



THE BAPTISM



*BAPTISM OF THE
LORD*



WORSHIP AID

This feast that concludes the Christmas--Epiphany cycle presents the beginning of the ministry of Jesus in the midst of a people who longed for the Messiah In the Gospel, the Father points to Jesus as his beloved son and, with the Holy Spirit, asks that all listen to him Jesus begins to announce the kingdom through his own life of service It is the kingdom John the Baptist had been proclaiming, though he assured his disciples that he was not the one they were waiting for This baptism of conversion, which Jesus did not have to receive, anticipates in a way our own

commitment to the proclamation of the kingdom resulting from the baptism we received through the Church We are embraced and welcomed by the love of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, who rescues us from sin and evil so we may live as his adopted children in the faith of the Church that sustains us with word and sacrament During the week, it would be convenient for community groups to reflect on the meaning of baptism in their faith lives Is baptism a traditional rite? Do we understand how important it is as a sacrament?

Opening hymn

RAIN DOWN
445

FIRST READING

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 "All who are thirsty, come to the water! ... I will renew with you the everlasting covenant, the benefits assured to David."

— OR — *Isaiah 55:1-11* "Here is my servant whom I uphold. I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice," said Isaiah. "To open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners," and to make you a light for the nations.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10

— OR — *Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcde, 5-6*

Second Reading

Acts 10:34-38 The Spirit, the water and the blood all testify. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came through water and blood. The Spirit is truth.

— OR — *1 John 5:1-9* God does not play favorites. All who fear the Lord are justified. God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and the power to do good works and heal all in need.

Gospel Acclamation

cf. Mark 9:7

Gospel

Mark 1:7-11 When John baptized Jesus, the sky opened and the Spirit descended like a dove. A heavenly voice said, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Offertory hymn

COME TO THE WATER
153

HOLY

WE PROCLAIM YOUR DEATH

AMEN

LORDS PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN

OF THE FATHER'S LOVE
BEGOTTEN
M 67

CLOSING HYMN
BAPTISED IN WATER
86

OPENING HYMN

RAIN DOWN

REFRAIN

Rain down Rain down
Rain down your love on your people
Rain down Rain down Rain down your
love, God of life

Faithful and true is the Word of our God
All of God's works are so worthy of trust
God's mercy falls on the just and the
right
Full of God's love is the earth

REFRAIN

OFFERTORY HYMN

COME TO THE WATER

O let all who thirst
Let them come to the water
And let all who have nothing
Let them come to the Lord
Without money, without price
Why should you pay the price
Except for the Lord?

And let all who seek
Let them come to the water
And let all who have nothing
Let them come to the Lord
Without money, without strife
Why should you spend your life
Except for the Lord?

And let all who toil
Let them come to the water
And let all who are weary
Let them come to the Lord
All who labor without rest
How can your soul find rest
Except for the Lord?

SACRAMENTAL PRAYER

SACRAMENTAL PRAYER

MY JESUS,
I BELIEVE THAT YOU
ARE PRESENT IN THE MOST HOLY
SACRAMENT.

I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS,
AND I DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOU INTO MY
SOUL.

SINCE I CANNOT AT THIS MOMENT
RECEIVE YOU SACRAMENTALLY,
COME AT LEAST SPIRITUALLY INTO MY
HEART.

I EMBRACE YOU AS IF YOU WERE ALREADY
THERE

AND UNITE MYSELF WHOLLY TO YOU.
NEVER PERMIT ME TO BE SEPARATED
FROM YOU.

AMEN

COMMUNION HYMN

OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN

1 Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the Source, the Ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

2 O that birth forever blessed,
when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race;
and the babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

3 This is he whom heav'n-taught singers
sang of old with one accord,
whom the Scriptures of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long expected;
let creation praise its Lord,
evermore and evermore!

4 O ye heights of heav'n, adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing:
all dominions, bow before him
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
ev'ry voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!

CLOSING HYMN

BAPTISED IN WATER

1 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 praises we sing.

2 Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;
One with His rising, Freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God's praises we sing.