

The Baptism of Our Lord

Prelude: Amazing Grace

The Light of the World

1. The Light of the World
Made history begin
Spoke time into being
Caused planets to spin;
Flung galaxies wide
Through infinite space
To sing of His splendor
And fathomless grace.

Refrain:

Come, come, daughters and sons,
Look to the Light of the World.
Sing, sing, praises to Him
Simply believe, you will receive
Mercy and love without measure.

2. The Light of the world
Now shone as a man,
And walked through the valleys
He'd carved with His hands.
A servant to those
He'd breathed into life,
He felt our injustice
And shared in our strife.
3. The Light of the World
Preached justice for all,
Defying the proud
And defending the poor;
Then humbled Himself
To death on a cross,
To crush the oppressor
And rescue the lost.
4. The Light of the World
Still shines on the earth,
With gifts of forgiveness,
The hope of new birth.
So open your heart,
Don't hide in the night;
Step out of the darkness
And into His light.

Confession: Living Waters

*Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked
or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.*

But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

**He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. (Psalm 1)**

*Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy
and eat!*

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

*Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that
which does not satisfy? Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may
live;*

**and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love
for David.**

Seek the LORD while he may be found;

call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

**let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to
our God, for he will abundantly pardon.**

*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the
LORD.*

**For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than
your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

*For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but
water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread
to the eater,*

**so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me
empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the
thing for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:1–11)**

*Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you,
‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living
water.” The woman said to him,*

**“Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do
you get that living water?”**

*Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but
whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again.*

The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (John 4:10–14)

O Lord, we confess to you all our weaknesses, all of our sins. We admit that we are thirsty and in desperate need of the living water that only you can give. Forgive us for Jesus’ sake and let that living water well up in us to eternal life.

ABSOLUTION

Romans 6:1–11 Dead to Sin, Alive to God

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 3:13–17 The Baptism of Jesus

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. 14 John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” 15 But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. 16 And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; 17 and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

Children’s Sermon

Living Waters

1. Are you thirsty
Are you empty
Come and drink these Living Waters
Time unbroken
Peace unspoken
Rest beside these Living Waters
Christ is calling
Find refreshing
At the cross of Living Waters
Lay your life down
On Thee, all come
Rise up in these Living Waters.

Refrain:

There's a river that flows
With mercy and love
Bringing joy to the city of our God
There our hope is secure
Do not fear anymore
Praise the Lord of Living Waters.

2. Spirit moving
Mercy washing
Healing in these living waters
Lead your children to the shore line
Life is in these Living Waters
3. Are you thirsty
Are you empty
Come and drink these Living Waters
Love, forgiveness
Vast and boundless
Christ, He is our Living Water.

Sermon – The Aral Sea

Prayers

Communion

Benediction

See, Amid the Winter's Snow

1. See amid the winter's snow
Born for us on earth below
See the tender Lamb appears
Promised from eternal years.

Refrain:

Hail, thou ever blessed morn
Hail, redemption's happy dawn
Sing through all Jerusalem
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

2. Say, ye holy shepherds, say
What your joyful news today
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
On the lonely mountain steep?
3. Sacred infant, all divine
What a tender love was thine
Thus to come from highest bliss
Down to such a world as this

Postlude: Immanuel, Townend

1. From the squalor of a borrowed stable,
By the Spirit and a virgin's faith;
To the anguish and the shame of scandal
Came the Savior of the human race.
But the skies were filled with the praises of heaven,
Shepherds listen as the angels tell
Of the Gift of God come down to man
At the dawning of Immanuel.
2. King of heaven now the Friend of sinners,
Humble servant in the Father's hands,
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit,
Filled with mercy for the broken man.
Yes, He walked my road and He felt my pain,
Joys and sorrows that I know so well;
Yet His righteous steps give me hope again –
I will follow my Immanuel.

3. Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,
He was lifted on a cruel cross;
He was punished for a world's transgressions,
He was suffering to save the lost.
He fights for breath, He fights for me,
Loosing sinners from the claims of hell;
And with a shout our souls are free –
Death defeated by Immanuel.

4. Now He's standing in the place of honor,
Crowned with glory on the highest throne,
Interceding for His own beloved
Till His Father calls to bring them home!
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds
Hope of heaven or the fear of hell;
But the Bride will run to her Lover's arms,
Giving glory to Immanuel!