



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

CALVARY Lutheran Church
480 MONTEREY AVE.
MORRO BAY, CALIFORNIA
Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

January 7, 2024
Baptism of Our Lord



PRELUDE**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS****Pastor Brian Stein-Webber****CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS****Pastor Mary Stein-Webber**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, creator of darkness and light,
word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,
**we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you.
We have wounded one another and sinned against you.
We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us.
Remember your covenant. Renew your creation.
Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.**

Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of ✙ Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

Amen.

GATHERING Open Now the Gates of Beauty #533 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Open now the gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace!**

**Gracious God, I come before thee; come thou also unto me;
where we find thee and adore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
To my heart, oh, enter thou, let it be thy temple now.**

**Here thy praise is gladly chanted, here thy seed is duly sown;
let my soul, where it is planted, bring forth precious sheaves alone,
so that all I hear may be fruitful unto life in me.**

**Thou my faith increase and quicken, let me keep thy gift divine;
howsoe'er temptations thicken, may thy word still o'er me shine
as my guiding star through life, as my comfort in all strife.**

**Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done indeed;
may I undisturbed draw near thee while thou dost thy people feed.
Here of life, the fountain flows; here is balm for all our woes.**

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.

KYRIE (Spanish setting)

page 175 (red hymnal, front part)

**Lord have mercy on us;
 O Lord, have mercy.
 Lord, have mercy on us;
 O Lord, have mercy.**

**Christ, mercy on us;
 O Christ, have mercy.
 Christ, mercy on us;
 O Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord have mercy on us;
 O Lord, have mercy.
 Lord, have mercy on us;
 O Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Let us pray together... **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.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 1:1-5

[The congregation responds with the bold words.]

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth,
 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.

Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

And God saw that the light was good;
 and God separated the light from the darkness.

God called the light Day, and the darkness God called Night.

And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29

[The congregation responds with the bold words.]

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name; worship God in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of God is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; God is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of God is a powerful voice; the voice of God is a voice of splendor.

The voice of God breaks the cedar trees; God breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

God makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of God bursts forth in lightning flashes.

The voice of God shakes the wilderness; God shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of God makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of God all are crying, "Glory!"

God sits enthroned above the flood; God sits enthroned as king forevermore.

O God, give strength to your people; give them, O God, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7

[The congregation responds with the bold words.]

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. 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."

Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?"

They answered, "Into John's baptism."

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."

On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—altogether there were about twelve of them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION****REFRAIN**

Leader: Listen now for the gospel! **People:** Alleluia!

Leader: It is God's word that changes us! **People:** Alleluia!

**Come, Holy Spirit, melt and break our hearts of stone,
until we give our lives to God, and God alone.**

REFRAIN

**Come, Holy Spirit root in us God's living word,
that we may show the faithfulness of Christ our Lord.**

REFRAIN

**Come, Holy Spirit, bind the broken, find the lost,
confirm in us the fire and love of Pentecost.**

REFRAIN

GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 1:4-11

The gospel lesson for this Baptism of our Lord Sunday is from the 1st chapter of Mark, beginning with the 4th verse.

Glory be to you, Oh Lord.

[The congregation responds with the bold words.]

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness,
 proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
 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.

**Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist,
 and he ate locusts and wild honey.**

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.
 I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee
 and was baptized by John in the Jordan.
 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.
And a voice came from heaven,
 "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

This is the gospel indeed.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

SERMON HYMN Come, All You People #819 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;
 Come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;
 Come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;
 Come now and worship the Lord.**

**Come, all you people, come and praise the Savior;
 Come, all you people, come and praise the Savior;
 Come, all you people, come and praise the Savior;
 Come now and worship the Lord.**

**Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit;
 Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit;
 Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit;
 Come now and worship the Lord.**

APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the 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 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

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Inspire wisdom and a spirit of proclamation in your church, God of forgiveness. Uplift leaders in our congregation to share the truth of your word in community. Encourage us to live into the promises of baptism, working for justice and peace in all the world. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Renew your creation, God of thunder and mighty waters. Restore the rivers in which your children are baptized. May fields flourish and grow. Summon the stewards and caretakers of the land to cherish your good works. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Give strength to your leaders, God who is present in every country and community. Raise up leaders committed to equity and healing. Grant them discernment and compassion as they lead in love. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Protect and cherish the most vulnerable among us, God of strength. Accompany those separated from family or hurting from broken relationships. Shelter our unhoused neighbors and any experiencing poverty. Protect those incarcerated in prisons and detention centers. Care for the sick and suffering, especially,

- Sean Cannoles – Nikki Rocha's cousin – heart problems
- Katie Edson and family who lost their mother on November 28
- Joyce Bauer – recovering at home after recent hospitalization
- Elaine Grawe – relocating to be near her son
- Nancy Padilla – multiple dental procedures
- Becky Padilla – dealing with recurrence of cancer
- Robin Karas – Home from Bayside and recovering
- Christian – Heidi Carney's son – dealing with multiple ailments
- Barbara Stein, Tom Anello's sister – dealing with resurfacing cancer

- Jim Luke and family – in the death of his wife, Linda
- Wes, brother of John Cribb – Kidney issues
- Byron Nelson - friend of Jacoby's - Cancer
- Mike Johnson - lymphatic cancer
- Chris Senter – dealing with frontotemporal lobe dementia, starting a medication trial
- Heidi Carney – Puzzling spots in her lungs
- Kate Anderson
- Ina Davenport
- Aaron Brochtrup - for perseverance and patience while he works to recover from his injuries
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas – learning to live with condition
- For Sally and Jennifer and the family of Marcia Shep who passed on Dec. 27
- James Hecker- undergoing hyperbaric oxygen therapy for serious infection
- Iglesia Santa Cruz, Pastor Esteban and Angie- for our support of their ministry
- For those who are contracting COVID
- For an end to the war in Ukraine
- For the earthquake victims in Japan
- For the people of Israel and Palestine
- Victims of senseless gun violence
- Kate Anderson and Jennifer Kurrle who celebrate their birthdays this week

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Encourage this congregation, God who calls and sends disciples. Guide us in accompanying, learning from, and serving our neighbors on the margins, following the example of Jesus. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray further for others on our hearts and mind who are in need of our intercession, especially,

[You may name persons in need of prayer either out loud or in the silence of your hearts.]

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Trusting the assurance of the Holy Spirit, we remember all who have died and rest in God's care. Give hope to those who grieve even as we rest in your eternal promise of resurrection. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.... **Blessed are you, Holy One,
for all good things come from you.
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.
Meet us at this table,
that we receive what we seek
and follow your Son, Jesus,
in whose name we pray.
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.

PREFACE

Holy, Holy **p. 181 (red hymnal, front section)**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God,
God of might and power; holy is the Lord.
Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord God,
God of might and power; holy is the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
“Drink this, all of you. It is the new covenant of my blood,
shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in remembrance of me.’

Let us pray the prayer that our Lord 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.**

LAMB OF GOD

p.182 (red hymnal, front section)

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us your peace, grant us your peace.**

TAKING OF HOLY COMMUNION

[All who desire may come forward to take the body and blood of Christ.]

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in eternal life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:

**Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.
AMEN.**

BLESSING

God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
✠ bless you and remain with you always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN I'm Going on a Journey #446 (red hymnal, rear section)

**I'm going on a journey... and I'm starting today.
My head is wet...and I'm on my way.
Christ's mark is on me...it's on you, too;
it says he loves me...and he loves you, too!**

**I'm becoming this day...a saint of God.
It really doesn't matter...what roads I trod.
Wherever I go...God's been there too.
God's love has touched me...and will carry me through.**

**There are other saints...who have said amen.
They'll keep me faithful...to my journey's end.
Along the way...I want to be
the kind of person...that God set free.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Thank you to:

- **Cindy Haener** for being worship assistant.
- **Sandy McMillan and others** for counting the offering.
- **Joyce Bauer, Nikki Rocha and Kathie Sperow** for preparing communion.
- **Janet Lorenzo** and others for streaming worship.
- **Janet Lorenzo and Gail Brochtrup** for editing and assembling bulletins and the newsletter.
- **Nancy Padilla**, for setting up and welcoming.
- **Gary and Mark Orback**, for tending to our outside property.
- **Sophia and Janet Lorenzo**, for tending to our inside property.
- **Ken Brocks, Dan Sperow, Andrew Jacoby, Mike Lorenzo and Gary Brochtrup** for their handyman work.
- **The Church Council**, for leading our congregation.

Events this week:

- **The discussion group on The Chosen** is continuing tonight, January 7th at 7:00 on Zoom. Our topic of discussion will be the series, *Jesus of Nazareth, Part 1*.
- **Sermon Feedback and Feedforward** is tomorrow, January 8th, starting at 9:30 am on Zoom. Speak with Pastor Brian if you are interested in joining this group.
- **Confirmation** will meet tomorrow night, Monday, January 8th at 6:00 pm. We will be starting study of the New Testament.
- **Pastor Mary's class** on *The Parables of Jesus: Parables of Grace* will start meeting this Tuesday, January 9th 1:10 to 2:30 pm at the Stein-Webber house on 1302 17th St. in Los Osos. Note the change of day!
- **Bible Study** is on Wednesday, January 10th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. The subject will be *Luke on a World Upside Down*.
- The **Congregational Annual Meeting** will be on Sunday, January 14th after worship has ended. The primary business will be to elect the Church Council members for this year and to review and approve the 2024 budget.
- **Concrete work** will commence on the front of Calvary's building on Anchor St. this Tuesday, January 9th. The remaining **grading and paving work** will start on Tuesday, January 16th for a few days.
- Let Pastor Brian know if you would like to **start receiving his weekly emails**.
(bsteinwebber@gmail.com)

Don't forget to check the Calendar website page for upcoming events: morrobaylutherans.org