



OUR SAVIOR'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Welcome to worship. We are glad you came! Today our worship will focus upon identity. We have a wonderful identity in Christ that has been given us at our Baptism; it's in this Sacrament that the Lord tells us who we are and what we are to value as his redeemed children. May the Lord bless your worship today with us and give you greater faith and knowledge of your identity.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

I give you thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received me as your own child and made me a member of Christ's body, the Church through my baptism. May I be dead to sin and live in righteousness every day now that I have been buried with Christ into his death and look forward to the inheritance of eternal life that Jesus won for me on the Cross. Amen.

SERVING TODAY

- Minister – Pastor Jeff Mahnke
 - Organist – Marie Kurth
- Ushers – Brost Family, Travis Kurth
Next week – Bill Unruh, Tony Sulko

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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The Baptism of Our Lord

January 19, 2025

GATHERING RITE ON HOLY BAPTISM

God's people long to gather together for strength from God and for mutual encouragement. This alternate beginning for worship is intended for use not only when there is a baptism but may be used on any occasion to remind God's people of Baptism's continuing blessings.

Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

CW 680 st. 1

1 Bap-tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,
a - mong your saints, your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and
dead to sin, your Spir - it now shall live with - in.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.; Johann J. Rambach, 1693-1735, abr.
Tune: Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697-1775
Text and tune: Public domain

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)

- 2 **My loving Father, there you took me
 to be henceforth your child and heir.
My faithful Savior, there you let me
 the fruit of all your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me
 when threat'ning clouds around I see.**

As baptized children of God, we rise to 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.

- 3 **My faithful God, you fail me never;
 your promise surely will endure.
O cast me not away forever
 if words and deeds become impure.
Have mercy when I come defiled;
 forgive, lift up, restore your child.**

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.**

**4 All that I am and love most dearly—
receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely;
help me your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own
serve any will but yours alone.**

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann J. Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.
Text: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children, and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Word

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1–13

David was the youngest of eight brothers and a shepherd. Yet, at his anointing, the Lord declared his true identity – future king of Israel.

¹The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I see a king for myself among his sons.” ²Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me.” The LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’” ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will let you know what you are to do. You are to anoint for me the person that I point out to you.” ⁴So Samuel did what the LORD had told him to do and went to Bethlehem. Trembling with fear, the elders of the city came to meet him. They said, “Do you come in peace?” ⁵He said, “Yes, in peace. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” He consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. ⁶When they had come, he looked at Eliab and said, “Certainly this is the LORD’s anointed.” ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at how tall he is, because I have rejected him. For the LORD does not look at things the way man does. For man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The LORD has not chosen this one either.” ⁹Then Jesse had Shammah pass by. But Samuel said, “The LORD has not chosen this one either.” ¹⁰Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel. Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, “Is that all of the young men?” Jesse said, “There still is the youngest, but he is tending the sheep.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Send for him, for we cannot sit down to eat until he comes.” ¹²He sent for him and brought him in. David had red hair and striking eyes, and was good-looking. The LORD said, “Get up! Anoint him, because this is the one.” ¹³So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers. The Spirit of the LORD rushed on David with power from that day forward. After that Samuel set out and returned to Ramah.

Great Are the Works of the LORD

Psalm 2D

Refrain

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

Tone

Why do the nations / **conspire**
and the peoples / **plot in vain?**
The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together
a- / **gainst the LORD**
and against his A- / **nointed. Refrain**

The One enthroned in / **heaven laughs;**
the Lord / **scoffs at them.**
He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, /
saying,
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy / **mountain.” Refrain**

I will proclaim the / **LORD’s decree:**
He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your /
Father.”
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**

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Second Reading

Titus 3:4-7

In the eyes of the world, baptism appears to be just a religious ceremony. St. Paul explains baptism is so much more – a second birth that gives you the identity of God’s child and heir.

⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Savior toward mankind appeared, ⁵he saved us—not by righteous works that we did ourselves, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and the renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs in keeping with the hope of eternal life.

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 1:11



Refrain



Tone



Refrain

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Gospel

Luke 3:15-17,21-22

People wondered if John the Baptist was the Messiah. But at his baptism, Jesus was identified by his Father as the Anointed One.

¹⁵The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might be the Christ. ¹⁶John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But someone mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will thoroughly clean out his threshing floor. He will gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

²¹When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. While he was praying, heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love. I am well pleased with you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Children's Message

The Institution of Baptism

First: 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.”

Second: 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.”

Hymn of the Day

CW 657

Baptismal Waters Cover Me

- 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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Sermon

Baptism, Its Blessings, & Hard Questions

Thank Offering & Friendship Register

Prayer of the Church

Mighty Father, you revealed your glory through your beloved Son as the light for the Gentiles and the salvation of all the earth. The nations of the earth are yours.

Blessed are all who take refuge in you.

When your Son was baptized you opened the heavens and declared him your beloved Son. When we were baptized you declared us your beloved children for his sake. Help us value our adoption as your children that we may enjoy new life in you. The nations of the earth are yours.

Blessed are all who take refuge in you.

Your Son had the mission to gather your people and to restore them. Bless the preaching of your gospel everywhere. Give your servants who speak your Word courage and strength as they gather and guide your people. The nations of the earth are yours.

Blessed are all who take refuge in you.

Bless the work of pastors, teachers and Christian counselors who comfort those who are troubled. Guide them as they point to you and your gift of baptism as the source of rebirth and renewal to live in you daily. The nations of the earth are yours.

Blessed are all who take refuge in you.

Restore and strengthen those who suffer illness and weakness, and comfort those who are sad, confused or afraid. Give them patience and endurance as they trust your good will. The nations of the earth are yours.

Blessed are all who take refuge in you.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Heavenly Father, with your Holy Spirit you revealed yourself at the baptism of your dear Son, and with your voice from heaven you assured us that in him you are well pleased and through him we have forgiveness of sins. Help us to rightly know you as you have revealed yourself to us, that we may listen to your Son and share in his baptism; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours 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 684

Father Welcomes



Fa - ther wel - comes all his chil - dren to his fam - 'ly through his Son.



Fa - ther giv - ing his sal - va - tion, life for - ev - er has been won.



- 1 Lit - tle chil - dren, come to me, for my king - dom is of these.
- 2 In the wa - ter, in the Word, in his prom - ise, be as - sured:
- 3 Let us dai - ly die to sin; let us dai - ly rise with him,



Life and love I have to give, mer - cy for your sin.
those who are bap - tized and be - lieve shall be born a - gain.
walk in the love of Christ our Lord, live in the peace of God.

Text: Robin Mann, b. 1949

Tune: Robin Mann, b. 1949

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*Thank you for worshipping with us today.
May God richly bless your week!*

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.

Divine Call News – Last Sunday, Mrs. Jessica Zahrt, our grades 1-2 teacher, received a Call to be the director at Key to Life Christian Childcare in Weston. The position would begin on July 1. Please keep her in your prayers as she deliberates.

Asleep in Jesus – On January 10, our Lord called home to himself the soul of Charles Newby. A Christian funeral was held at Our Savior's on Friday. His family is at peace knowing that Charles is rejoicing in heaven with his Savior. Blessed be his memory.

Memorials

We thank the following members for their gifts given in memory of Charles Newby: Robert & Janice Gresens, Mark & Beth Krohn, Rick & Karen Leopold.

We thank these members for their gifts given in memory of Mark Worden: Rick & Karen Leopold, Bill & Sue Unruh.

Blessed be their memories.

Thanks be to God for the love which led to these gifts.

In Our Prayers – Mavis Schubring was hospitalized this past week at Aspirus. Carol Smith has moved to Wausau Manor for rehabilitation. Bob Bishop has been ill at home for several weeks with double pneumonia. Please remember them in prayer.

Ministry Adjustments During This Vacancy

Because St Peter no longer has the help of a vicar for the remainder of the 2024-2025 year, Pastor Mahnke is not able to be present on Sunday mornings starting in February. In addition, it has become increasingly difficult to find substitute pastors. As a result, the Church Council has approved the following adjustments to our ministry:

- Beginning Sunday, February 2nd, our worship service will start at 11:00 am. Bible Class and Sunday School will begin at 10:00 am. Travis Kurth and Dan Hoenecke will facilitate the adult Bible Class.
- Pastor Andy DeGier (Trinity, Township of Berlin) will conduct our worship service having received the blessing of his leaders. Trinity worships at 9:00 am, and our time change will allow Pastor DeGier the time to travel to Our Savior's for our service.
- Pastor Mahnke will continue to serve as our vacancy pastor and will handle and oversee all other areas of pastoral ministry (shut in visits, youth classes, hospital calls, funerals, Church Council meetings, etc).

Enjoying Fellowship - Starting in February, there will be coffee and donuts available each Sunday before our worship service begins. Our Savior's members are encouraged to come to church a little earlier than you perhaps normally would to enjoy fellowship as a family of God's people here at Our Savior's. If you are interested in helping with setup and/or clean up, please speak to a member of the Church Council.

Youth Night / Nerf War – Our youth night is at Northland Lutheran High School on **Sunday, January 26th**, 5:45-8:30 p.m. This event is free of charge. All area teens grades 8-12 are invited for free pizza, fellowship, and a Nerf War. WELS membership is not required - invite your friends! Sign up online at mysaintpeter.org under the heading “Register for.”

Pick up today:

- **January Newsletter**
- **2024 Financial Statement**
- **2025 Offering Envelopes**
- ***Forward in Christ, Meditations, Portals of Prayer***

This Week at Our Savior's

Today	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Worship / WELS Connection Sunday School and Bible Class
Monday		No school
Wednesday	8:00 AM	Muffins with Moms at OS School
Saturday		Our Savior's Day at Dime & Dollar
Sunday 1/26	9:00 AM 10:15 AM 3:30 PM 5:45 PM	Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School and Bible Class PTO Bowling WELS Youth Night at NLHS

Growing Together

January 12, 2024

<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Vision</u>	<u>Debt Red</u>	<u>Plate</u>	<u>Initial Env</u>	<u>Missions</u>
\$2,580.00	\$105.00	\$165.00	\$7.00	\$65.00	\$60.00
<u>NLHS Op</u>	<u>NLHS Tuition Asst</u>		<u>Memorial Fund</u>		<u>School Fees</u>
\$20.00	\$15.00		\$40.00		\$252.00

Anticipated Weekly Offerings \$4,230

Attendance: Sunday, January 5 – 50

Key to Life Christian Childcare Seeking Staff – Key to Life Christian Childcare seeks a Full Time Staff member in our Toddler One classroom. No experience necessary and training will be provided. Please contact Joy Young at director@keytolifeweston.org or call 715-359-5451.

Key to Life Christian Childcare is seeking three Part Time Staff members willing to work 2pm-5:30 PM. No experience necessary and training will be provided. Please contact Joy Young at director@keytolifeweston.org or call 715-359-5451.



Growing in Jesus, Sharing His Love

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