

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

5900 Applebutter Hill Rd. Coopersburg, Pa 18036
610-965-9500 e-mail: bluechch@ptd.net Website: stpaulscoopersburg.com
Pastor: Rev. James R. Hammond 610-437-1960; jjtrev1@verizon.net

Baptism of Our Lord ✕ January 7, 2018

**PRELUDE – "BY STILL WATERS" – E.K. HEYSER
ACCOUCEMENTS**

The Pastor leads from the baptismal font

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✕ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood, you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our LORD in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #304 "CHRIST, WHEN FOR US YOU WERE BAPTIZED"

GREETING

P: The boundless grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE ELEISON *Led by Pastor*

Leader Assembly
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

☩ Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
☩ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:
We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:
You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray...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.**

FIRST LESSON: GENESIS 1:1-5

PSALM 29

Psalm Tone #8



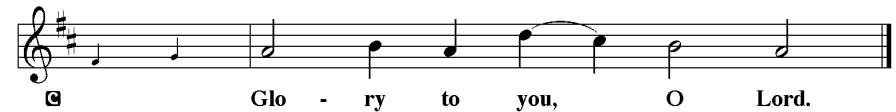
- Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.
- 2Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**
- 3The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory
thunders;
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.**
- 4The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.**
- 5The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;**
- 6the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**
- 7The voice | of the LORD
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.**
- 8The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.**
- 9The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the |
forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, "Glory!"**
- 10The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**
- 11O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace.**

SECOND LESSON: ACTS 19:1-7

VERSE

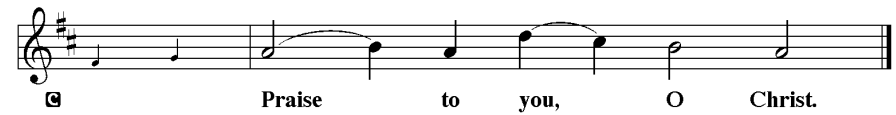


P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st Chapter.



HOLY GOSPEL: MARK 1:4-11

P: The Gospel of the LORD.



SERMON

HYMN #455 "CRASHING WATERS AT CREATION"

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one LORD, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from
Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one
Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the
virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the
third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he
ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the
Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the LORD, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

THE PRAYERS *Response: "Have mercy, O God"*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING — "THE VOICE OF GOD" — JANET RAND

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray... Heavenly Father,

C: **in the waters of the Jordan your Son was Baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. We, your baptized people and kingdom of priests, offer you these gifts in praise of Him who takes away our sin, Jesus Christ our LORD. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Ⓐ The Lord be with you. Ⓞ And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ⓞ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The pastor offers the prayer. The congregation joins in praying the LORD's Prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

P: We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Come. Be filled with light and life.

LAMB OF GOD

Ⓞ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



HOLY COMMUNION - #800 "SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART"

BLESSING

P: The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER

A: Let us pray...LORD God, grant that all who have been fed with Bread from heaven may be renewed in the covenant of their Holy Baptism and, following your Son in true faith and obedience, may become your children in name and deed; through Jesus Christ our LORD. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN #310 "SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE"

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE – "TRUMPET RONDO" – JEAN-FRANCOIS DANDRIEU



Liturgical music reprinted from **Lutheran Book of Worship**, © 1978. Used by permission of Augsburg-Fortress, license #15175-L. All rights reserved. Psalm 29 is reprinted from *Psalter for Worship Year B* copyright 2008 Augsburg Fortress. Copying of any music in this bulletin prohibited without written permission.

WELCOME TO ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

We especially welcome those who are visiting. We invite you to sign our guest register in the narthex. Blank envelopes in the pews are for visitors.

"God's purpose for St. Paul's Lutheran Blue" Church is to spread the Good News of Christ's love for all people in the Southern Lehigh community and beyond." -Blue Church Mission Statement, adopted 2012

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD: Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit/wind moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

Genesis 1:1-5: Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the primeval darkness, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for any person living in the chaos and darkness of despair. God created and continues to create new life.

Acts 19:1-7: In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptized them, the Holy Spirit came upon them and empowered them with gifts of the Spirit.

Mark 1:4-11: Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR....Sick/Recovering: Anthony Abate, Clifford Benner, Joyce Christman, Doris Heiserman, Carl Ritter, Shannon Silliman, Shane

Note: This is a short-term list, for those who are in "acute care" situations—hospitalized or in recovery, dying, facing the recent death of a loved one, or presently facing a severe life crisis. The names of persons for whom we pray will be kept on the list for one month. If you wish to have them placed back on the list please contact the church office.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP

CELEBRANT	The Rev. James Hammond
ORGANIST	Dr. Jennifer Dodd
ASSISTING MINISTER	Maggie Fried
GREETERS	Richard & Beverly Lerch
LECTOR/CANTOR	Laurissa Kashmer
USHERS	Roger & Gloria Knappenberger
CHURCH COUNCIL REP	Amy Ortwein

CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD

TODAY: 9 AM Choir Rehearsal at Blue Church.
9:30 – 10:15 AM Christian Education.
10:30 AM Worship.

MON.: 7 PM Church Council Meeting.

WED.: 9 AM Quilting at Blue Church.
7 PM Rehearsal for “Mission Possible”. (Snow date – Thursday).

NEXT SUN.: 9 AM Choir Rehearsal.
9:30 AM – 10:15 AM Christian Education resumes at Blue Church.
10:30 AM Worship.

COMING EVENTS – mark your calendar!

JAN. 8 – 7 PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING.

JAN. 10 – 7 PM – REHEARSAL FOR “MISSION POSSIBLE” (SNOW DATE JAN. 11TH)

JAN. 21, 2018, 12:15 PM – “MISSION POSSIBLE” STEWARDSHIP LUNCHEON THEATER. More information to follow.

JAN. 28th – Annual Congregational Meeting. Reports are due in the church office, or e-mailed by Jan. 21st for inclusion in the Annual Report.

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

BULLETINS...by Joyce Christman in memory of family and friends.

SANCTUARY LAMP...by Bill and Kathy Exner in memory of Loved Ones.

COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Ron and Carol Stoudt

THE COAT DRIVE IS UNDER WAY. Don’t throw out your old coats. Blue Church is collecting gently used coats to help those who can use them for the upcoming winter season. The collection of coats will continue through the Christmas season. You can bring in coats for drop off in the bin in the narthex.

Janet and I would like to thank all those who sent us cards and well wishes over the [Christmas](#) season. We are especially thankful for the monetary gift for [Christmas](#). We are truly blessed by your love and generosity.!!!

Pastor Jim and Janet

MISSION POSSIBLE: Coming to St. Paul's Blue Church [January 21, 2018!!](#)

Tickets are on Sale for just \$4.00. Come join us for Lunch and an afternoon of entertainment by the "Blue Church Players". Don't miss out on all the fun.

P.S. Tickets go on sale on [Sunday](#). Please see Janet Hammond

VALENTINE'S DAY CARD PARTY at Blue Church Fellowship Hall, [Saturday, February 3rd](#), at 10 a.m.. This event benefits the clients at Valley Manor Nursing Home in Coopersburg. Please bring a snack to share. Everyone welcome.

THE CHARTS TO SPONSOR THE ALTAR FLOWERS, BULLETINS, SANCTUARY LAMP AND THE WINE & COMMUNION BREAD FOR 2018 ARE ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS IN THE NARTHEX. Simply fill in the date on the appropriate chart that you would like to sponsor (in memory of/in honor of, etc.) and an envelope will be sent to you prior to that week for your payment. Altar Flowers - \$25.00; Bulletins - \$15.00; Sanctuary Lamp -\$4.00; Monthly Communion Wine & Bread - \$20.00.
