

The Baptism of Our Lord

Sunday, January 12, 2025
11:00 A.M.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Plain text indicates a part of the liturgy led by a worship leader; **bold text** indicates a congregational response.

Hymn numbers refer to their corresponding pages in the back of the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal.

Please leave your offering in the plate at the front of the nave, near the pulpit. If you would like to give online, please use the QR code to the right.



Welcome

Prayer Requests

Prelude

Shall We Gather at the River

Robert Hobby

We stand as we are able.

Opening Dialog

P Arise, shine; for your light has come,

C and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

P The Word became flesh and lived among us.

C We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

P What has come into being in him was life,

C and the life was the light of all people.

P Arise, shine; for your light has come,

C and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

ENTRANCE RITE

Hymn 423

Shall We Gather at the River

Greeting

A 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.

The Opening Dialog combines verses from Isaiah 60 and John 1.

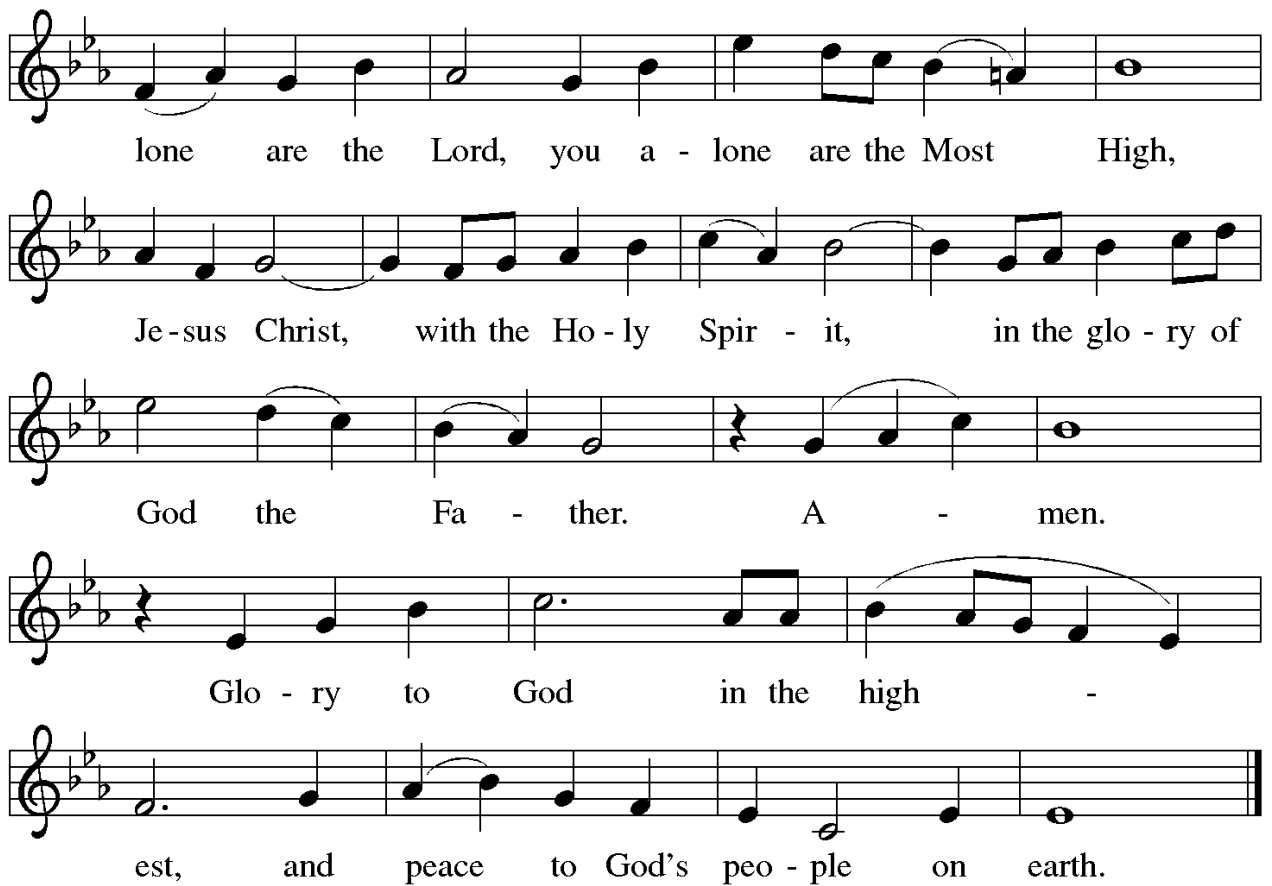
Standing is the posture of the resurrection. We stand when we sing hymns and for other parts of the service as an expression of resurrection joy. It is a way of proclaiming that Jesus is powerfully alive! Colossians 3:14-17

The Gloria ("Glory to God...") is a continuation of resurrection praise. With the angels we sing God's glory revealed in Jesus Christ. Luke 2:14

Song of Praise

Glory to God

The musical score is written on ten staves of a single treble clef in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and slurs. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 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.
 Glo - ry to God in the high -
 est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

The Prayer of the Day is tied to the overall theme of the scripture lessons or, sometimes, to the theme of day if it is a special occasion in the church calendar.

Prayer of the Day

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

A 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**

The tradition of reading sacred scripture in worship is a tie to our roots in Judaism. 1 Timothy 4:13 reminds us of the importance of this practice.

The first lesson is normally from the Old Testament.

A Psalm is spoken or sung as a meditation on the first lesson and as a response to it.

We are seated.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

L A reading from Isaiah.

- 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 The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29

*We sing the psalm responsively, with the congregation singing the verses in **bold**.*

- ¹ Ascribe to the ^l LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo-^l ry and strength.
- ² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory^l due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau-^l ty of holiness.**
- ³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of^l glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the^l mighty waters.
- ⁴ **The voice of the LORD is a pow-^l erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a^l voice of splendor.**

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the ¹cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- ¹dars of Lebanon;
⁶ **the LORD makes Lebanon skip ¹like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a ¹young wild ox.**

⁷ The voice ¹of the LORD
bursts forth in ¹lightning flashes.

⁸ **The voice of the LORD ¹shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- ¹ness of Kadesh.**

⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the ¹forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are ¹crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰ **The LORD sits enthroned a- ¹bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- ¹evermore.**

¹¹ O LORD, give strength ¹to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- ¹ings of peace.

The second reading, usually from the New Testament letters, bears the witness of the early church.

Second Lesson: Acts 8:14-17

L A reading from Acts.

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 The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia is from the Hebrew words: hallelu yah, meaning "All of you praise the Lord." We sing this in anticipation of the reading of the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

*We stand and sing the Alleluias together.
The choir sings the verse, and we repeat the Alleluias.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Choir: A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, ¹the Beloved,
with whom I ¹am well pleased." (Matt. 3:17)*

The Liturgy of the Word culminates in the reading of the gospel and the sermon by which Christ comes among his people and speaks to us in our own context. Because of this we stand to listen to the good news of our Lord.

This hymn complements the day's scripture readings and sermon.

The Affirmation of Baptism includes the Apostles' Creed (which begins, "I believe...") is traditionally attributed to the first apostles, working under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. It has been known to the church since at least the fourth century.

The Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

We sit.

Sermon

Pastor James Armentrout

We stand as we are able and sing the hymn.

Hymn 304

Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized

Affirmation of Baptism

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C 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.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

C I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

C We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C Amen

We join our hearts in prayer as we pray for the Church, for the well-being of creation, for peace and justice, for those in need. 1 Timothy 2:1-2

The Prayers

Each petition concludes:

A Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

THE EUCHARISTIC LITURGY

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

We greet one another, saying "Peace be with you."

Much more than a pleasant greeting—we do this to proclaim God's promise of peace. 2 Corinthians 13:11

Our gifts are received and dedicated to our Lord's service. These offerings support the ministries of this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners.

As our gifts of offerings and tithes are brought forward we sing a canticle of thanksgiving for God's generous goodness.

Our prayer is modeled after the Jewish prayer of thanksgiving and dedicates the giver to a stewardship of all life.

Anthem

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

Richard Shephard

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day,
I would my true love did so chance
to see the legend of my play,
to call my true love to my dance;
*Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.*

Then was I born of a virgin pure,
Of her I took fleshly substance.
Thus was I knit to man's nature,
to call my true love to the dance.
Sing O my love...

In a manger laid and wrapped I was,
So very poor; this was my chance,
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass,
to call my true love to my dance.
Sing O my love...

Then afterwards baptized I was;
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard from above,
to call my true love to my dance.
Sing O my love...

- traditional English carol

We stand as we are able and sing the Offertory.

Offertory

Shin - ing star the ma - gi's sign; wa - ter changed to fin - est wine;
Christ bap - tized in Jor - dan's stream; on the moun - tain, glo - ries beam.
Light that light - ens all our days, for the love each sign dis - plays:
praise the Fath - er, praise the Son, praise the Spir - it, Three - in - One!

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray. God of grace,
C **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.
Amen**

The Thanksgiving Dialogue begins the part of our worship called the Great Thanksgiving.

The dialogue and the Proper Preface are ancient parts of the worship which proclaim our thanks for the gifts of God in the meal.

Thanksgiving Dialogue

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Proper Preface

The presiding minister continues: "It is indeed right ..."

The proper preface concludes: "we praise your name and join their unending hymn."

The Sanctus echoes the angels' cry in Isaiah 6:3 and the crowds of Mark 11:9 as Jesus entered Jerusalem. This reminds us that we are in the presence of a God identified both by holiness and humility.

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

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

The Lord's Prayer brings the Great Thanksgiving to a conclusion. Prayed here, this familiar and beloved prayer becomes the table-prayer of the congregation. Luke 11:1-13; Matthew 6:5-15

The Lord's Prayer

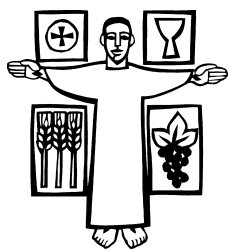
P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

We are seated.



**COMMUNION WITH OUR RISEN LORD
WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

We come forward by way of the center aisle, forming two lines to receive communion at the altar rail. We return to our pews by way of the side aisles.



Once we have all received the sacrament and returned to our seats, we celebrate the personal encounter with the risen Christ through blessing, prayer, and singing.

Post-Communion Blessing

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

C **Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer

A Let us pray. Nourishing God,

C **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, Amen.**

Blessing

P May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

C **Amen**

1 I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er,
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain,
 3 I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean,

I've got peace like a riv - er in my soul;
 I've got joy like a foun-tain in my soul;
 I've got love like an o - cean in my soul;

I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er,
 I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain,
 I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean,

I've got peace like a riv - er in my soul.
 I've got joy like a foun-tain in my soul.
 I've got love like an o - cean in my soul.

*We are dis-
 missed from
 worship knowing
 that our service
 does not end.
 Rather, having
 been in the pres-
 ence of the risen
 Lord, we leave
 so that our ser-
 vice may truly
 begin.*

Dismissal

A Go in peace loving God and loving your neighbor.

C Thanks be to God.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Sunday, January 12 <i>Baptism of Our Lord</i>	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, January 13	5PM—7PM	The Lion's Share open
Tuesday, January 14		
Wednesday, January 15		
Thursday, January 16		
Friday, January 17	10AM—noon	The Lion's Share open
	6:30PM	NA meeting (Library)
Saturday, January 18	8PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, January 19	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Greeter	Harry Brewbaker & Connie Watkins	Joel Ugochukwu
Lector	Evan Odson	Karen Arthur
Communion Assistant	Sabina Ugochukwu & Patti Mills	Mary Ann Snider & Jerry McDaniel
Coffee Hour		

Attendance Last Sunday	41
Offering Received (Pledges/Loose)	\$2,668.00
Budget (Pledges/Loose)	\$3,173.00



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Loving God, Loving Our Neighbor

Ministers and Staff

Ministers: Congregation of St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Secretary / Financial Administrator: Kathy Bryant

Organist / Choir Director: Jacob Gordon

Pastor: James Armentrout

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Shining Star, the Magi's Sign—text: Jacob Gordon; music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze.

I've Got Peace Like a River—text: traditional; music: PEACE LIKE A RIVER, African-American spiritual.