

# **Liturgy Alive of Baptism of the Lord**

## **Greeting**

Today Jesus was baptized in the Jordan;  
the Father recognized him as his beloved Son;  
the Holy Spirit prepared him for his mission of service  
May the Lord's Spirit of sonship and service  
be always with you.

## **Introduction by the Celebrant**

Today, on the feast of the Lord's baptism, Jesus, though he was without sin, made himself one with sinners, with outcasts, with the poor in any way, to bring them God's forgiveness and life. He accepted that difficult mission. At our baptism we have become one with him. Do we too, like him, accept our mission to be good servants of God and people, even when this is a difficult task? After all, we are Jesus' disciples.

## **Penitential Act**

We too are God's beloved sons and daughter  
since the time we were baptized.  
Have we answered God's love?  
Let us ask the Lord to forgive us.  
(pause)  
Lord Jesus, servant of God  
, you taught us how to serve.  
Lord, have mercy. R/ Lord, have mercy.

Jesus Christ, beloved Son of the Father,  
through you we became his daughters and sons:  
Christ, have mercy. R/ Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you made yourself one  
with all sinners and with the weak:  
Lord, have mercy. R/ Lord, have mercy.

Have mercy on us, Lord,  
and take all our sins away.  
Make us live as people loved by God  
and lead us to everlasting life. R/ Amen.

## **Opening Prayer**

Let us pray that with Jesus  
?we may be faithful servants of God and people?  
(pause)?  
God our Father,?  
with Jesus you call us to be?  
your beloved sons and daughters?  
and with him you give us the mission?  
to become humble and dedicated servants.?  
Grant that we may not break?  
those crushed by sin and sorrow.?  
Help us to serve always the cause of right,?  
to be eyes to the blind?  
and a voice for the downtrodden.?  
May we please you in all we do.?  
\We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. R/ Amen.

### **General Intercessions**

Today let us pray to our Father in heaven, who sent his Son among us as a servant to set us free and to make us new. Let us say to him: R/ Lord, hear your people.

- For the Church and its leaders, that they and we may not seek compromises with wealth and power but serve and help the poor, let us pray: R/ Lord, hear your people.
- For all those who do not know Christ or who are estranged from the Church, that the way we live Christ's Gospel may reveal to them the love of the Lord, let us pray: R/ Lord, hear your people.
- For us Christians and for all people, that the Holy Spirit may guide us to respect all who are little and defenseless; that we may not crush them but give them justice, let us pray: R/ Lord, hear your people.
- For all those who are baptized, that they may follow Christ and that, like him, they may learn to serve rather than to be served, let us pray: R/ Lord, hear your people.
- For us and all our Christian communities, that the Eucharist may strengthen in us the gifts of the Holy Spirit and make us ever more faithful to our vocation as God's beloved children, let us pray: R/ Lord, hear your people.

Lord our God, you have called us to become new when we were baptized. Forgive us our cowardice and keep renewing us through your Spirit, that we may have the courage to go with Christ all the way, for he is your Son and our Lord for ever. R/ Amen.

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

Our God and Father,?  
these gifts of bread and wine?  
will become your beloved son Jesus?  
on whom your favor rests.?  
Strengthen us with his body and blood?  
and let his Holy Spirit renew us?

as people who live without compromise?  
the message of justice and love?  
and the very life of your Son.?  
In this way, may we truly be?  
your beloved sons and daughters?  
on whom your favor rests,?  
now and for ever. R/ Amen.

### **Introduction to the Eucharistic Prayer**

Let us give wholehearted thanks to the Father for having made us in baptism his beloved sons and daughters together with Jesus our Lord.

### **Introduction to the Lord's Prayer**

Baptized in the Holy Spirit?  
and children of the Father?  
through Jesus, his beloved Son,?  
we pray with all trust Jesus' own prayer. R/ Our Father...

### **Deliver Us**

Deliver us Lord, from every evil?  
and grant us your peace in our day.?  
Revive in us the grace of baptism?  
and guide us by your Holy Spirit,?  
that we may be loyal to our mission?  
of living the life of Jesus in this world,?  
as we wait in joyful hope?  
for the coming in glory?  
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. R/ For the kingdom...

### **Invitation to Communion**

This is Jesus our Lord,?  
the beloved Son of the Father,?  
on whom God's favor rests.?  
Happy are we to be invited?  
to share his table?  
and to live his life. R/ Lord, I am not worthy...

### **Prayer after Communion**

Our God and Father,?  
you have opened heaven to us?  
to strengthen us with the bread of life?

and to fill us with the Holy Spirit?  
Make us new and call us away?  
from our certainties and attachments?  
Send us out to go forward without fear?  
on the road of justice and peace,  
that we may be your beloved children?  
together with your faithful Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. R/ Amen.

### **Blessing**

At his baptism in the Jordan?  
Jesus was invested with his mission?  
of bringing God's liberating love to people?  
The Spirit guided him to carry out that mission?  
in uncompromising faithfulness?  
At our baptism with water and the Spirit,  
we have received the mission?  
to live like Jesus,  
to go about doing good as he did,  
to be faithful and just to God and to people?  
May the God in whose name we have been baptized?  
protect, guide and bless you for this task:

the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. R/ Amen.

Let us go in the name of the Lord. R/ Thanks be to God.