THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 12, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

Today is the first of the bookends that mark the Epiphany season—the Baptism of Our Lord and His Transfiguration. In common is the command from God to "listen to Him." We begin our journey of listening to the Lord, learning from those who went before, acknowledging the revelation of the Lamb of God in baptismal water, and looking to Him, the Word made flesh. In His Baptism, our Lord was not washed because He was unclean but because we are. The Father saw the prophetic words of Isaiah fulfilled in the water of the Jordan, and He claimed Jesus as His own Son and our appointed Redeemer. "You are Mine," said the Lord to Jesus. Because He said those words to Jesus, they are now addressed to us—the people for whom Jesus was baptized.

PRELUDE "You Are Mine" -Paul and Betsy

ENTRANCE HYMN "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" LSB 411

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus. Refrain

ref In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. Refrain

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain

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RITE OF BAPTISMAL RENEWAL

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ★ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Dear friends, we were buried into Christ by Baptism into His death and raised with Him to newness of life. Yet even as God's people in this world, when we examine our hearts, consciences, and lives, we find that we daily struggle against our weakness and sin that so easily besets us. Therefore, let us confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

People: Merciful God and Father, though You have made us Your own possession by our Baptism into Christ, still we struggle and fail to live as Your redeemed children in this fallen world. Therefore, we confess our sin and weakness to You, and in repentance, we ask You of Your mercy to forgive our sins and grant us Your grace and strength.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ♣ everlasting.

People: Amen.

INTROIT Psalm 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a

Pastor: Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

People: I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

Pastor: Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

People: You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

Pastor: Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

People: Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling,

Pastor: for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

HYMN OF PRAISE "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" LSB 394

1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,

Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,

Manifested by the star

To the sages from afar,

Branch of royal David's stem

In Thy birth at Bethlehem:

Anthems be to Thee addressed,

God in man made manifest.

2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,

Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;

And at Cana wedding guest

In Thy Godhead manifest;

Manifest in pow'r divine,

Changing water into wine;

Anthems be to Thee addressed.

God in man made manifest.

3 Manifest in making whole

Palsied limbs and fainting soul;

Manifest in valiant fight,

Quelling all the devil's might;

Manifest in gracious will,

Ever bringing good from ill;

Anthems be to Thee addressed.

God in man made manifest.

4 Sun and moon shall darkened be,

Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee:

Christ will then like lightning shine,

All will see His glorious sign;

All will then the trumpet hear,

All will see the Judge appear;

Thou by all wilt be confessed, God in man made manifest.

5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word—
Grace to imitate Thee now
And be pure, as pure art Thou;
That we might become like Thee
At Thy great epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.

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SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah* 43:1–7 ("I have called you by name, you are Mine.") But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 29; antiphon: v. 3

Leader: The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over many waters.

People: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over many waters.

Leader: The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

People: The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

Leader: He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

People: The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

Leader: The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

People: The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

Leader: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

People: May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Leader: The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over many waters.

EPISTLE *Romans* 6:1–11 (By Baptism, we were united with Christ into His death and resurrection.) What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE Mark 1:11b

Pastor: Alleluia. You are My beloved Son; **People: with You I am well pleased. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 3:15–22* (Jesus is baptized in the Jordan River by John.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison. Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord" *LSB* 405

- To Jordan's river came our Lord, The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored, The God from God, the Light from Light, The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.
- The Savior came to be baptized— The Son of God in flesh disguised— To stand beneath the Father's will And all His righteousness fulfill.

- 3 As Jesus in the Jordan stood And John baptized the Lamb of God, The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove, Descended on Him from above.
- Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound Came God's own voice with words profound: "This is My Son," was His decree, "The one I love, who pleases Me."
- 5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight Anointed Christ in glorious sight As God's own choice, from Adam's fall To save the world and free us all.
- 6 Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute; This man is Christ, our substitute! He was baptized in Jordan's stream, Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme. Text: © 1993 James P. Tiefel. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING "The Spirit Song" -Paul and Betsy

We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you enter the sanctuary, or as the offering plates are passed at this time.

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Holy holy Lord God of power and might Heav'n and earth are full of your glory Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes In the name of the Lord Hosanna in the highest Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Holy, mighty, and everlasting Father, of Your own goodness You have made all things and by Your mercy still preserve Your own creation. We give You thanks that You have sought us out even when we rebelled against Your goodness and, in the unfolding ages, have revealed to us Your saving will and purpose in Christ, our Lord. He was born in flesh to take our place in water and make for us this sacrament of life by which we are born again. He suffered in our place even to death and rose that not even death may prevent the triumph of Your grace. As He has made us His own children in baptismal water, preserve and nourish us with Your grace that by this communion of His body and blood we may be forgiven our sins and all You have begun brought to completion in us. According to His own promise and testament, we come to His Table to receive the fruits of His redeeming work by faith.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25 Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ♣ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My & blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST 1 Corinthians 11:26: Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: What You have begun in us, O Lord, we pray You to keep and to bring to completion on that blest day when time shall cease and You shall finish Your new creation. With the saints who have loved His appearing, we glorify You, O Lord, for the incarnation of Your Son, for His holy life and obedient suffering, for His life-giving death and His resurrection never to die again, for His ascension to Your right hand and His coming again as Lord and judge of all. Hear and receive our praise and thanksgiving through the merits and mercies of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God, one Lord, both now and forevermore. As our Savior has taught us, we are bold to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew* 6:9–13

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God you take away All the sin of the world Oh Lamb of God have mercy on us And grant to us your peace

You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Communion is offered in two ways: the individual cup and the common cup. If you would like the individual cup, please partake as the assistant minister passes by after Pastor gives the bread. If you would like the common cup, let the assistant minister pass by, open your hands palm up, and Pastor will return to give you the common cup.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Let All Together Praise Our God" *LSB* 389

1 Let all together praise our God
Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav'n again
To give us His own Son,
To give us His own Son.

- He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne,
 Is born an infant small,
 And in a manger, poor and lone,
 Lies in a humble stall,
 Lies in a humble stall.
- Within an earthborn form He hides His all-creating light; To serve us all He humbly cloaks The splendor of His might, The splendor of His might.
- 4 He undertakes a great exchange, Puts on our human frame, And in return gives us His realm, His glory, and His name, His glory, and His name.

He is a servant, I a lord:
How great a mystery!
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
No truer friend than He,
No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door To blessèd paradise; The angel bars the way no more. To God our praises rise, To God our praises rise.

And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.

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"All Christians Who Have Been Baptized" *LSB* 596

1 All Christians who have been baptized,
Who know the God of heaven,
And in whose daily life is prized
The name of Christ once given:
Consider now what God has done,
The gifts He gives to ev'ryone
Baptized into Christ Jesus!

You were before your day of birth,
 Indeed, from your conception,
 Condemned and lost with all the earth,
 None good, without exception.
 For like your parents' flesh and blood,
 Turned inward from the highest good,
 You constantly denied Him.

3 But all of that was washed away—
Immersed and drowned forever.
The water of your Baptism day
Restored again whatever
Old Adam and his sin destroyed
And all our sinful selves employed
According to our nature.

4 In Baptism we now put on Christ—Our shame is fully covered
With all that He once sacrificed
And freely for us suffered.
For here the flood of His own blood
Now makes us holy, right, and good
Before our heav'nly Father.

5 O Christian, firmly hold this gift
And give God thanks forever!
It gives the power to uplift
In all that you endeavor.
When nothing else revives your soul,
Your Baptism stands and makes you whole
And then in death completes you.

6 So use it well! You are made new—
In Christ a new creation!
As faithful Christians, live and do
Within your own vocation,
Until that day when you possess
His glorious robe of righteousness
Bestowed on you forever!

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"We Know That Christ Is Raised" LSB 603

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.

Embraced by death, He broke its fearful hold;

And our despair He turned to blazing joy.

Alleluia!

We share by water in His saving death. Reborn, we share with Him an Easter life As living members of a living Christ. Alleluia!

3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.

The Spirit's power shakes the Church of God.

Baptized, we live with God the Three in One.

Alleluia!

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BLESSING

Pastor: May our Lord's body and blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace and with joy.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24–26

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and \blacksquare give you peace.

People: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways" LSB 707Oh, that the Lord would guide my waysTo keep His statutes still!Oh, that my God would grant me graceTo know and do His will!

- Order my footsteps by Thy Word
 And make my heart sincere;
 Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
 But keep my conscience clear.
- Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep; And should I e'er forget Thy way, Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.
- 4 Make me to walk in Thy commands—
 'Tis a delightful road—
 Nor let my head or heart or hands
 Offend against my God.
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POSTLUDE "The Glory" -Paul and Betsy

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship 9:30 a.m.

You are encouraged to take a walk this week with the Lord by reading Galatians. May the Lord make your heart burn with joy at the Good News and your place in His Kingdom!

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: Luke 3:21 – "Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying ..." We know why the people were baptized, but why was Jesus baptized? He didn't need repentance or forgiveness. The answer is that He did it for us. The reason God sent His Son into the world is to fulfill all righteousness for us, to do what we could not do. The whole of Jesus' life, everything He did and said, was one great offering to the Father in our stead to fulfill all righteousness for us. With our righteousness fulfilled in Jesus and given to us in Baptism, our hearts now overflow with thanksgiving and praise.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The next congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26 after the worship service. We will be voting on the 2025 budget and copies of the annual report will be available. There will be a potluck after the meeting! Please sign up in the narthex to help with the potluck.

LWML WINTER GATHERING: Saturday, January 25 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church (655 Forest St N) from 9:30 until 11 a.m., with refreshments or light breakfast beforehand. Dr. Reed Lessing from Concordia University will be the speaker on the book of Jeremiah. Do you need encouragement to remain hopeful despite trials, tribulations and life changes that may cause despair or worry? Dr. Reed Lessing will use his book, *Overcoming Life's Sorrows: Learning from Jeremiah*, to help us see that there is hope for overcoming life's difficulties. Everyone attending will receive a copy of the book.

TEACHERS NEEDED: Trinity First School is looking for mission-focused teachers in the elementary (K-2) and middle school (5-8) levels! Begin immediately or in August for the 2025-2026 school year. If interested, please send your resume to info@trinityfirst.org or visit our website at www.trinityfirstschool.org/employment.

LWML MITES: Where do your LWML Mites go? A Legacy of Love for Special Needs Children: Lutheran Special Education Ministries | \$100,000. This grant will support Lutheran Special Education Ministry (LSEM) in the expansion of their services for special needs children in Lutheran schools and churches. It will help LSEM develop new resources to serve future needs and ensure their ministry is continually helpful and effective. To learn more, visit www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-23.

HEAR "THE LUTHERAN HOUR" on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week's broadcast: "He Made Me a Believer" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. God makes us believers and the more we believe, the more we become involved in the institutions God made – church, marriage, family, and work. (John 2:11)

THIS WEEK AT EMMAUS:

Today: 9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

Tues: 10:30 a.m. Worship Meeting

6 p.m. Spiritual Life Meeting

7 p.m. Council Meeting

Wed: Bulletin Deadline

1:30 p.m. Bible Study (SH)

Thurs: 6:30 p.m. Choir

Fri: Office closed – call Pastor in emergencies

Sat: Social Hall in use

12-5 p.m. Organist Rehearsal

Next Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

SERVING OUR WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY:

PASTOR: Rev. Nick Kooi ALTAR GUILD: Donna H MUSIC LEADER: Paul H SOUND TECH: Marilyn P VIDEO TECH: Micah G

WORSHIP ASSISTANT: Dave H USHERS: Alan M, Christine S COUNTERS: Jenny H, Marilyn P

LECTOR: Marie G GREETER: Debbie N ACOLYTE: Corrin L