

Sermon Highlights for January 12th, 2020

In my preparation for Sunday's Sermon.

I begin with the big picture: Epiphany and its Season.

During Epiphany, we worship Jesus, who has given all mankind access to God through Himself. This season of lights emphasizes Jesus' manifestation (or Epiphany) .



The first being when the Magi come to worship the baby Jesus. They were the first Gentiles to have access to God. (Last Sunday's Sermon)

The second Epiphany (the first Sunday after Epiphany) the church celebrates the Baptism of Our Lord. Now my focus narrows in my sermon preparation, on why and how God the Father sent Jesus (quick answer) to bear the sins of the world.

Now God reveals to us Jesus stepping down into baptismal waters so He can soak up the sins of the world. He is baptized into our sins, so that our Baptism might be into His death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sins.

So this Sunday I will be highlighting not only Jesus' baptism but our baptism. Especially as it is found in Romans 6 (our Epistle reading) and in our Catechism.

Title: Dead to Sin, Alive to God

- I. Don't abuse your baptismal grace
- II. Die!... as Christ died (to sin) He on the cross we in the water
- III. Baptism connects us to Christ's work
 - A. Christ identifies himself with us in His baptism
 - B. His death pays for sin - (ful clothes)
- IV. Baptism clothes us in His righteousness
- V. Baptism found a burial place for our sin (water)
- VI. Baptism unites us to Christ's resurrection
 - A. Which gives us new life
 - B. Frees us from the guilt of sin
 - C. Walk in newness of life in service to Him
 - D. And makes us alive to God in Christ Jesus

