

*Christ Comes both to Destroy and to Save  
Get Ready!*



**SHINING MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Bozeman, MT**

**The First Sunday in Advent – November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

# GATHERING RITE ON HOLY BAPTISM

God's people long to gather together for strength from God and for mutual encouragement. This alternate beginning for worship is intended for use not only when there is a baptism but may be used on any occasion to remind God's people of Baptism's continuing blessings.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## HYMN #294 v.1

*Baptized into Your Name Most Holy*



Bap - tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther,  
I claim a place, though weak and low - ly, A - mong your



Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,  
saints, your cho - sen host, Bur - ied with Christ and dead to



sin. Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.

M: I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

C: **Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.** (*John 3:5,6*)

M: Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us. (*Ps. 51:5*)

C: **But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.** (*1 Cor 6:11*)

## HYMN #294 v.2

*Baptized into Your Name Most Holy*

My loving Father, there you took me  
To be henceforth your child and heir.  
My faithful Savior, there you let me  
The fruit of all your sorrows share.  
O Holy Spirit, comfort me  
When threat'ning clouds around I see.

M: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**HYMN #294 v.3**

*Baptized into Your Name Most Holy*

**My faithful God, you fail me never,  
Your promise surely will endure.  
Oh, cast me not away forever  
If words and deeds become impure.  
Have mercy when I come defiled;  
Forgive, lift up, restore your child.**

M: Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (*Ephesians 5:25-27*). Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**HYMN #294 v.4**

*Baptized into Your Name Most Holy*

**All that I am and love most dearly –  
Receive it all, O Lord, from me.  
Let me confess my faith sincerely,  
And help me your own child to be!  
Let nothing that I am or own  
Serve any will but yours alone.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray:

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

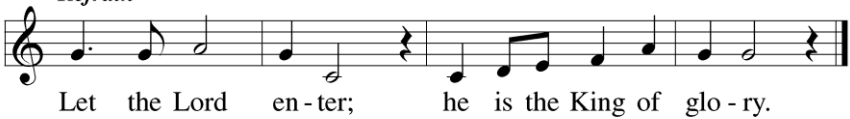
**C: Amen.**

## THE WORD

### FIRST READING

Genesis 6:1-3, 5-14, 17-22

This is what happened when mankind began to multiply on the face of the earth. When daughters were born to people, <sup>2</sup>the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they took as wives for themselves any of them they chose. <sup>3</sup>The LORD said, "My Spirit will not struggle with man forever, because he is only flesh. His days will be 120 years." ... <sup>5</sup>The LORD saw that the wickedness of mankind was great on the earth, and that all the thoughts and plans they formed in their hearts were only evil every day. <sup>6</sup>The LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with sorrow. <sup>7</sup>The LORD said, "I will wipe out mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth, along with the animals, the creeping things, and the birds of the sky, because I regret that I have made them." <sup>8</sup>But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>This is the account about the development of Noah's family. Noah was a righteous man, a man of integrity in that generation. Noah walked with God. <sup>10</sup>Noah became the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. <sup>11</sup>In the sight of God the earth was morally corrupt, and the earth was filled with violence. <sup>12</sup>God looked at the earth and saw that it was corrupt, for all flesh was corrupt in all their ways on the earth. <sup>13</sup>So God said to Noah, "I have decreed the end of all flesh, because the earth is filled with violence because of them. Now I am going to destroy them along with the earth. <sup>14</sup>"Make an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark. Seal it inside and outside with pitch...<sup>17</sup>"I myself am about to bring a flood of waters on the earth, in order to destroy all flesh under the sky that has the breath of life. Everything that is on the earth will die, <sup>18</sup>but I will establish my covenant with you. You shall come into the ark – you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. <sup>19</sup>You shall bring a pair (male and female) of every kind of living flesh into the ark with you to keep them alive. <sup>20</sup>Include the birds according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, every creeping thing on the ground according to their kinds. Two of every sort shall come to you, so you can keep them alive. <sup>21</sup>Take with you every type of food that is eaten, and store it for yourself, so it can be used as food for you and for them." <sup>22</sup>So that is what Noah did. He did everything that God commanded him, just as he had been told.

*Refrain**Psalm tone*

The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it,\*  
the world, and all who live in it;

for he founded it upon the seas\*  
and established it upon the waters.

Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?\*  
Who may stand in his holy place?

He who has clean hands and a pure heart,\*  
he will receive blessing from God his Savior.

*Refrain*

Lift up your heads, O you gates;  
be lifted up, you ancient doors,\*  
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?\*  
The LORD strong and mighty,  
the LORD mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O you gates;  
lift them up, you ancient doors,\*  
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is he, this King of glory?\*  
The LORD Almighty – he is the King of glory.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

<sup>18</sup>Christ also suffered once for sins in our place, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in flesh but was made alive in spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which he also went and made an announcement to the spirits in prison. <sup>20</sup>These spirits disobeyed long ago, when God's patience was waiting in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In this ark a few, that is, eight souls, were saved by water. <sup>21</sup>And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you – not the removal of dirt from the body but the guarantee of a good conscience before God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup>He went to heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Revelation 22:20

M: Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia.

**C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**These words are written that we may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

Matthew 13:32-37

<sup>32</sup>"No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Watch! Be alert and pray, because you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going away on a journey. When he left his home, he put his servants in charge and assigned what each one was to do. He also commanded the doorkeeper to keep watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore keep watch, because you do not know when the owner of the house is coming: whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or early in the morning. <sup>36</sup>If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. <sup>37</sup>What I say to you, I say to everyone: Keep watch!"

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*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's  
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the  
 3 Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child Of the  
 4 From the Fa - ther's throne he came And as -  
 5 Praise to God the Fa - ther sing, Praise to



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O  
 Spir - it of our God Was the Word of  
 vir - gin un - de - filed, Though by all the  
 cend - ed to the same, Cap - tive lead - ing  
 God the Son, our King, Praise to God the



heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.  
 God made flesh, Wo - man's off - spring, pure and fresh.  
 world dis - owned, Yet to be in heav'n en - throned!  
 death and hell— High the song of tri - umph swell!  
 Spir - it be Ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly.

## SERMON

## Genesis 6

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## OFFERING

*Our offerings are an expression of thankfulness for what our Savior has done for us, and a way of supporting the spread of the gospel through the Church's work.*

*You can place your offering in the plate in the entryway,  
or by scanning this code that will take you  
to our secure giving site.*



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

**C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.**

M: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

**C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."**

M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

**C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.**

M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

**C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

**C:** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN #363

*The King of Glory Comes*

*Refrain*



The King of glo - ry comes; the na - tion re - joic - es.



O - pen the gates be - fore him; lift up your voic - es.



1 Who is the King of glo - ry? How shall we call him?  
2 In all of Gal - i - lee, in cit - y or vil - lage,  
3 He gave his life for us, the lamb of sal - va - tion;  
4 He con - quered sin and death; he tru - ly has ris - en,

*Refrain*



He is Im - man - u - el, the prom - ised of a - ges.  
He goes a - mong his peo - ple, cur - ing their ill - ness.  
He took up - on him - self the sin of the na - tions.  
And he will share with us his heav - en - ly king - dom.

## Announcements

**Cleaners This Week** (Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> - Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>) - Becker, McGough,  
Gullixson, Ballard

**Cleaners Next Week** (Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) - Gustafson, Lauersdorf,  
Thiede, Bender

### This Week at Shining Mountains:

Today	8:30 am	Divine Worship
	9:40 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
	10:30 am	Divine Worship
Tuesday, Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am	Little Lambs
	6:00 pm	Basic Bible Christianity
Wednesday, Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	2:00 pm	Basic Bible Christianity
	4:30 pm	Youth Confirmation Class
	7:00 pm	Mid-Week Advent Worship
Thursday, Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:00 am	Little Lambs
	6:00 pm	Basic Bible Christianity
Sunday, Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am	Worship with Communion
	9:40 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
	10:30 am	Worship with Communion
	11:40 am	Christmas Tree Set-up

### PICTURES FOR CHURCH DIRECTORY

The Council would like to update our Church Picture Directory before Christmas. Many of the pictures are out of date or don't include new additions to the family. Also, newer members simply needed to be added to the book. In hopes of accomplishing that task, we ask that you would send a recent picture of your family to Dan Gustafson either by email @ [gusinmt@gmail.com](mailto:gusinmt@gmail.com) or to his cell: (406) 599-1361. If you have any questions, please speak with Dan or Pastor.

### MID-WEEK ADVENT WORSHIP

Just a reminder that we will begin our Mid-Week Advent Worship Services this Wednesday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 PM. Our theme for this year is *The Songs of Advent*. We'd love for you to join us!

## **DECEMBER OPPORTUNITY - GIVING TREE**

In the entryway, there is a giving tree with more opportunities to give to fellow brothers and sisters in need. You will find requests to support families from our sister churches in Colorado who were displaced by the fires earlier this year. You will also find opportunities to help provide gift cards to fellow local people. The church often receives calls and requests for help. If you would like to help with those requests, check out the giving tree for gift card ideas.

## **GIFTS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN IN GALLATIN VALLEY**

Thank you to all those who have agreed to “adopt” a foster child for Christmas as well as those who have given money. As of last night we have a couple of kids yet available, if you’d like to adopt one. If you have “adopted” a child, please drop off the wrapped and tagged gift(s) sometime this week. Please speak with Pastor if you have any questions.

## **CARD WRITING GATHERING**

There will be some people gathering **this Wednesday at 6pm** (before the Advent service) to write out cards of encouragement to accompany any of the gift cards going out from the congregation. Bring some cards or just yourself to help with this project!

## **FORWARD IN CHRIST & MEDITATIONS**

If you haven’t grabbed your latest copy of the *Forward in Christ* magazine or *Meditations Daily Devotional*, be sure to do that today. You can find them on the counter by the mailboxes in the entryway.

## **CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING**

Next Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, after the 10:30 am worship service we will set up the Christmas tree. If a handful of people can help out, the job should be light and easy. Thanks!

## Thanksgiving Blessings from our WELS Mission Fields

You can picture the scene. An excited child, tearing away the wrapping paper to reveal a birthday gift she's always wanted. Face beaming, squealing with delight, giving her parents a big hug. . . But how would that scene have played out if after opening the present, it was empty? Do you think that little child would have been busting out with loud thank you's . . . for nothing?

While you may know Job spoke these words, "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord," it is important to know when he spoke these words. He spoke them after terrible news about his ten children being killed and his wealth being pillaged. His life had been turned upside down and yet he praised the name of the Lord.

What will you give thanks for this Thanksgiving? Or, with all that has transpired in 2020, are we going to be more like the little girl whose box was empty? What is there to be thankful for in 2020?

In God's infinite wisdom he allows situations beyond our control; and yet, he reminds us that he has everything under control. We can trust that promise, because we recall God's master plan to save all the people of this world from their sins. We can trust, because Jesus Christ carried out completely his Father's plan to save us. We can trust, because God the Holy Spirit has blessed us with faith to believe the greatest sacrifice was made on Calvary and the biggest surprise was offered on Easter Sunday. Through Jesus' redemptive works and through the Spirit's working, we believe heaven is just around the corner where soon we will be citizens enjoying every last blessing the Triune God has in store.

Enjoy this Thanksgiving, as you have done every Thanksgiving, in the comfort and security of what our Triune God has done. Whether God gives or takes temporal blessings, our spiritual blessings are secure. Our spiritual blessings will continue through all eternity. Thank the Lord with the entire WELS Missions staff this Thanksgiving, November 26, and enjoy this short video message of Thanksgiving from our home and world mission fields around the globe!

Happy Thanksgiving!  
WELS Home, World, and Joint Missions

*(Scan this code to watch the video update)*

