



THE GREAT BAPTISM

(A CHRISTMAS TO EASTER
PARTNERSHIP)
CHRISTMAS TO EASTER #3
(MATTHEW 3:13-17)

In the Baptism of Jesus we find a profound expression of the positive realities of both God's LAW & God's GRACE & so also reason for us to hold Christmas & Easter close together in our hearts & minds.

*"FOR THUS IT IS FITTING FOR US
TO FULFILL ALL RIGHTEOUSNESS..."*

JESUS' RESPONSE TO JOHN REVEALS SOME AMAZING THINGS...

1. ETHICAL MEANING: THE MORAL CHARACTER OF JESUS
2. APOCALYPTIC MEANING: THE COSMIC PURPOSE OF JESUS
3. SACRAMENTAL MEANING: THE DEEP MEANING OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. 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; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

- Matthew 3:13-17



Leonardo da Vinci: The Baptism of Christ (ca. 1470)

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
of
Reno, Nevada**

January 14, 2024

Service for The Lord's Day

January 14, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

"The law was therefore given that grace might be sought;
grace was given that the law might be fulfilled." – St. Augustine

We Gather Together in the Spirit of God

- Prelude** Nancy Tedford, piano
- Greetings and Church Family News** Pastor Jay Hull
- Ordination & Installation of Our New Elders & Deacons**
- Choral Introit** Covenant Choir
- Call to Worship** Psalm 100 (hymnal p.821) Patrick McNeely

We Worship Jesus Christ, the Well-Pleasing Son of God

- *Opening Hymn** #225
"Once in Royal David's City" (vv.1, 2 & 4)
- *Time of Greeting**
- Children's Prayer Time**
- Prayer of Confession, Word of Assurance
& Gloria Patri (#734)**
- Time of Offering**
- Offertory Anthem** Covenant Choir
"Psalm 121" – Vader/Rouse

***Doxology (#731) & Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We Hear The God of Heaven Speak Through His Word

- *Hymn of Preparation** #238
"My Dear Redeemer and My Lord"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:13-17 (p.808)

Message: The Great Baptism Pastor Jay
(The Rescue: Christmas to Easter #3)

We Depart Praying: God Work in Us What Is Pleasing to You

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" #252

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**
Nancy Tedford, organ

***indicates to stand**
if you are able



Hymns for January 14th

Once in Royal David's City (#225)

- 1 Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.
- 3 And through all his wondrous childhood he would honor and obey,
love and watch the lowly maiden in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.
- 4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.
- 5 Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
when like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

My Dear Redeemer and My Lord (#238)

- 1 My dear Redeemer and my Lord, I read my duty in your Word;
but in your life the law appears, drawn out in living characters.
- 2 Such was your truth, and such your zeal,
such def'rence to your Father's will,
such love, and meekness so divine,
I would transcribe and make them mine.
- 3 Cold mountains and the midnight air
witnessed the fervor of your prayer;
the desert your temptations knew,
your conflict and your vict'ry too.
- 4 Be thou my pattern; make me bear
more of your gracious image here;
then God the Judge shall own my name
amongst the foll'wers of the Lamb.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (#252)

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God:
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
- 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down:
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- 4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.