

Historic Scripture Lessons for the * First Sunday after Epiphany Old Testament

Isaiah 61:1-3 NIV The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to preach Good News to the poor. He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion – to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of His splendor.

Epistle

Romans 12:1-5 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's Will is – His good, pleasing and perfect Will. 3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. 4 Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

3-Year Gospel "B" (B is for Baptize - Sermon Text)

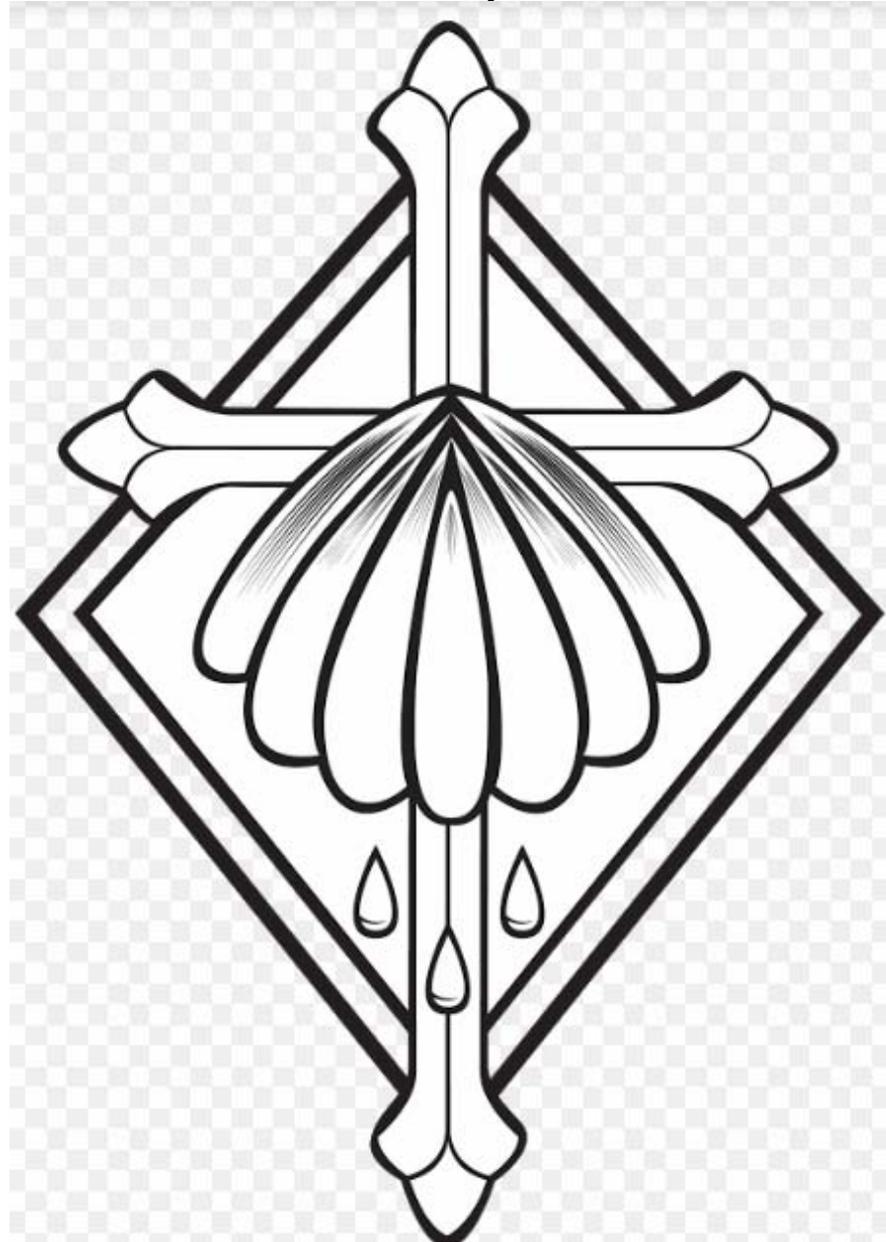
Mark 1:4-11 And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. 6 John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And this was his message: "After me will come One more powerful than I, the thongs of Whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8 I baptize you with water, but He will Baptize you with the Holy Spirit." 9 At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 As Jesus was coming up out of the water, He saw Heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove. 11 And a Voice came from Heaven: "You are My Son, Whom I love; with You I am well pleased."

* OSL 2018 Annual Voters' Meeting scheduled Sunday January 28th ~11 am.

Proposed Annual Meeting AGENDA:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Devotion | 5. Set Mtg. Time (Limit) | 9. Unfinished Business |
| 2. Roll Call-Attendance | 6. Elections (Officers) | 10. New Business |
| 3. Call for New Voters | 7. Financial Reports | 11. Adjourn |
| 4. Minutes (2017 Mtg) | 8. (Other) Reports | 12. (Lord's) Prayer. |

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL USA
1st Sunday after Epiphany * *Baptism of Jesus (Observed)*
Matthew 3:13-17 * January 14th, 2018 * 9:30 am



Historic Church Year Symbol Set for 1st Sunday after Epiphany: *Matthew 3 Jesus is Baptized in the Jordan River by John the Baptist.*

OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

6920 N Socrum Loop Road / (north) Lakeland, FL 33809 USA

Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: www.osllakeland.org

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

✧ Rev. Andrew R. Burmeister 863-430-5859 ✧ Organ: A.R. Burmeister

January 14th, 2018 ✧ Epiphany-1 ✧ Baptism of Jesus

WELCOME to OUR SAVIOR! We are so happy to have you worship Our Savior with us today. If you are visiting us for the first time or in a long time, we ask that that you please fill out a visitor card found in the pew cardholder and place it in the offering plate. Come worship with us again! **God bless you.**

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP On gold liturgy sheets and in red TLHymnal p.5 .

| Service | TLH# (vv) | ...First Line |
|------------------|-----------|---|
| Invocation Hymn | 126 (5v) | Arise and Shine in Splendor |
| Psalm 98 | 98 "4v" | All the Ends of the Earth Have Seen Power |
| Hymn of the Day | 298 (6v) | Baptized Into Thy Name Most Holy |
| Offertory Verse | 300 (5v) | Sing v.5 Now into Thy Heart we pour ... |
| istribution Hymn | 409 (4v) | Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus |
| Closing Hymn | 410 (4v) | Jesus, Lead Thou On Till Our Rest Is Won |

Suggested Bible readings for the weekdays of the 1st Sunday after Epiphany

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday
 Gen. 8:1-22 Gen. 11:1-9 Gen. 12:1-20 Gen13:1-18 Gen. 14:8-24 Gen.15:1-21
John1:29-34 John1:35-42 John 1:43-51 Luke4:1-13 Mark1:12-15 Matt.4:12-17

PROPERs for the FIRST SUNDAY after EPIPHANY ✧ JANUARY 14TH

INTROIT I saw the LORD, sitting on a throne, high and lifted up. I heard the voice of a great multitude, saying, "Alleluia! For the LORD God Omnipotent reigns. Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands; serve the LORD with gladness. ...from Isaiah 6:1

COLLECT LORD, we beseech You, mercifully to receive the prayers of Your people, who call on You; and grant that we may both perceive and know what things we ought to do, and by Your merciful help may faithfully perform them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our LORD, Who lives, and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One True God, now... C: ♪ A---men.

GRADUAL C: Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, Who only does wondrous things, and blessed be His glorious Name forever. The mountains will bring peace to Your people and the hills righteousness. Alleluia! Alleluia! Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all you lands; serve the LORD with gladness. Alleluia!

...from Psalm 84 & Isaiah 60

SCRIPTURE LESSONS (printed on outside back page of bulletin)

O.T. **Isaiah 61:1-3** The LORD wants Good News preached to the poor.
 Epi. **Romans 12:1-5** Offer your bodies as *living sacrifices* to the LORD.
 Gos. **Mark 1:4-11** 30-year old Jesus is Baptized in Jordan by John B.

NEW! Psalm 98 ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH, HAVE SEEN THE POWER OF GOD.

Refrain C: ♪ All the Ends of the Earth, Have Seen the Power of God.
 All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God.

Verse 1. Sing to the Lord a new song, ___ for He has done wondrous deeds; ___ His Right Hand has won the Vict'ry for Him, His ho-ly Arm. _____

♪ All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God. All the ends...

Verse 2. The Lord has made His Salvation known, His justice revealed to all; ___ Remembered His kindness and faithfulness, to Is-rael. _____

♪ All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God. All the ends...

Verse 3. All the ends of the earth have seen, salva—tion by our God; ___ Joyfully sing out all you lands, break forth- in song. _____

♪ All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God. All the ends...

Verse 4. Sing to the Lord with harp and song, ___ with trumpet and with horn; ___ Sing in your joy before the King, The King-, our Lord. _____

♪ All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God. All the ends of the...

#301 5. Now into Thy heart we pour - Prayers that from our hearts proceeded.

Our petitions Heav'n-ward soar; - May our warm desires be heeded!

Write the name we now have given, - Write it in the Book of Heaven. A---men.

| PRAYER REQUESTS: | Member or Relation | Pray for... |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Sue Smith (Bev Foster's daughter) | Sue: liver & pancreas growth. | Bev was ill |
| Jim&Elma Hendricks | LORD's will be done. | Jim at home. Blood pressure spikes |
| Dee Kurczewski (David) | Dee was in hospital after falls. | Back home, rehabbing |
| Jon Sawyer Sr (Andrea) | Had a stroke. | Back at home, improving every day |
| Martha Sawyer (Jon's mom) | In Miss. Moved from hospital to rehab (Jan.1,2) | |
| James Vanesky & Delores Platt | Delores & Jim at home. | Both doing rehab |

| Volunteers | Today | Next Sunday |
|------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Greeters | Shirley & DW Marquardt | Barb Wolkens |
| Treaters | Volunteer | Volunteer |

| Statistics | Last week | Year to date / Avg. |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Sunday Attendance/(LordSupper) | 21 / (20) | 21 / 20 |
| Bible Class Attendance (Sunday) | 6 | 6 |
| Sunday Offering for LORD | \$. | YTD Total \$. |

| Calendar of Events | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Today Sunday 14 th | 8:30 am | Bible Study Heb. 12 JC, Hero of Faithful |
| Epiphany1(Obsrvd) | 9:30 am | Divine Worship (NO Holy Communion) |
| Baptism of Jesus | 10:45 ff... | Fellowship, Coffee ...Please stay & talk |
| Pastor Installation | 4:00 pm | J.Madson Installation & Meal NLS-Sebring |
| Saturday 1/20 | 10:00 am | OSLadies Guild January Meeting (Orpha) |
| Next Sunday 1/21 | 8:30 am | Bible Study Heb. 13 JC, Whose Kin We Are |
| Epiphany(3)Sunday | 9:30 am | Divine Worship (W/ Holy Communion) |
| Missions, Light of ☺ | 10:45 ff... | Fellowship, Coffee ...Please stay & talk |

Our Savior Elders are: **Tom Temple 213-4622; John Weber 853-5458; Steve Wendt 858-3611 & Don Wienke 815-8892.** Please contact with any concerns.

✧ **Friday, JAN 26th!** OSL's Annual **FISH FRY** coming quick!! Signup!!! See Bev&DonW

Next Sunday 1/21 Epiphany-3 (L.S. p.15) #s 250 Ps.98 506 509.1 498 496

EPIPHANY-1(B) Mark 1:4-11 "BAPTISM...&...CREATION?!" 01.14.18 OSL

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

In the Name of the Father, and of the **Baptized** Son and of the Holy Spirit, **Amen**.

INTRODUCTION: **O.T. GEN.1** The Bible begins "Baptismally." I know that sounds strange, but think about it for a moment. "The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters." The Deep. "Tehom," those primal, swirling, chaotic **waters. Spirit and water, water and Spirit.** Remember Jesus to **Nicodemus (John 3)?** "Unless you are born again from above by water and Spirit you cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven." Creation and **NEW** Creation. Through water and Spirit with the Word. Right there in the opening verses of Holy Scripture, a "Baptismal beginning." Before there was day and night, sea and sky, sea and dry land, plants, fish, birds, and various kinds of animals with man at the top of the heap, in the beginning when the earth was chaotic and disordered, there was water and Spirit and the Word. Now you see why I call Baptism a new creation. It's also the way of the first creation.

O.T. GENESIS 4-6 You can also understand **the Flood** from this perspective too. In the Flood, God returned everything to Genesis 1:2. (ELS Small Catechism: Picture on Chief Part 4 –is not a shell- but **The Ark**) Everything covered with water. The Flood was a washing with water of a creation gone bad. And when Noah stepped out of the ark with his family and the animals, it was a new creation of sorts. In fact, it was Noah's birthday – the first day of the first month of the 601st year of Noah's life. Happy birthday, Noah, as he stepped out on dry land.

O.T. EXODUS You can also understand the Exodus trip through the Red Sea in those terms. **Israel emerges from the water as a nation.** Egypt is the **womb** of Israel and the (Red) **Sea is its birthing water.** As the Israelites walked through the Sea, they went from being slaves to free men, from "**nothing to a nation.**"

(**N.T.**) Now you're prepared to hear from (the Gospel of St.) **Mark.** The beginning of Mark's version of the Gospel is **John the Baptizer** and the baptism of Jesus. This is where the Gospel begins for Mark. He has no need to tell us about Jesus' conception, His birth in Bethlehem, His presentation in the temple, His childhood. Matthew and Luke will fill in that blank. For Mark, the Gospel, the good news of Jesus, begins with His Baptism, and so we are here today to consider the Baptism of Our Lord Wow! What a day!

O.T. <-Bridge-> N.T. John's baptism was transitional, **a bridge** between the old covenant and the new. It was different, unprecedented, new. In the old covenant, you dealt with sin by **blood** sacrifice, the blood of an animal for your blood, life for life. But with John came **something new – a baptism of repentance** for the forgiveness of sins. You came to John standing there in the Jordan river, confessing your sins, and you were washed by him and forgiven. Your sins were washed away. And the whole while John would be preaching and pointing ahead to another One, a greater One for whom John was not

worthy to be the lowest slave untying His sandal. He would bring an even greater Baptism – **the Holy Spirit.**

Jesus came up from Nazareth to the Jordan and stood before his (6-month older) **cousin John.** It's unlikely they had ever met before that. John grew up in the **wilderness**; Jesus in the **northwest hill country of Galilee.** John had been waiting and watching, preparing the people for the coming of Messiah. He had an image of Jesus with an axe swung to the root and a winnowing fork to throw the chaff into the fire, One who would baptize not simply with water but with fire and the Holy Spirit.

Jesus stood there before John in the Jordan, and **an amazing thing happened.** Jesus wished to be baptized. The **Sinless One wishes to be baptized AS A SINNER.** The only One who has no need for repentance wants to receive John's baptism of repentance. Matthew records that John objected, saying, "*I should be baptized by you,*" and that's right. The sinner needs to be baptized by the Sinless One. But Jesus says to John, "*Let it be. For it is proper for us to do this in order to fulfill all righteousness.*" (even **more than** OT Law)

Here in the water of the Jordan, in John's baptism of repentance, THE PLAN goes into effect. The sinless Son stands in solidarity with sinners, immersed in their putrid bath water. All their/(OUR) adulteries, thefts, murders, lies, deceits, idolatries, blasphemies are washed into that water, and Jesus steps in to make the bitter water sweet. Like a sponge, He ABSORBS THE SIN OF THE WORLD and BECOMES THE SINNER for us all, "...in order to fulfill all Righteousness."

The Sacrifice is washed, Jesus is baptized into His (Own) death. This episode leads directly to His Cross. Mark makes the connection with a verb. In Jesus' Baptism the **Heavens were ripped open violently**; at Jesus' death on the Cross, the temple curtain that isolates the most Holy place was **ripped open** in the same way *with the same word.* Jesus' Baptism and His death go together.

There in the water of the Jordan is the Word made Flesh. When water and the Word get together, ...**Watch out! Big things happen.** Remember **Genesis 1:2?** Mark tells us that as Jesus got up from the water, the Heavens were torn open, the **Spirit descended** on Him in the form of a **Dove**, and the **Father's Voice** was heard giving testimony straight out of **Isaiah 42:** "*Behold My Servant, Whom I uphold; My Chosen One in Whom I delight.*" "*You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased.*"

The Father is delighted and well pleased because **the Plan** was being put into effect; the Plan hatched from before the foundations of the world that the world would be redeemed in the death of the Word, the Son of God. Jesus' Baptism sets the ball in motion. The "pin is pulled;" there is no stopping it now until it ends on a Cross outside Jerusalem, where again He is declared the Son of God, at that time by a soldier witnessing His death.

Jesus, though sinless, was baptized as a Sinner, so that you, though sinless, might be baptized into His righteousness and holiness. In **His** Baptism,

Jesus takes up your sin; in **your** Baptism, He washes away your sin and covers you with His own robes of righteousness. A "sweet swap," a Great Exchange. **The Sinless One for the sinner = you.** (Luther: *der Froeliche Wechsel*)

APPLICATION **What does it all mean?** The apostle Paul tells us very clearly: Do you no know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by Baptism (Baptism did it, it's **not just some "symbolic thing"** – aka, "**christening**") in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory off the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

This is the **Greater Baptism of which John spoke.** The Baptism that **makes us new creatures in Christ**, that births us as children of God, that washes away the stain of sin, that joins us to the death of Jesus and to life of Jesus, that puts us into the Body of Christ, incorporating us in Christ, that clothes us with Christ. This is that fiery Baptism of the Holy Spirit who works through water and the Word. This is the death and life of Jesus **applied to you personally**; this is **salvation made personal.** The Christ that was baptized for all in the Jordan and died for all on the cross is here for you in the water. For a little daughter of Eve born in Adam's sin and death. But now a child of heaven, born of water and Spirit through the Word. Joined to Jesus in His death and life with all the promises and certainty these bring.

(DAILY) It isn't just one day but every day for the baptized. Baptism isn't something that happens once and is then forgotten except for the pictures and the certificate. It is daily. Daily dying to sin. Each day Baptism drowns the sinner, and boy does he need drowning. The sinner dies, the saint in Christ raises. Each day is a Resurrection Day, Baptism raising us to life, renewing us, lifting us up out of the death of sin to life in Christ. It's an identity we wear. We don't simply say, "*I was baptized,*" but "*I AM baptized.*" That's **who you are.** You are **identified with Christ** in His death.

Baptized into Christ, you are new creatures, a new creation. **Genesis 1:3** has **come to you in a new way.** The Spirit hovering over the baptismal water has ordered the chaos of your sin and death into something new – a justified sinner, forensically, legally declared righteous in God's eyes for Jesus' sake. Now you are permitted by God in heaven to consider yourself already dead to Sin. Sin no longer has mastery over you. Sin's lordship is ended. You are dead to Sin but you are alive to God in Christ Jesus. In Christ Jesus is where all the action is, where your life is, where your salvation is, where your holiness is. It's all in Christ, and baptized into Christ and believing Him, you get to play with it, work with it, live it.

CONCLUSION

YOU ARE BAPTIZED. WELCOME TO LIGHT AND LIFE, A NEW CREATIVE DAY.

But it's all one and the same thing - **your Baptism and Jesus' Baptism.** In Him you were baptized, and your baptism tells you so. "*Jesus loves me this I know, and my Baptism tells me so.*" You are loved in the Beloved Son. You are elect in the Elect Christ. You are chosen in the Chosen Servant named Jesus. **IJ,N, Amen. SDG**

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL USA
1st Sunday after Epiphany * *Baptism of Jesus (Observed)*
Matthew 3:13-17 * January 14th, 2018 * 9:30 am

Possible Prayer of Church for * 1st Sunday after Epiphany - January 14, 2018

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. (Possible Brief silence)

For the Baptized, that united with Christ in His death we may daily die to sin and rise with Him, set free from the dominion of sin and death, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the nations of the world still in darkness, that the Spirit would bring them life and light through the preaching of the Gospel and call them to the waters of the new creation, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who serve in the Office of the Ministry, that all their preaching and teaching may faithfully point to the Mightier One with zeal, as did St. John the Baptist, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who make, administer and judge the laws of our land, that they be given wisdom, integrity and honor to serve according to God's good will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the lonely and homebound; the grieving and dying; and all who are afflicted in body, mind or spirit, [*and especially for* **OSL Prayer List**]

| PRAYER REQUESTS: | Member or Relation | Pray for... |
|--|---|--------------------|
| Sue Smith (Bev Foster's daughter) | Sue: liver & pancreas growth. | Bev was ill |
| Jim&Elma Hendricks | LORD's will be done. Jim at home. Blood pressure spikes | |
| Dee Kurczewski (David) | Dee was in hospital after falls. Back home, rehabbing | |
| Jon Sawyer Sr (Andrea) | Had a stroke. Back at home, improving every day | |
| Martha Sawyer (Jon's mom) | In Miss. Moved from hospital to rehab (Jan.1,2) | |
| James Vanesky & Delores Platt | Delores & Jim at home. Both doing rehab | |

that Christ would be their companion in solitude, their comfort in sorrow, their health in sickness and their life in death, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who will partake today of the Holy Eucharist, that they be given grace to approach the altar with humility and faith, and so be strengthened by the Savior's body and blood to live as children of the day, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the faithful departed who rest now in Christ, let us give God our thanks and praise, and ask Him to grant us our portion with the saints in light on the joyous day of Christ's appearing, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen. Then, the Lord's Prayer...**