

Sermon Notes

“The Waters of Our Baptism”

Sunday, February 21, 2021

St. Mark 1:1-11 (NRSV)

We focus today on Article 10 in the Nicene Creed:

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

Water—cool, clear, water. Seventy percent of the earth is covered with it. Two-thirds of the body is filled with it. What can be more refreshing on a hot summer day than a dip in the pool?

And yet...something so basic to our human existence, is at the center of what it means to be a Christian. The sacrament of baptism takes something simple – water – and reminds us of something spiritual – God’s grace.

Come let us remember our baptism in these three ways and be thankful:

1) By the waters of our baptism we are _____!

This is why infant baptism, Confirmation, and adult baptism is so central to who we are as Methodists. It is our identity! Don’t forget *whose* you are.

2) By the waters of our baptism we are _____!

Jesus calls us to unconditional love. We are called to be in ministry and service to others. By the waters of baptism we are called to BE disciples, to live into our discipleship.

3) By the waters of our baptism we are _____!

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...” (Matt. 28:19)

The 12 Articles of the Nicene Creed

Concerning God the Father

Article 1

*We believe in one God,
The Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
Of all that is, visible and invisible.*

Concerning God the Son

Article 2

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
The only-begotten Son of God,
Eternally begotten of the Father,*

Article 3

*God from God, Light from Light,
True God from true God,
Begotten, not made,
Of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.*

Article 4

*For us and for our salvation
He came down from heaven,
Was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
And the Virgin Mary,
And was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.*

Article 5

*On the third day he rose again
In accordance with the Scriptures;*

Article 6

*He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

Article 7

*He will come again in glory
To judge the living and the dead,
And his kingdom will have no end.*

Concerning God the Holy Spirit

Article 8

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
The giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
Who with the Father and the Son
Is worshiped and glorified.
Who has spoken through the prophets.*

Concerning the Church, Christian Baptism, Resurrection of the Dead, and Last Things

Article 9

*We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church.*

Article 10

*We acknowledge one Baptism
For the forgiveness of sins.*

Article 11

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

Article 12

And the life of the world to come. Amen.