

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 11-12, 2025

“Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education”

“Persevere With Thanksgiving”



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.” Luke 3:21-22

**Music of Preparation,
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting**

Our Ministry: We are a people of God who are: **“Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education.”**

Welcome! Welcome to worship at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church. May you experience the love of Jesus in the midst of this congregation.

Devotions & Publications Available are found in the main entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

..... WORSHIP NOTES

Note About Attendance Cards...Remember that the only way we may know you are worshiping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. **Please list the name of each person in worship.** (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

To Our Visitors...Our school has a few nooks and crannies, so don’t be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available near the guest register in the main (west) entryway.

For All Who Worship...If you are arriving after the service has started, please allow our ushers to assist you with seating. We ask that you avoid entering during the confession, prayers, or Bible readings as these are quiet and meditative moments.

For Parents with Small Children...We love and want children in our services as a part of God’s family, to spend time with Jesus, and to learn how to worship. We also know that kids can be kids. If you need assistance, we have a nursery for children up to age 4 manned with people who love to share the love of Christ with little kids in the lower grade wing. The nursery is staffed during Sunday School and the 11:05 worship service. We want you and your children to experience our Lord’s love and to have a great opportunity to worship the Lord along with all who are gathered here to praise our Savior’s name.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE

(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 151 in the Hymnal)

Notes for Worship: As you prepare for worship this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for all aspects of the Christian Life (some of the prayers are also located on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

Before worship prayer

Almighty God, grant that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our baptism into the death and resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ, may be renewed by Your Holy Spirit to live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Opening Hymn: "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord"

LSB, hymn #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.

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."

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.

Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;
This man is Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Matthew 28:19b

P: Dear friends, we were buried into Christ by Baptism into His death and raised with Him to newness of life. I call upon you to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced the devil and all his works and ways and were made members of the Holy Christian Church. Do you renounce the devil?

C: Yes, I renounce him.

P: Do you renounce all his works?

C: Yes, I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce all his ways?

C: Yes, I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

C: Yes, I believe 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.

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C: Yes, 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.

P: Is it your purpose to continue steadfast in this faith and in the promise of Your Baptism and, as a member of the church, to be diligent in the use of the means of grace and prayer?

C: Yes, with the help of God.

P: Dear friends in Christ, remember the cross made upon you in Baptism. The cross upon your forehead and upon your heart marked you as one redeemed by Christ, the crucified. As you recall your Baptism into Christ, renew Your pledge this day and promise to live in this baptismal identity and promise as long as you live.

C: Yes, with the help of God.

P: As a called and ordained servant of the Word and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and the Holy Spirit. Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

C: Amen.

P: May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria in Excelsis ~Glory to God in the Highest

Luke 2:14, John 1:29

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C: (Sung) Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: (Sung) And also with you.

P: 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.

C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

THE READING OF THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

(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."

Epistle Lesson: Romans 6:1-11

(United With Jesus In Baptism)

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.

Stand (as you are able)

Alleluia and Verse - Common

John 6:68

C: (Sung) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

C: (Sung) Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 3:15-22 *(Jesus Baptized By John In The Jordan)*

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."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (Sung) Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be Seated)

Sermon Hymn: "Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered"

LSB, hymn #404 (tune 423)

Jesus, once with sinners numbered,
Had no blemish of His own;
In the waters of the Jordan
His true worth and work were shown:
Heaven opened and the Spirit
There descended like a dove,
As the Father's voice resounded, "Hear My Son, the One I love."

John confessed Him as the Savior—
"Look, the sinless Lamb of God!"
Yet he dared not loose the sandals
Of the One God's love had shod.
Oh, how fair the feet of Jesus,
Bringing news of peace to us,
Christ, the herald of salvation, Preaching mercy from the cross:

This the baptism that our Savior
Greatly longed to undergo;
This the crimson cleansing needed
So the world God's love might know;
This the mission of Messiah
As He stepped from Jordan's stream,
He, the chosen and anointed Son of God, sent to redeem.

Jesus, once with sinners numbered,
Full obedience was Your path;
You, by death, have consecrated
Water in this saving bath:
Dying to the sin of Adam,
Rising to a life of grace;
We are counted with the righteous, Over us the cross You trace.

Sermon: "Torn Apart"

Luke 3:21-22

Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards

8:30am - Reception of New Members

OFFERTORY - Create In Me

LSB, Divine Service 3, pg 192-193

C: (Sung) Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. . . . Father, in Jordan's baptismal water, You fulfilled the word of the prophet and washed us clean to become Your own children. Grant that we may rejoice in our Savior's Baptism, which gives hope to our own Baptism and through which You now behold us as Your own people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: You have called us by name and placed upon us Your name and Your grace; give now Your Spirit that we may hear the voice of Your Son speaking hope through the Word and believe in Him faithfully to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Embolden Your church with Your Word and gifts that we may address the world with hope of sins forgiven and death undone by the death and resurrection of our Lord and that hearing this Gospel, many may believe. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Guide the leaders of our nation and locality with Your Word that they may act with integrity and serve in accordance with Your will, assisting virtue, justice, and peace here and in every place. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Give to Your people generous hearts that as richly as we have received, we may also give. Bless the tithes and offerings we bring with the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for all Your goodness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Abide with the troubled in mind, the wounded in body, and the broken in spirit, that they may know Your presence in their hour of need and be granted healing, comfort, and peace according to Your will. We lift up before You those hospitalized this past week (*Especially, . . .*). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). Strengthen them with Your gracious hand and with Your unwavering presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Recalling John, at whose hand our Lord was baptized, and those who delivered to us the faith in Word and Sacrament, grant that we may also so faithfully pass on the witness of Your mercy and be kept in life and be faithful unto death. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . .)

P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

C: Hear Our Prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us to pray:

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

BENEDICTION

P: 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 † give you peace.

C: (Sung) Amen

Closing Hymn: “The People That in Darkness Sat”

LSB, hymn #412

The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long In shades of death have been,
In shades of death have been.

To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness, The gath’ring nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear Their harvest treasures home,
Their harvest treasures home.

To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv’n,
And on His shoulder ever rests All pow’r in earth and heav’n,
All pow’r in earth and heav’n.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor, The God by all adored,
The God by all adored.

His righteous government and pow’r Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based, His reign shall have no end,
His reign shall have no end.

Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art And Holy Spirit, one,
And Holy Spirit, one.

See You In Worship Next Week!

After worship prayer

Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

There is a Prayer Ministry Member(s) in each service that is wearing a prayer ministry tag around their neck. Please look for them if you want a prayer for someone else, a concern or situation you may have, or yourself.

Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.

Altar Flowers Altar flowers this weekend are given in loving memory of my parents, John and Elaine Koeppen on their anniversary, by Pastor & Lynda Koeppen; also in loving memory of my husband, Wendall Beckman on his 85th birthday (January 10th), by Donna Beckman.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Roger A. Drinnon Associate Pastor	Rev. Ross Engel Adopt-A-Chaplain
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