

### As peaceful as a dove, and yet

### As urgent as a flame,

### As urgent as a flame.

### God called you, "My beloved Son";

### You are God's servant true,

### Sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n,

### God's holy will to do,

### God's holy will to do.

### Reading 2 - 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.

**“Alleluia”**

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

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

**Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel – Mark 1: 1-11**

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.

1 The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. 2 As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; 3 the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’”4 John 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** Pastor Karla Halvorson

***Hymn of the Day Cont’d – Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized Verse 3-4 ELW 304***

Straightway and steadfast until death

You then obeyed the call

To serve with free and willing heart,

To give your life for all,

To give your life for all.

Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord;

Your cross on us be signed,

That likewise in God's service we

May perfect freedom find,

May perfect freedom find.

**Prayers of Intercession**

Leader: Let us pray.

**Congregation: Have mercy, O God.**

**Blessing of prayer quilts**

**Offering**

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***Offering Song – Baptized in Water Verse 1,3 ELW 456***

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,

Cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:

Heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,

Faithfully now God's praise we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,

Marked with the sign of Christ our king:

Born of the Spirit, we are God's children;

Joyfully now God's praise we sing.

**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 our peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be**

**done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as**

**we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us**

**from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**Community Time**

**Blessing**

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

***Sending Song – Beautiful Savior Verse 1,2,4 ELW 838***

Beautiful Savior,

King of creation,

Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love thee,

Truly I'd serve thee,

Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows,

Fair are the woodlands,

Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;

Jesus is fairer,

Jesus is purer,

He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Beautiful Savior,

Lord of the nations,

Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor,

Praise, adoration,

Now and forevermore be thine!

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Share the Peace of the Lord in the comments below!**