

Welcome to Worship
January 12th, 2025
1st after Epiphany

Prelude

Gathering Hymn

Shall We Gather at the River ~ ELW 423

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

Word of God, word of life

Thanks be to God

Psalm

Psalm 29

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

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name;

worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;

the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;

the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;

the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf,

and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord

bursts forth in lightning flashes.

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

**The 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!"**

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.
**O Lord, give strength to your people;
give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace.**

Gospel

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John 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 strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His 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."

Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and 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."

Hymn of the Day

God of Promise, Let These Signs of Grace ~ ACS 959 (vs. 1-3)

Musical Offering

*Brighter than the Sun ~ arr. Phil Kadidlo
(All Saints Choir)*

Offertory Hymn

As the Grains of Wheat

Communion Hymn

Spirit of Gentleness ~ ELW 396

Sending Hymn

Oh, Love, How Deep ~ ELW 322 (vs. 1, 3-4, 7)

Postlude