

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
305 Livingston St, Filley, NE
Pastor LuRae Hallstrom

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
January 10, 2021

PLEASE MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING.

Parking lot – service can be heard on radio station 107.1 FM. Facebook @ American Lutheran Church - Filley, NE. Financial contributions can be brought to Sunday morning worship or can be forwarded to American Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 66, Filley, NE 68357. You may also do on-line giving at www.filleylutheranchurch.com.

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

We gather together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 29)

The voice of our God and King is heard in blessing, as it echoes in its majestic powers over all creation.
We come to worship our God, and to celebrate the mystery and reality that is God's everlasting glory.

The voice of God is heard in all creation – and it responds with joy to the voice of its Creator, Sustainer and Renewer.

We come to worship our God, and to celebrate God's power and generosity towards all creation and all peoples.

We come to worship our God, and to celebrate the way we are welcomed into God's glorious presence.

The voice of our Holy God is heard in the sacred spaces, and God's grace is received as we worship. Amen.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: Let us pray...

C: 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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(Children are excused to go downstairs for Sunday School.)

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.

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.

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."

MESSAGE

Jody Bures-Helton

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Christ When For Us You Were Baptized"

(Words printed for meditation/reflection only - no singing.)

1. 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.
2. 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.

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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 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they proclaim the forgiveness of sins, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God's goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the nations of the world and their leaders, for laborers busy both day and night, and for peacemakers amid strife, that God inspire all people to use their strength wisely, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the sick and those who provide medical care, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer, that God shower compassion, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the congregation gathered here, for students returning to school, for those seeking renewal in their daily work, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, that their witness inspire us in our baptismal vocations, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught us:

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.

BENEDICTION

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May his face shine upon you with grace and mercy. May He look upon you with favor and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! It's wonderful to gather as the body of Christ to worship and give thanks to God! Thanks be to God for all of you here in person, in the parking lot and on-line!

OUR THANKS to Jody Bures-Helton for being our worship leader this morning. Jody is studying to be a PMA (Parish Ministry Associate) for the Nebraska Synod and shared this info with us: *I grew up north of Odell on the family farm. Since moving away, I have spent my career working as a school psychologist. In my 25th year, I am currently serving the Barnes, Hanover, and Linn School Districts in northern Kansas working part time. I moved back to this area in 2017 to live near my extended family who provide help in caring for our 18 year old daughter with epilepsy and numerous related health conditions. My husband, Greg and I will be married 25 years this summer. He is a pre-flight inspector for Textron Aviation in Wichita, KS. We also have a 22 year old son, who is a student at Baker University in Baldwin City, KS preparing to be a special education teacher. I currently have one more class to complete my PMA studies. I am open to where God will lead me in ministry and am thankful to be allowed to provide pulpit supply and to worship with you today.*

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Delores Baehr, Dustin Fritch, our shut-ins.

OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Mark Jobman, Virgil (Pat) Jobman's brother, who passed away January 3. Funeral services were held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Beatrice, on January 7. We commend Mark to God's care and ask His blessings on his family and friends.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Kaleb Wood (Jan. 10), Rebecca Crosier, Denise Fritzen (Jan. 11), Melvin Dorf, Owen Robertson (Jan. 12), Art Saathoff (Jan. 14), Mike Baehr (Jan. 15), Owen Wehrbein (Jan. 18), Katelyn Sanders, Meagan Sanders (Jan. 19).

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY to Dennis & Brenda Hippen (1-11-85) and Justin & Whitney Antons (1-12-13).

ANNUAL MEETING will be held January 24 following worship. We need 40 voting members in attendance to make a quorum so please be there!

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE for the cards, prayers and telephone calls during my stay in the hospital and at home. Also would like to thank Pastor LuRae for her calls and prayers. Your thoughtfulness was deeply appreciated. God bless you all, Betty Leners

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School begins each Sunday after the Children's Sermon and is held from approximately 9:45-10:30 a.m. Classes will be divided between Preschool-1st grade and Second-Fifth grade. We are looking for two teachers for each Sunday and would prefer to have parents of students. **Please sign the sheet in the narthex for the Sundays that you are willing to help.**

CARD SHOWER: Let's celebrate a classic! Melvin Dorf Sr turns 80 years young on January 12, 2021. Please help shower him with cards – Melvin Dorf, Sr, 60908 711 Rd, Burchard, NE 68323.

BLANKET SEWING! Please join us at church Wednesday, January 13, at 9:00 a.m. if you feel comfortable. We will be tying and cutting fleece blankets. We would like to get them handed out to the ones in need during this cold weather. Thank You.

HELP NEEDED: We have quilt blocks downstairs on the table in the Fellowship for people who are willing to sew them together. Also, blankets for hemming. Thank you for your ministry!

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH WEBSITE: You can find our church website at www.filleylutheranchurch.com or by scanning this QR code:



BULLETIN ITEMS are due by Tuesday evenings. Please call Sandy or email her at smahleris@gmail.com.

BULLETINS EACH WEEK CAN BE FOUND on Facebook and on our website, filleylutheranchurch.com. Bulletins are also being sent out by email to everyone that we have an email address for. If you are not receiving the bulletin by email and would like it, please email Sandy at smahleris@gmail.com with your email address.

WORSHIP HELPERS:

Council - Norm Flesner, Tanner Schmidt, Carol Frerichs, Dave Norton, Linda Searcey

PowerPoint Preparer/Presenter – Brenda Hippen

Audio/Video – Brad Frerichs

Accompanist – Sandy Mahler