



OUR SAVIOR'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

We welcome you to God's house for worship this second Sunday after the Epiphany of our Lord. In today's gospel lesson, Jesus is baptized by his second cousin, John the Baptist, and he thus begins his public ministry as our Prophet, Priest, and King. As we focus on our Lord's baptism, it is most appropriate and natural for us to emphasize the sacrament of Holy Baptism as a means of grace and a source of strength and comfort for God's people. May the Lord bless the worship of his adopted children!

Prayer Before Worship

These are the words of a simple song, and they are appropriate for our worship today: "I was baptized, happy day; all my sins were washed away. God looked down on me and smiled; I became his own dear child. Amen."

Our Communion Practice

In the Sacrament of Holy Communion, our Lord comes to us with his true body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of sins. We also express unity of faith and a common stand on the teachings of the Bible. Therefore, we invite to communion all who are one with us as members of our church or one that is part of our wider fellowship. Visitors who wish to commune are asked to speak to a pastor before the service begins.

Serving in Worship

- Minister ~ Pastor Jeff Mahnke
- Organist ~ Marie Kurth
- Ushers ~ Tony Sulko, Bill Unruh

Next week ~ Rick & Karen Leopold

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.



The Baptism of Jesus

January 28, 2024

Welcome

Opening Hymn

CW 685

- 1 Through simple water, drawn and poured,
united with his pow'ful Word,
in baptism Jesus sets us free
from sin's dread pow'r and slavery.
- 2 There at the font with promise true
God brings his saving grace anew—
the sin-infected soul he heals
and all his pard'ning love reveals!
- 3 My sinful self was crucified
with Christ, as if I, too, had died;
and as he rose, I also rise
to live with strength that he supplies.
- 4 From that day on God helps me drown
the sinful self and hold it down.
I am made new; I'm born again,
repenting, trusting, serving him.
- 5 When doubts arise, when sin assails,
the pow'r of baptism never fails.
"I am baptized! What should I fear?
God's love for me is always near!"

Text: tr. Mark G. Schroeder, b. 1954; Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–1592, abr.

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Stand

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

(John 3:5,6)

Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us. *(Psalm 51:5)*

But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

(1 Corinthians 6:11)

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. *(Ephesians 5:25-27)*

Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Hymn Response

CW 692 st. 1

All Who Believe and Are Baptized

**All who believe and are baptized
shall see the Lord's salvation;
baptized into the death of Christ,
they are a new creation;
through Christ's redemption they shall stand
among the glorious, heav'nly band
of ev'ry tribe and nation.**

Text: tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.; Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703
Text: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we too may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

The Word

First Reading

Isaiah 49:1–6

Through the pen of the prophet Isaiah, the Messiah himself speaks, telling us of the work he would do when he was anointed at his baptism

¹Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name. ²He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. ³He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor." ⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says— he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength— ⁶he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 45B

Refrain



Great are the works of the LORD. Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Great are the works of the LORD.

Tone



My heart is stirred by a / noble theme
as I recite my verses / for the king.
You are the most excel- / lent of men
and your lips have been anoint- / ed with grace.
Gird your sword on your side, you / mighty one;
clothe yourself with splendor and / majesty. *Refrain*

Your throne, O God, will last for ever and / ever;
a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your / kingdom.
You love righteousness and hate / wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has set you above your com- / panions.
I will perpetuate your memory through all gener- / ations;
therefore the nations will praise you for ever and / ever.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer
Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

Music: © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716671

Second Reading

Romans 6:1–11

St. Paul connects our baptism to Christ

¹What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ²By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—⁷because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

⁸Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 1:11

Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.

Alleluia

Gospel

Mark 1:4–11

Jesus public ministry begins with the anointing he received in his baptism

⁴And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And this was his message: "After me

comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

⁹At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

CW 679

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

- 1 God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
that brought me salvation free,
lasting to eternity!

- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me
since my baptism did release me
in a dear forgiving flood,
sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?

- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
all your might has come unraveled,
and, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!
- 4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
to inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
to make life immortal mine.
- 5 There is nothing worth comparing
to this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ;
I'm a child of paradise!

Text: tr. Robert E. Voelker, b. 1957; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756
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Sermon

Baptism:

So Simple, Such Blessings, & Answers to Hard Questions

Stand

The Institution of Baptism

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is water used by God's command and connected with God's Word.

Which is that word of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

What does Baptism do for us?

Baptism works forgiveness of sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

What are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

Be seated

Thank Offering & Friendship Register

Members of Our Savior's give generous and free will gifts to honor the Lord and support our ministry of the gospel. Guests are welcome to give but should not feel obligated to do so.

As the offering is gathered, please sign the Friendship Register as it is passed down the pew.

Stand

Prayer of the Church & Lord's Prayer

Heavenly Father, you revealed your Son in the wondrous Epiphany in the Jordan. So also you have revealed your name and blessing to us in Holy Baptism, declaring us your beloved heirs. Grant that we may daily die to sin and rise to newness of life, living with joy as your baptized children. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give comfort and relief to those who are sick, depressed, tired, confused or in any need. Watch over all expectant mothers and their children, that they may have a safe delivery and be brought also to the life-giving waters of Holy Baptism. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, in Holy Baptism you have opened the heavens to your children. Grant that all those baptized into your Son would worthily receive the heavenly feast of his body and blood for their salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, you have made us your own people by Baptism and granted us your Holy Spirit to confess Christ in word and deed. We remember with thanksgiving those who went before us, who passed the faith on to us and who now rest in Christ from all their labors. Since we have died with Christ through Baptism, grant that we would be raised with him also. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

Almighty Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism, you have spoken our names and declared us righteous. You have drawn us to Jesus, the light of life, and saved us. Let his light now shine through us, that others may see our good works and give glory to you; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who has taught us so to pray:

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.

The Sacrament

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my T body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my T blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves. The first staff is a vocal line with a double bar line at the end. The second and third staves are vocal lines with lyrics underneath. The fourth and fifth staves are vocal lines with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some phrases held over from one staff to the next.

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

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Tune: Marty Haugen

Tune: © 1984, 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716671

Be seated

Distribution & Hymns

Baptismal Waters Cover Me

CW 657

- 1 Baptismal waters cover me as I approach on bended knee;
my Father's mercy here I plead,
for grievous sins of thought and deed.
- 2 I look to Christ upon the tree, his body broken there for me;
I lay before him all my sin, my darkest secrets from within.
- 3 Lord, may your wounded hand impart
your healing to my broken heart;
your love alone can form in me a heart that serves you joyfully.
- 4 From your own mouth comes forth a word;
your shepherd speaks, but you are heard;
through him your hand now stretches out,
forgiving sin, destroying doubt.
- 5 Baptismal waters cover me;
Christ's wounded hand has set me free.
Held in my Father's strong embrace,
with joy I praise him for his grace.

Text: Kurt E. Reinhardt, b. 1969

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O Gracious Lord, with Love Draw Near

CW 693

- 1 O gracious Lord, with love draw near
to these, your children gathered here;
the Spirit's gift in them renew,
the gift of faith that clings to you.
- 2 Sustain the work you have begun
in these united to your Son,
for in that pure baptismal flood
they have been cleansed by Jesus' blood.
- 3 Deliver them from ev'ry wile,
from all that would their hearts beguile,
from worldly ways and Satan's lies,
that they may not your Word despise.
- 4 Lord, keep them firm in their intent
to you, your Word, and sacrament.
O make them bold, their faith to share,
and make them strong, their cross to bear.
- 5 O Father, grant that by your grace
they may your will each day embrace,
with fruits of faith their lives now bless,
till they at death your name confess.
- 6 Then robed in white before your throne,
your holy saints, by you foreknown,
predestined, called, and justified,
shall, crowned in light, be glorified.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955

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Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

CW 930 sts. 1–2

- 1 Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing,
you are my own.

- 2 Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story;
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure.

***Thank you for worshiping with us.
May your week be richly blessed!***

Serving the Pastoral Vacancy – Pastor Jeff Mahnke from St. Peter Lutheran Church is serving as Our Savior’s vacancy pastor. Should you need his pastoral guidance and service, call / text him anytime at 715.297.0132. His email address is pastorm@mysaintpeter.org.

Pick up today:

- 2023 Financial Statements, 2024 Offering Envelopes
- February Newsletter
- *Forward in Christ, Meditations, Portals of Prayer*

Pastoral Calls Extended – Our Savior’s voters have extended a Divine Call to Pastor Philip Janke. Pastor Janke currently serves at Winnebago Lutheran Academy in Fond du Lac as Director of Admissions and Communication and Religion Instructor. Please keep him, his family, WLA and our own congregation in your prayers as he deliberates where he can best serve our Lord.

To offer words of encouragement to Pastor Janke, please email him at pjanke@wlvikings.org or call/text 262-822-2544 (please remember that he teaches during the day).

Divine Call Received – Mr. Nathan Lemke has received the Divine Call to teach 7th and 8th grade and direct athletics at Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School in Hortonville, WI. Let’s remember Nathan in our prayers and offer him our words of encouragement as he considers this Divine Call as well as his Call to serve here at Our Savior’s!

In Our Prayers – Please continue to pray for Charles Newby and Betty Krueger as they continue to struggle with health issues.

Sign Up to Help with School Accreditation - We are looking for volunteers to help with school accreditation, as discussed at the congregational meeting. There are sign-up sheets and information in the narthex. Please speak with Mr. Lemke for more information.



LEARN TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

God's people want to tell others about the peace, joy, and forgiveness they have in Jesus. But many Christians are unsure how to do this. Join us as we learn some simple, practical ways to reach out to the lost souls God has brought into our lives.

Join us for this new Bible study! We begin **TODAY** at 10:15 am in the school meeting room.

WELS Youth Night - WELS Youth Night will be held at Marathon City Sports Center in Marathon City on Sunday, **February 4th** from 5-8pm. Teens in grades 8 - 12 are invited to join us for free food, free bowling, and the free Gospel. Invite friends (WELS or not). We will have eight lanes to accommodate plenty of bowlers, so do sign up at mysaintpeter.org and come. No bowling ball, shoes or skill required!

OWLS News - With all the work the OWLS members did assembling the cards this month we need a little relaxation so in February we will be meeting at the Pizza Ranch in Weston on Feb 13th at 11:30. As always guests are not only welcome but are encouraged to join us. Questions contact Evan or Sandy 715-693-1337

Ash Wednesday: February 14 - Our worship services during Lent will be on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM. See the newsletter for more information.

This Week at Our Savior's

Today	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Worship with Communion Sunday School & Bible Class
Tuesday	4:30 PM	Basketball at St. Peter, Schofield
Wednesday	1:45-4:45	Pizza Order Pick-Up
Next Sunday 2/4	9:00 AM 10:15 AM 5-8 PM	Worship Sunday School & Bible Class WELS Youth Night

Growing Together

January 21, 2023

<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Vision</u>	<u>Debt Red</u>	<u>Plate</u>	<u>Initial Env</u>	<u>OS School</u>	<u>NY Eve</u>
\$5,442.00	\$390.00	\$450.00	\$10.00	\$70.00	\$5.00	\$10.00
<u>NLHS Op</u>	<u>Bldg Maint</u>	<u>Magic Paper Box</u>		<u>School Fees</u>		
\$250.00	\$100.00	\$13.84		\$2,829.00		

Anticipated Weekly Offerings: \$4,077

In-Person Attendance: January 21 – 71



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