



January 10, 2021
8:30am

Welcome to Zumbro Lutheran Church!

The Gospel of Luke has carefully laid the groundwork for the new age that is beginning in Jesus. John the Baptist is the prophet of the old age, and now Jesus inaugurates the new age. We get a glimpse of this new age as Mary and Joseph bring the infant Jesus to the temple and arrange for his circumcision. Simeon scoops up the baby in his arms and sings of coming salvation. Anna praises God for long-awaited redemption.

At the heart of these actions is God's love for all people. John the Baptist prepares the way for the coming of the Christ by calling people to repentance and a new way of ordering their lives. The love about which John speaks is less about feelings, of course, and more about actions, concrete actions that give evidence of God's salvation in Jesus.

PRELUDE

O MORNING STAR, HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT!
KRISTY GIERE, FLUTE; RALPH SCHORNACK, ORGAN

ARR. ALLAN MAHNKE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

L: Praise and thanksgiving be to you, O God of plenteous grace,
for the waters you provide for the earth:
for snow and dew, for oceans and wells,
for the rain that nourishes plants and trees,
for the streams that enliven the animals, great and small,
for the Zumbro River.

We praise you, O God, for water.

C: We praise you, O God, for water.

L: Blessing and glory be to you, O God of abundant mercy,
for your word that flows with life-giving waters:
for the story of the fountain that gushed from the rock,
for the memory of the Jordan that immersed your Son in our sorrows,
for the living rivers that flow from the cross,
for the reconciling waters of baptism around which we gather.
We bless you, O God, for water and the word.

C: We bless you, O God, for water and the word.

L: At this font we pray:
Pour upon us yet again the Spirit of our baptism.
Our roots are dry: shower us with divine blessing.
Our fruits need moisture: renew us for vibrant growth.
Wash away the sin within us,
and drown the evil around us.
We beg you, O God, for water and the Spirit.

C: We beg you, O God, for water and the Spirit.

L: You, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
you are the Water we crave;
you, O God, are Rain and River and Fountain,
life for us all, now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN

O MORNING STAR, HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT!



O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with
 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there
 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!
 falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,
 heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your
 and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For
 lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.
 for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

ARISE YOUR LIGHT HAS COME

**Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.**

**Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.**

**Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Gracious and loving God,

C: You come to us through a prophet named John, and call us to repentance and forgiveness. Often that prophetic word is a word that's hard to hear. It calls us to reorient our hearts. Soon afterward, though, we hear a gracious word. You call us "beloved." And in so doing, you promise to transform our hearts with the love of Jesus. Fill us with that love this day. We need it Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 3:1-22 NRSV

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

L: The Gospel of the Lord,

C: Thanks be to God.

SONG

I'M GOING ON A JOURNEY

Songleader-v. 1; all-v. 2,3



1 I'm go-ing on a jour-ney, and I'm start-ing to-day. 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!



2 I'm be-com-ing this day a saint of God. It



real-ly does-n't mat-ter what roads I trod. Wher-ev-er I go, God's



been there, too. God's love has touched me and will car-ry me through.



3 There are oth-er saints who have said a-men. They'll



keep me faith-ful to my jour-ney's end. A - long the way



I want to be the kind of per-son that God set free.

HYMN

JESU, JESU, FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE

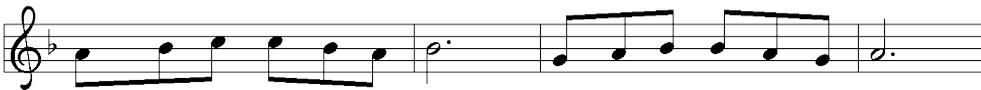
Refrain



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:



Refrain

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
 all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
 this is the way we will live with you.

APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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.

BAPTISM OF SOPHIA MADELIENE SPINDLER-KRAGE

Child of Jennifer and Michael Spindler-Krage

Sponsors: Sara Johnson, Katie Shi

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

JESU, JESU, FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE

ARR. JAYNE SOUTHWICK COOL

KRISTY GIERE, FLUTE; RALPH SCHORNACK, PIANO

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

After each petition the congregation responds:

L: Let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

L: 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.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C: 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.

BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

HYMN

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

SENDING

L: People of Zumbro, what is our mission?

C: Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace, to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

TRUMPET TUNE ON HYFRYDOL
(LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING)
KRISTY GIERE, ORGAN

ARR. MICHAEL HELMAN

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Nira and Gene Flaten. They celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary on January 8. They were married in Edinburg, Indiana, while Gene was stationed at Camp Atterbury Army Base.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Marion Alborn Liam Kiefer Betty Kraayenbrink Cathy Rehfeldt Rick Turner

SYMPATHY TO:

Shirley (Bob) Frey on the death of her brother, Leland Svehaug.

Bob (Shirley) Frey on the death of his brother, Ronnie Frey.

Kirk (Jennie) Gill on the death of his mother, Beverly Gill.

TODAY'S RADIO BROADCAST IS SPONSORED BY

Jan Owens in memory of loved ones.

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

PROCLAIMER-Pastor Vern Christopherson; **WORSHIP ASSISTANT**-Pastor Shelley Cunningham;

LECTOR-Kate Campbell; **STORYTIME**-Jen Gruendler; **ORGANIST**-Kristy Giere; **SONGLEADERS**-Janette Reeves, Ralph Schornack; **INSTRUMENTAL**-Kristy Giere, flute; Ralph Schornack, organ and piano

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Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus.

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