

**The Baptism of Our Lord
(First Sunday after the Epiphany)
January 11, 2026
10:30 a.m.**

**“This is my Son,
the Beloved, with whom
I am well pleased.”**



Matthew 3:17, NRSV



“Christ- Students- Community Coming Together”

444 Abbot Road | East Lansing, MI 48823 | (517) 332-0778
www.martinlutherchapel.org

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is baptized by John. The Spirit descends on him and a voice from heaven says, "You are my beloved." Here is the pattern for our entrance into Christ's community and mission: we come to the waters of the font, our Jordan; we are washed by the Word and anointed by the Spirit; we are named God's beloved children. With Christ we are chosen to proclaim God's mercy in a suffering world. With Christ we are made public witnesses to God's justice. With Christ we are called to do good and relieve the suffering of the oppressed.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

Stand

[P] In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

[C] Amen.

[P] God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.. **[C] Amen.**

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

[P] Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel/ Remain Standing

[P] Gracious God,

[C] have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[P] Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

[C] Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

HYMN **“Open Now Thy Gates”** LSB 901

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so
3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy

en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,
du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,
gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;

Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O
Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I
May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing

Continued on next page

is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
 en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!
 hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.
 star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.

5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee;
 Let Thy will be done indeed.
 May I undisturbed draw near Thee
 While Thou dost Thy people feed.
 Here of life the fountain flows;
 Here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

UNSER HERRSCHER
 87 87 77

Text and music: Public domain

Ps. 100:4; 118:19–26; Is. 26:2–4; 2 Cor. 6:16

GREETING

P 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.

KYRIE

$\text{♩} = 44-48$

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

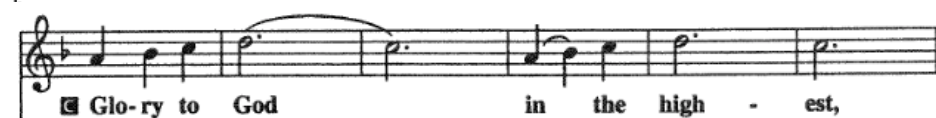
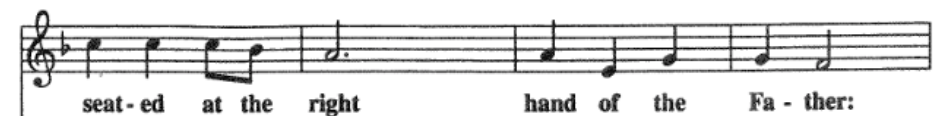
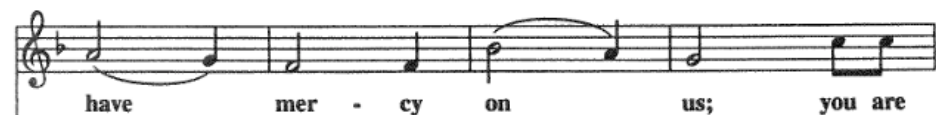
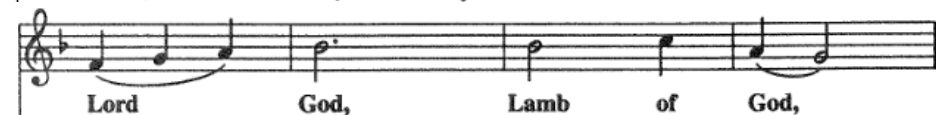
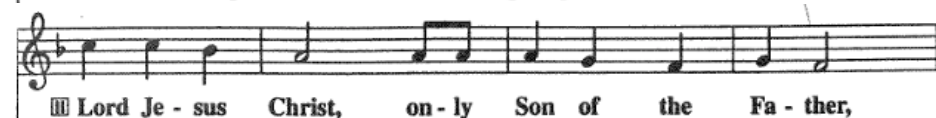
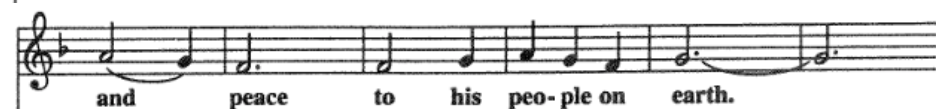
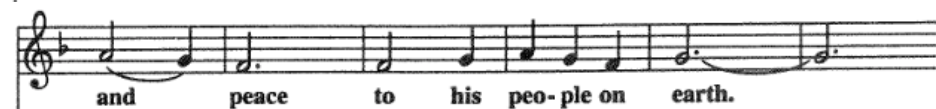
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of

God, and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and
 praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.
 Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.
 A - men

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

♩ = 48-52
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est,
 and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est,
 and peace to his 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



and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

☐ Glo - ry to God in the high - est,

and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

☐ 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.

☐ Glo - ry to God in the high - est,

A - men, a men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☐ The Lord be with you. ☐ **And also with you.**

☐ 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. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful in their calling to be your children and inheritors 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.**

Children are invited to the Fireside Lounge for the Children's Lesson.

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 42:1-9

The Lord's transformation of something old (something expected) into something new is a major theme of Isaiah 40--55. Today's reading begins with the familiar language of the Lord bringing justice (or "the true way") through a chosen one. What is new is how the Lord brings that about: the servant is not a triumphant warrior, but is one who works quietly and patiently.

R Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.
See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON Acts 10:34-43

Peter's sermon to the Roman centurion Cornelius tells how the message of God's inclusive salvation came to expression in the ministry of Jesus, following his baptism by John.

R Peter began to speak to Cornelius and his household: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80-88. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia." The first staff contains the first line of music and the first part of the lyrics. The second staff contains the second line of music and the second part of the lyrics. The third staff contains the third line of music and the third part of the lyrics.

GOSPEL [P] The Gospel is written in Matthew chapter 3 beginning at verse 13.

[C] Glory to You, O Lord.

Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.

[P] Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

[P] This is the Gospel of the Lord. **[C] Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
And 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 again to judge the living and the dead.
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. Amen.**

MESSAGE

Stand

HYMN "When All the World Was Cursed" LSB 346

1 When all the world was cursed By Mo-ses' con-dem-na-tion,
2 Be-fore he yet was born, He leaped in joy-ful meet-ing,
3 Be-hold the Lamb of God That bears the world's trans-gres-sion,
4 O grant, dear Lord of love, That we re-ceive, re-joic-ing,

Saint John the Bap-tist came With words of con-so-la-tion.
Con-fess-ing Him as Lord Whose moth-er he was greet-ing.
Whose sac-ri-fice re-moves The dev-il's dread op-pres-sion.
The word pro-claimed by John, Our true re-pen-tance voic-ing,

With true fore-run-ner's zeal The great-er One he named,
By Jor-dan's roll-ing stream, A new E-li-jah bold,
Be-hold the Lamb of God, Who takes a-way our sin,
That glad-ly we may walk Up-on our Sav-ior's way

And Him, as yet un-known, As Sav-ior he pro-claimed.
He tes-ti-fied of Him Of whom the proph-ets told:
Who for our peace and joy Will full a-tone-ment win.
Un-til we live with Him In His e-ter-nal day.

Text: Johann Gottfried Olcarius, 1635–1711; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt.
Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701; setting: Lutheran Service Book, 2006

WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT
67 67 66 66

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House
Music: Public domain

John 1:6–9, 15–17, 23–31; Matt. 3:1–12; 11:9–14; Luke 1:41–44

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with “Lord, in your mercy,” to which the congregation responds, “hear our prayer.” The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

OFFERING

You may contribute online using the QR code or place a gift in the offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.



OFFERTORY MUSIC AND PRAYER

J = 76-84

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me.

Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take not your

Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -

hold me with your free Spir - it.



P Let us pray. Gracious and loving God,
C we bring to your table these gifts of your creation and fruits of our labor for your use in the world. Receive them for the sake of Christ, who enlightens our lives and leads us to the feast now and forever.

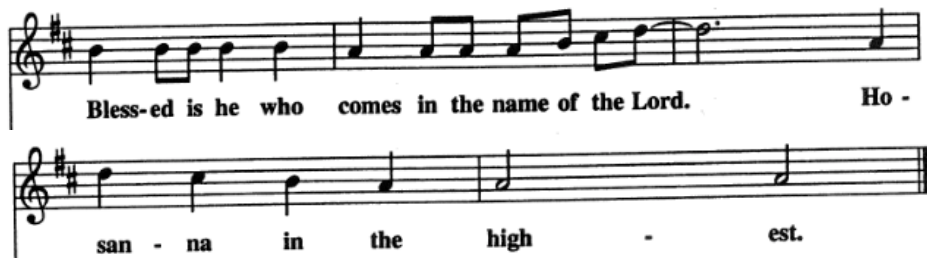
PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should ... and so we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS





WORDS OF INSTITUTION

[P] In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

[P] Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.

[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

LAMB OF GOD

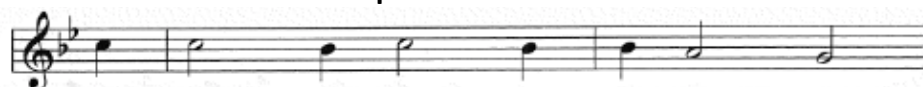
$\text{♩} = 48-52$

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

Sit

THE DISTRIBUTION *You are invited to approach the altar to receive communion elements along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free available.*

HYMN "O Love How Deep" LSB 544



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
 2 He sent no an - gel to our race,
 3 For us bap - tized, for us He bore
 4 For us He prayed; for us He taught;
 5 For us by wick - ed - ness be - trayed,



Be - yond all thought and fan - ta - sy,
 Of high - er or of low - er place,
 His ho - ly fast and hun - gered sore;
 For us His dai - ly works He wrought,
 For us, in crown of thorns ar - rayed,



That God, the Son of God, should take
 But wore the robe of hu - man frame,
 For us temp - ta - tion sharp He knew;
 By words and signs and ac - tions thus
 He bore the shame - ful cross and death;



Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
 And to this world Him - self He came.
 For us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 Still seek - ing not Him - self but us.
 For us He gave His dy - ing breath.

6 For us He rose from death again;
 For us He went on high to reign;
 For us He sent His Spirit here
 To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

△ 7 All glory to our Lord and God
 For love so deep, so high, so broad;
 The Trinity whom we adore
 Forever and forevermore.

Text: attr. Thomas à Kempis, 1380-1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819-85, alt.
 Tune: English, 15th cent.

DEO GRACIAS
 L M

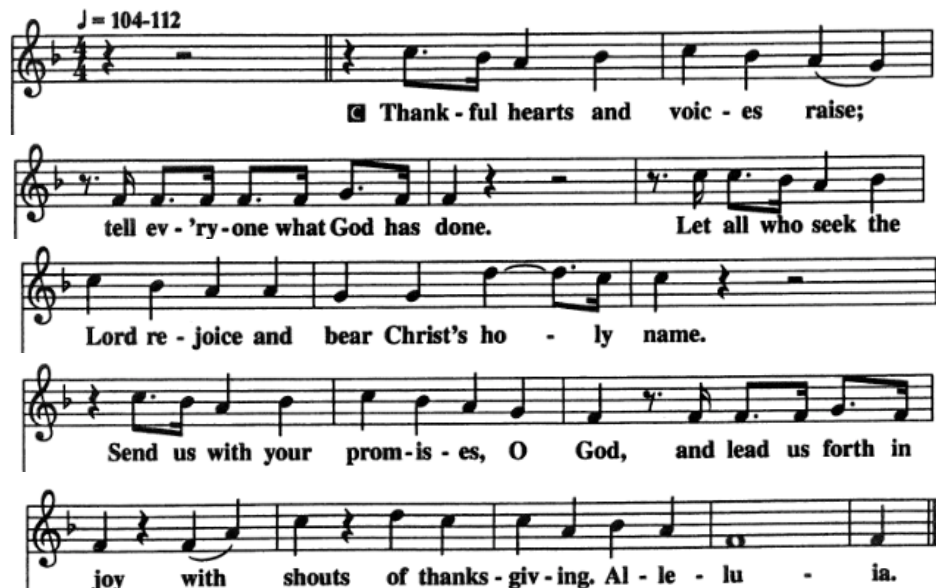
Stand

THE BLESSING

[P] The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **[C]** Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE AND PRAYER

J = 104-112



[C] Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise;
tell ev - 'ry-one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom-is - es, O God, and lead us forth in
joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

[P] Let us pray. O God of love, you have graciously fed us with the body and blood of your Son. Let this holy food empower us, that your dawn may break forth as we give ourselves to the hungry and to those who thirst for righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **[C]** 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]** Amen.

[P] Go in peace; serve the Lord. **[C]** Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN "Beautiful Savior" LSB 537

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of

God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
 flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
 spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
 God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -

serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
 pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
 ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text: *Münsterisch Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
 Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.; setting: *Service Book and Hymnal*, 1958

SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU
 557 558

Text and music: Public domain

Heb. 1:1–13; John 1:1–4, 14; Luke 1:30–33; John 12:46

POSTLUDE

Our Confession about Communion

1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine, we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."

3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

a. has been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord and concur in our confession.

b. is not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.

©2005 by Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted with permission under CCLI #1534397; One License A-703166.