

and with power (Second Lesson). In this inauguration into his office as the Christ, God prepared the Messiah for his mission with an unlimited outpouring of the Spirit (John 3:34). In the very next verse, empowered and led by the Spirit, the hero of God immediately goes out to war against Satan on behalf of mankind (Matthew 4:1ff), fulfilling all righteousness and bringing us peace.

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.

¹⁴ But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

¹⁵ Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

¹⁶ As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

Sermon Hymn: 89 To Jordan’s River Came Our Lord

Sermon: His Beloved Son

Offering: *(Please remember to sign the Friendship Register.)*

Distribution Hymn: 79 How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

Benediction

Closing Hymn: 402 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Ushers: This Week – Zach Walsh & Mike Walsh
Next Week – Tanner Latsch & Justin Cusack

Greeters: This Week – Larry & Patti Zastrow
Next Week – Richard & Shirley Pfeifer

Cleaning: This Coming Week – Please Volunteer to Help
The Following Week – Please Volunteer to Help
(There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church.)

The Baptism of Our Lord – January 11 & 12

P.O. Box 86, Helenville, Wisconsin

Pastor: Mark Swanson Church Tel: 920-674-3307

Principal: Craig Winkler School Tel: 262-582-3010

Organist: Ken Neipert

We Welcome You!

Order of Worship: Pg. 26

Opening Hymn: 16 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Prayer of the Day:

M: Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Lesson - Isaiah 42:1-7

This Servant Song foretells the Messiah's work: he will be God's own servant sent to accomplish God's mission. God will choose him, uphold him and delight in him. God will also put his Spirit on him that he might bring justice to the nations. His ministry is characterized by gentleness toward the weak, but also by an inexorable driving toward his goal. He will not falter in the work for which he was anointed until he brings forth the right verdict (the justice that comes from God and declares his people righteous in his sight because of Messiah's work. He will be the Mediator of the new covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34) based on his person that will bring the people and the Gentiles out of the darkness of sin's prison. Matthew's account of Jesus' baptism shows how these prophecies were perfectly fulfilled in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

42 “Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations. ² He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. ³ A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; ⁴ he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his law the islands will put their hope.” ⁵ This is what God the LORD says— he who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and all that comes out of it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: ⁶ “I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, ⁷ to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

Psalm of the Day - Psalm 45, p. 83

Second Lesson - Acts 10:34-38

The Gentile household of Cornelius had heard the message about the Savior, but then Peter came as an eyewitness of prophesy's fulfillment. Jesus was the Christ because at his baptism God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power. Immediately, the empowerment of the Spirit made itself evident in the works of Jesus as he did the Messiah's work of healing those under the power of the devil. This anointing as Savior resulted in Peter's amazing statement in verse 36, “the message proclaiming the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.” The message God sent Israel consisted in that one word: peace. That message was on the lips of the angels at Christmas and on the lips of Christ at his resurrection. Jesus restored peace between man and God because that's exactly what he had been anointed to do.

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism ³⁵ but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. ³⁶ You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. ³⁷ You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached—³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

“This is My Beloved Son” sung by Daniel Domer, Rachel Mortenson, Janet Swanson & Pastor Swanson

Verse of the Day: *Alleluia. Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia. (Mark 1:11b)*

Gospel - Matthew 3:13-17

What kind of God gets baptized? The Baptist's question confronts every Christian reading this account, and we join in John's incredulity at Jesus' intended condescension. Though John objected, Jesus encouraged him to allow this concession in order to fulfill their purpose there together. Their joint purpose was to fulfill all righteousness. Jesus would do that by being the Messiah and standing in the place of sinful man—first at the font and ultimately at the cross. John would play his part by fulfilling his role as forerunner: baptizing with water that the Messiah might be revealed (John 1:31). When John consented and baptized Jesus, the Spirit fulfilled the promises of Isaiah (First Lesson), and Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit