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When Thou O Lord was baptized in the
Jordan, The worship of the Trinity was
revealed, For the voice of the Father bore
witness to you, calling you His Beloved Son.
And the Spirit in the likeness of a dove,
confirmed the truthfulness of the word,
Wherefore O Christ our God, who hast
illuminated the world, glory to Thee.

Troparion



Theophany

January 6 / 19

In the months before Jesus began His ministry, His cousin John the Baptist was urging people to repent of their sins and accept baptism in the Jordan River. Jesus was baptized, although He was sinless.

The icon shows us Jesus submerged in the water, with small creatures representing evil spirits fleeing from Christ. John the Baptist, in crude clothing, is performing the baptism. Angels stand nearby with bowed heads, indicating that they will serve Jesus. The heavens are open, indicating God's presence, and the Holy Spirit is pictured as a dove. The event is celebrated as the first manifestation of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Mark 1:9-13).

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