

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD (First Sunday after the Epiphany)

The Triune God Is Manifested and Reveals Himself to Us in Holy Baptism



Background: In the previous weeks lessons, we saw Christ coming to earth as an embryo in the womb of Mary, born a child of humble birth in a manger, presented to God in the temple as a first born Son, taken to Egypt to escape Herod's wrath, standing in the temple with theological leaders discussing God's word (Jesus is the Word!) and now He is Baptized in the Jordan River to take on the sins of the world. Sin is evil and must be redeemed. That is why Christ will be later sacrificed as the Lamb of God to pay for the sins of the world once and for all. The trinity of God is clearly visible as God the Father speaks from a cloud that Christ is the Son of God. The Holy spirit shows up as a dove. John the Baptist simply announces Christ as the "lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world. What a blessing that we can see Gods Plan of Salvation being fulfilled so clearly.

The Baptism of Christ [*Andrea del Verrocchio*](#) and [*Leonardo da Vinci*](#) (1472 - 1475)

The Lessons: Isaiah 42:1–9, Romans 6:1–11, & Matthew 3:13–17 The Baptism of our Lord is an "epiphany" of the one true God in the flesh and blood of Jesus. He is the chosen servant of the Lord, anointed with the Spirit for the rescue of God's people to "bring forth justice to the nations" (Is. 42:1). Thus, He makes all things new, and He is given "as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations" (Is. 42:6). In the waters of the Jordan, He takes His place with sinners and takes all the sins of the world upon Himself. He undergoes the Baptism of repentance in order to "fulfill all righteousness" for us (Matt. 3:15). He submits Himself to the curse of sin and death in order to redeem us. We are baptized with a Baptism like His, thereby dying and rising with Him, so that "we will also live with him" (Rom. 6:8). Indeed, all of us who are baptized into Christ Jesus are anointed with His Spirit and named by His Father as beloved and well-pleasing sons and daughters.