

WELCOME TO THE

BAPTISM

OF JESUS

SUNDAY JANUARY 12, 2025

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GOD GRANTS WISDOM

JANUARY 5, 2025

PRE-SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVANT PROCESSIONAL

AS WE GATHER

Before crossing into the Promised Land of Canaan, Moses led the Israelites through a miraculous “water crossing” at the Red Sea. Then before stepping onto the soil of the Promised Land, Joshua led the Israelites through a miraculous “water crossing” in the Jordan River. And as the “New Israel” in the New Testament, the Lord Jesus experienced His own miraculous “water crossing” in the Jordan River when He was baptized by His cousin, John the Baptizer. Jesus was baptized without sin - because we sinners need to be baptized in order to have our sins washed away. Therefore

our “baptismal water crossing” - or water baptism - makes it possible for us to cross into the Promised Land of Everlasting Life in Heaven. Today we celebrate the amazing gift of Holy Baptism.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

RITE OF BAPTISMAL RENEWAL

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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 Come then, trace the sign of the cross upon you with the baptismal water, recalling your Baptism into Christ, and renewing Your pledge and promise to live in this baptismal identity and promise as long as you live.

The congregation goes down the side aisles toward the font, starting from the outside sections of the pews, dipping their fingers in the baptismal water, making the sign of the cross and returning to their seats by the center aisle.

P 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.

C And also with you.

The congregation may exchange the peace of the Lord.

HYMN “Baptized into Your
Name Most Holy” *LSB 590*

**590 BAPTIZED INTO YOUR NAME MOST
HOLY**

- 1 Baptized into Your name most holy,
O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and
lowly,
Among Your saints, Your chosen
host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin,
Your Spirit now shall live within.

- 2 My loving Father, here You take me
To be henceforth Your child and
heir.
My faithful Savior, here You make me
The fruit of all Your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me
When threat’ning clouds around I see.

- 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.
- 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: Johann Jacob Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

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SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Joshua*
3:1-3, 7-8, 13-17

¹ Then Joshua rose early in the morning, and they set out from Shittim. And they came to the Jordan, he and all the people of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over. ² At the end of three days the officers went through the camp ³ and commanded the people, "As soon as you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God being carried by the Levitical priests, then you shall set out from your place and follow it ... ⁷ The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. ⁸ And as for you, command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, 'When you come to the brink of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.'" ... ¹³ And when the soles of the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off from flowing, and the waters coming down from above shall stand in one heap." ¹⁴ So when the people set out from their tents to pass over the Jordan with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, ¹⁵ and as soon as those bearing the ark had come as far as the Jordan, and the feet of the

priests bearing the ark were dipped in the brink of the water (now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest), ¹⁶ the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap very far away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho.

¹⁷ Now the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 29; antiphon: v. 3*

L Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

C **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.**

L The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.

C **The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

- L** The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
- C** **He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion [*Lebanese Mountain Range*] like a young wild ox.**
- L** The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
- C** **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
- L** The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"
- C** **The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**
- L** May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!
- C** **The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.**

EPISTLE By Baptism, we were united with Christ into His death and resurrection. *Romans 6:1–11*

¹ What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ 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. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Mark 1:11b*

P Alleluia. You are My beloved Son;

C with You I am well pleased. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL Jesus is baptized in the Jordan River by John.

Matthew 3:13-17

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him.

14 John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" **15** But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all

righteousness." Then he consented. **16** And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; **17** and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"This Is the Spirit's Entry Now *LSB* 591

- 1 This is the Spirit's entry now:
 The water and the Word,
 The cross of Jesus on your brow,
 The seal both felt and heard.

- 2 This miracle of life reborn
 Comes from the Lord of breath;
 The perfect Man from life was torn;
 Our life comes through Christ's
 death.

- 3 Let water be the sacred sign
 That we must die each day
 To rise again by His design
 As foll'wers of His way.

4 Renewing Spirit, hear our praise
 For Your baptismal pow'r
 That washes us through all our days;
 Lord, cleanse again this hour.

Text: Thomas E. Herbranson, 1933–2009

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SERMON “Love Rushes in the
 Bulrushes” *Matthew 3:13-17*

Chorale Anthem “Glorious Impossible”
Trinity Choir

song by Joe Beck, Carl Cartee and Wendy Wills

See the virgin, is delivered in a cold and
 crowded stall

Mirror of the Father's glory lies beside
 her in the straw

He is Mercy's Incarnation; marvel at this
 miracle

For the Virgin gently holds the Glorious
 Impossible

Love has come to walk on water, turn
 the water into wine,

touch the leper, bless the children
 love both human and divine

Praise the wisdom of the Father who has
 spoken through His Son

Speaking still He calls us to the Glorious
 Impossible

Refrain

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah! Glorious
 Impossible

He was bruised for our transgressions,
 and He bears eternal scars. He was

raised for our salvation, and His righteousness is ours.

Praise, oh, Praise Him, praise the glory of this lavished grace so full

Lift your souls now and receive the Glorious Impossible

Refrain 2x

COMMISSIONING OF SHORT TERM MISSIONARY TO INDIA ...

Deb Dugan

While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

(Acts 13:2-3)

P Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we are sending this person of the MOST Ministries team, Deb Dugan, to India to serve on behalf of Trinity Lutheran Church as missionaries are always to be sent out under the authority and with the support of a local congregation, so we send them. I ask you now, in the presence of God: Will you support this team with your fervent prayers and with whatever other means are available while they are gone?

C **We will with the help of God.**

P Hear what the Holy Scriptures say concerning the mission of the church and how it is to be carried out: Then

Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I will be with you always, to the end of the age." (*Matthew 28:18- 20*) You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. (*Matthew 5:14-16*) The end of all things is near. Therefore, be clear-minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides so that in all things, God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen. (*1Peter 4:7-11*)

P Fellow servants on this MOST Ministries Team, I give thanks to God for you and for your willingness to serve and to shine with the light of Jesus Christ. We send you to serve the people of India in support of the ministry carried out there as you meet the physical and spiritual needs of the people. I now ask you, “Are you willing and ready to assume this trust and responsibility?”

Deb: Yes, with the help of God.

P I commission you, then, on behalf of the members of Trinity Lutheran Church to serve as volunteer missionaries for this MOST Ministries trip, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the God of Peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in you what is pleasing in Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. A prayer is then offered over the team members seeking God’s blessing upon each of them and upon all whom they would touch through this mission trip.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P 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 Equip and bless all pastors and church
 workers and those training for church
 work vocations, that at home and
 abroad there may be faithful servants
 to support and care for Your people
 in Your name. 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. [*Hear us especially for . . .*] Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Additional petitions may be included here.

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; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN “Father Welcomes”

LSB 605

ref Father welcomes all His children
 To His fam'ly through His Son.
 Father giving His salvation,
 Life forever has been won.

1 Little children, come to Me,
 For My kingdom is of these.
 Life and love I have to give,
 Mercy for your sin. *Refrain*

2 In the water, in the Word,
 In His promise, be assured:
 Those who are baptized and believe
 Shall be born again. *Refrain*

3 Let us daily die to sin;
 Let us daily rise with Him,
 Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,
 Live in the peace of God. *Refrain*

Text: Robin Mann, 1949

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CLOSING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

We give You thanks, almighty God,
 that in the waters of the Jordan, Jesus
 began His earthly work of redemption
 and sanctified water to be a means
 of grace and an instrument of our
 new life. Help us to see through Your
 own eyes the miracle of Your grace
 by which our Savior took upon us the
 full measure of our sin and by whom
 we have been born again by water
 and the Spirit; through Jesus Christ,
 Your Son, our Lord, who lives and

reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

**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 *Numbers 6:24–26*

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 Amen.

HYMN “All Who Believe and Are
Baptized” LSB 601

1 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.

2 With one accord, O God, we pray:
 Grant us Your Holy Spirit.
 Help us in our infirmity
 Through Jesus' blood and merit.
 Grant us to grow in grace each day
 That by this sacrament we may
 Eternal life inherit.

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

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FIT FOR LIFE That's the title of an all-new
 Adult Confirmation Course taught by
 Pastor Ruhl, starting on **Saturday,**
February 15, 2025. The five class sessions
 will be held on Saturdays from **10:00 am**
to 11:30 am - all with a refreshment break
 in between. The dates for the class
 sessions are

February 15 and 22 - and March 1, 8 and
22. This course qualifies the student for
 adult baptism, confirmation, and
 membership in the Lutheran Church-
 Missouri Synod and Trinity Lutheran
 Church. You can register for this course

by contacting Pastor Ruhl at (734) 678.9358 - or by signing the registration sheet at the Welcome Center in the church lobby.

ENGAGING IN WORLD MISSIONS-- We are blessed and honored to send our sister in Christ, Deb Dugan, all the way (7,935 miles) to India to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the Asian Indian People. Deb will serve on the India Missionary Team through our LCMS M.O.S.T. (Mission Opportunities Short-Term) Mission Agency. Our hearts and prayers are with you, Deb.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP (10:00 - 11:00 am each Tuesday) will begin a new Bible Study Topic called *Hard Sayings - Understanding Difficult Passages in Scripture*. Sessions begin on **Tuesday, January 14**. New participants are always welcome to "plug in".

MINISTRY CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sun Jan 12

9 am Children's Sunday School
and Adult Bible Study – To Be a Disciple (Matthew)
10 am Worship---Baptism of Our Lord

Tues Jan 14

10 am Adult Bible study – *Hard Sayings*
Book Bible Study
11 am Trinity Prayer Warriors
4 pm Deadline for announcements and info

TBD Evening Book Study-Being Lutheran
@ Myhers

Wed Jan 15

10:30 am Quilters & Friends

Thurs Jan16

10:30 am Christian Art class

7 pm Council

Sun Jan 19

9 am Children's Sunday School
and Adult Bible Study – To Be a Disciple
(Matthew)

10 am Epiphany 2 w/communion

CHARTING OUR COURSE

Attendance week of January 5, 2025

10:00 am Worship in Person: 49/Online
plays: 128 Communion: 47

9:00 am Kids Sunday school In Person: 7

9:00 am Adult Bible Class in Person: 13/
Online plays: 238

10:00 am Tuesday bible class in person: 10

SERVING US TODAY

Acolyte: Daniel Eppler

Elders:

Pastor:

Organist: Linda Freeman

Special Music: Heidi Swanson