

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

A Serving Community

God's work, our hands!

Rev. Rebecca Zielke, Pastor

Tim L. Elder, CAGO, Director of Music

Baptism of Our Lord

Sunday, January 12, 2025

10:15 a.m.



Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

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GATHER

Announcements

Prelude “Two Versets on Bunesan” (ELW 456) Richard Proulx

Please stand.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C **Amen.**

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the Waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

ELW 310

Bible Study continues on Wednesdays at 10:30. We will continue our study of Leviticus.

Annual State of the Church Meeting will take place Sunday, January 19, immediately following worship. The meeting reviews and recognizes events of the past year as we look forward to the coming year. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for this informative meeting. Any Board Chairs or committee chairs that have not submitted their reports should have them into the church office ASAP.

The long awaited Yoga classes will begin on today, at 11:30. This should be a big help to those of us who need a little stretching to help us get around and stay limber.

Offering Envelopes are available in the Fellowship Hall. Please take a minute to find yours. Some of the numbers may have changed. If you are in need of offering envelopes, please leave a note in the offering plate with your name and whether you want weekly or monthly.

Daily readings for January 13 through January 18

Mon 1/13	Tues 1/13	Wed 1/15	Thu 1/16	Fri 1/17	Sat 1/18
Psalm 106 1-12	Psalm 106 1-12	Psalm 106 1-12	Psalm 36 5-10	Psalm 36 5-10	Psalm 36 5-10
Judges 4:1-16	Judges 5:12-21	Numbers 27:1-11	Jeremiah 3:1-5	Jeremiah 3:19-25	Jeremiah 4:1-4
Ephesians 6:10-17	1 John 5:13-21	Luke 11:33-36	Acts 8:18-24	1 Corinthians 7:1-7	Luke 11:14-23

Serving in Worship

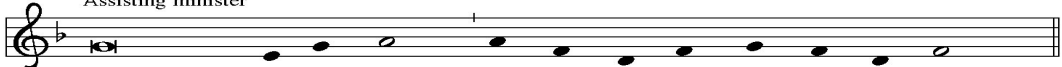
	1/5/25	1/12/25	1/19/25	1/26/25	
Greeter	Woody Gingery	Jeff Dombroski	Gabe West	Zach West	
Usher	Woody Gingery	Jeff Dombroski	Gabe West	Zach West	
Lector	Alta Johnson	Larry Cohol	Judy McCartney	Diana Williams	
Counters	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff	
Altar Guild	Diana Williams	Diana Williams	Norma Thomas	Barb Drotleff	
Crucifer	Larry Cohol	Chris Eash	Art Thomas	Larry Cohol	
Acolyte					

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C And also with you.

Gloria

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.




Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



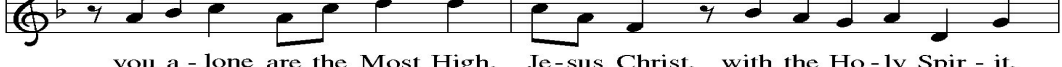
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray,

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

¹ But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ² 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. ³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

L Word of God, word of life.
C Thanks be to God.

Communion Hymn

Wade in the Water

ELW 459

Anthem

I'm Going On A Journey

Mark Hayes

Please stand

Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer after Communion

P Let us pray,

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.

In the name of Christ we pray,

C Amen.

Sending Hymn

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

ELW 543

Blessing

P The Spirit of the triune God ✚ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C Amen.

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude "Go, My Children, With My Blessing" (ELW 543) Kevin Hildebrand

You are welcome to stay for the postlude or you may leave the church at this time. Please be aware, however, that the livestream does continue through the postlude. We ask that you leave quietly so your conversations are not recorded.

Acknowledgements:

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Public Domain: *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise; In the Bleak Midwinter; Wade in the Water;*

Lord's Prayer

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us,

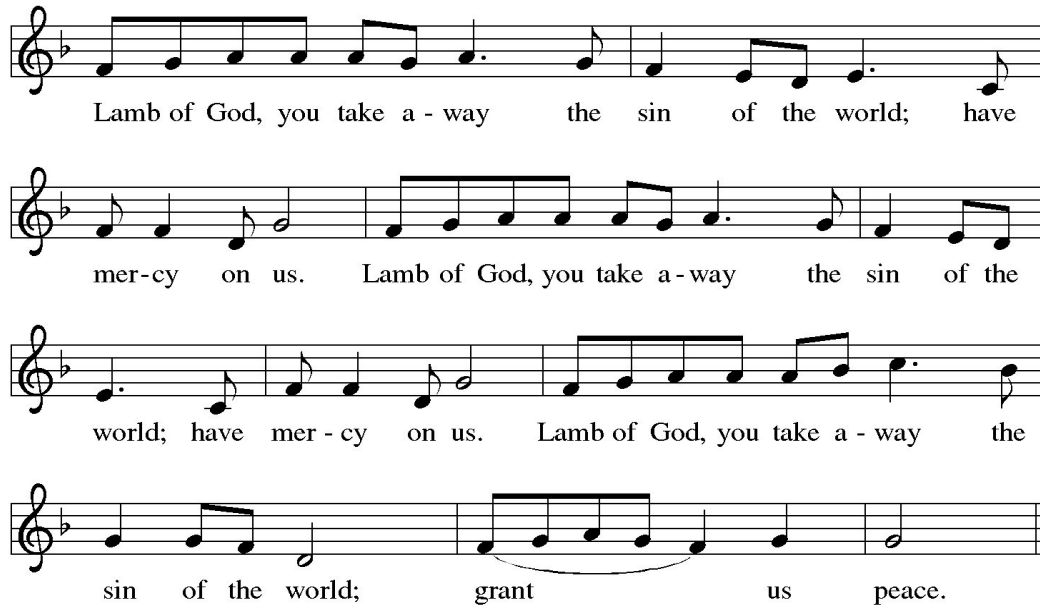
C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

P The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

*This invitation is extended to all who receive Communion
in any Christian denomination. All are welcome!*

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated

Communion

Follow the usher's direction to come forward to receive the bread from the Pastor and take a glass of wine from the tray. Dispose of the cup in the basket provided on the railing and return to your seat by the side aisle.

Psalm 29



The voice of the LORD is up - on the wa - ters.

¹ Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- ry and strength.

² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴ **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. R**

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶ **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷ The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸ **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. R**

⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰ **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹ O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace. **R**

Second Reading

Acts 8:14-17

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

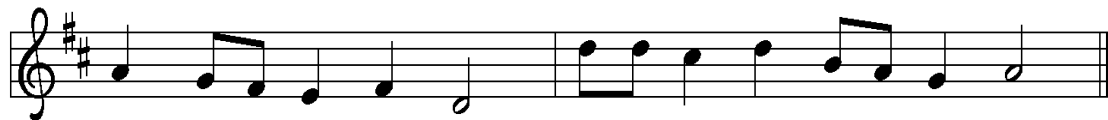
L Word of God, word of life.
C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Preface

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy,



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

MEAL

Offering Response

In the Bleak Midwinter

ELW 294

Please stand

Offering Prayer

- P Let us pray,
God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.
- C **Amen.**

Dialogue

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Gospel

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

- P The holy gospel according to Luke.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

- P The gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

Children's Message

Sermon

Please stand,

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

- P With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.
 You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news, especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace,
C hear our prayer.
- P Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans. Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. God of grace,
C hear our prayer.
- P You reveal yourself in every land and in the farthest parts of the earth. Deliver peoples who suffer under oppressive regimes. Thwart the foolish plans of unjust leaders. Give wisdom to our elected officials. God of grace,
C hear our prayer.

- P You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery especially those we name out loud or in our hearts:

Martha Baluck, Barb Drotleff, Madolyn Elder, Oweda Frederick, Chris Hunnicutt, Devon Kirtley, Diane Malloy, Craig Miller, Marge Pancher, Emma Parker, Pam Parker, Bob Reynolds, Bob Titus, David Titus, Jenn Titus, Kay Welch. The family of Betty Gingery.

(The names on the prayer list are updated every 30 days. If you wish to continue to have someone on the list, please contact the office.)

- Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace,
C hear our prayer.
- P You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace,
C hear our prayer.
- P You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace,
C hear our prayer.
- P We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
C Amen.

Peace

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.**

The offering plate is located on the table as you enter/exit the worship space.

Please be seated.