

***Welcome, visitors! Welcome members and friends of St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church.
Thank you for joining us in church and on our online service today.***

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated in our service this morning. +Guests who are baptized Christians, who acknowledge and confess their sinfulness, who confess Jesus Christ as their Savior from sin, and who believe that He is really present in Holy Communion to bring us His forgiveness and life, are welcome to the Lord's Table.

**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
HOLY COMMUNION SETTING 1 pg. 98**

January 12, 2025

Prelude – “What Star Is This?” – setting, Lani Smith
(Piano/Organ Duet)

WELCOME

(Please rise)

GATHERING HYMN – ELW 310 SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Cong – And also with you.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.


For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

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

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

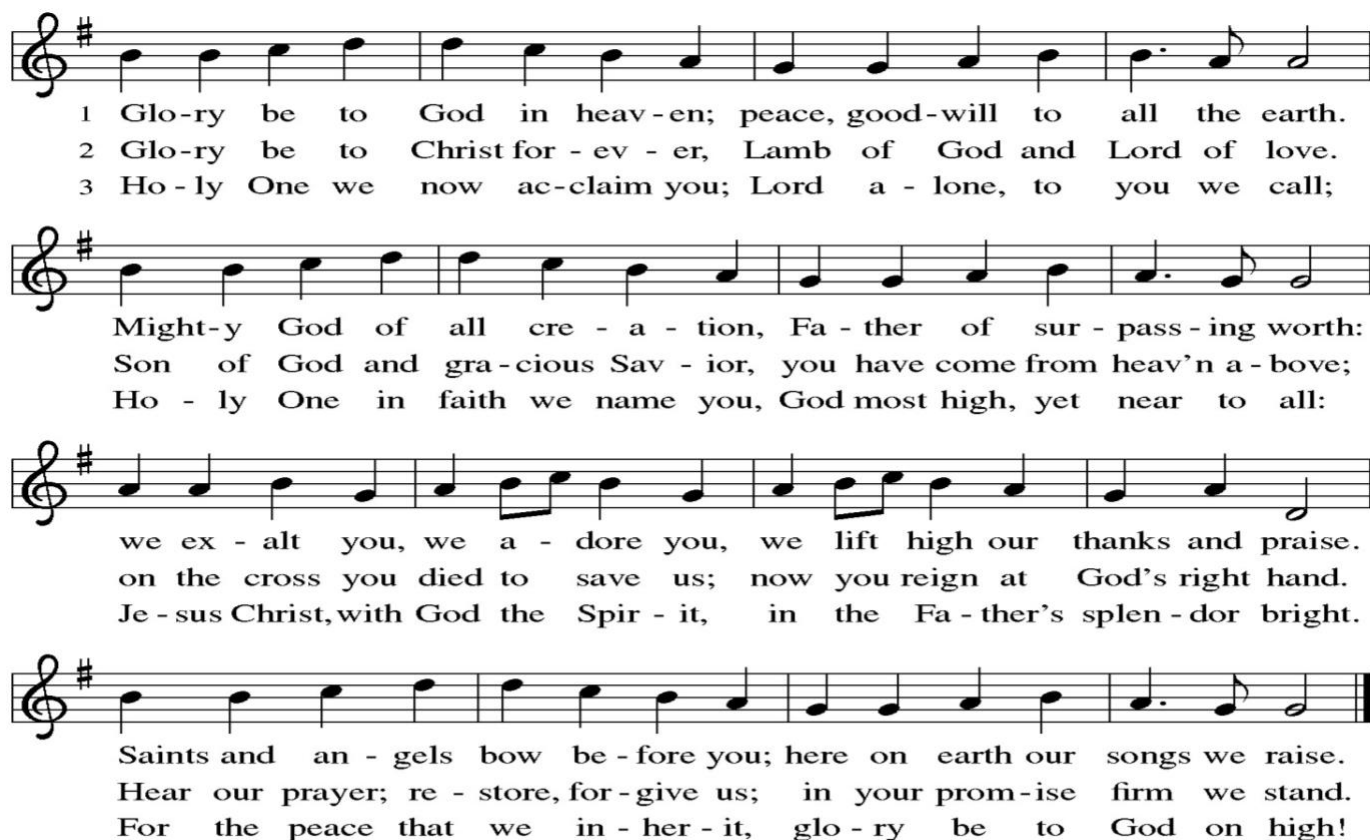
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord.
 Lord, have mer - cy.
 Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
 A - men, a - men.

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HYMN OF PRAISE – (ELW 204) “Glory Be To God...”



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;
 Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
 Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
 Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
 we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.
 Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
 Hear our prayer; re - store, for-give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand.
 For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Cong – Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

Pat Siler, Elder

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

¹But 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. ²When 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. ³For 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. ⁴Because 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. ⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I 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—
⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

Cong – Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 29

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)

(Choir will sing before and at the R and also odd-numbered verses)

(Congregation will sing even-numbered verses)

¹Ascribe to the ¹ LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- ¹ ry and strength.
²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory ¹ due God's name;**
worship the LORD in the beau- ¹ ty of holiness.
³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of ¹ glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the ¹ mighty waters.
⁴**The voice of the LORD is a pow- ¹ erful voice;**
the voice of the LORD is a ¹ voice of splendor. R
⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the ¹ cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- ¹ dars of Lebanon;
⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip ¹ like a calf,**
and Mount Hermon like a ¹ young wild ox.
⁷The voice ¹ of the LORD
bursts forth in ¹ lightning flashes.
⁸**The voice of the LORD ¹ shakes the wilderness;**
the LORD shakes the wilder- ¹ ness of Kadesh. R
⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the ¹ forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are ¹ crying, "Glory!"
¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned a- ¹ bove the flood;**
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- ¹ evermore.
¹¹O LORD, give strength ¹ to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- ¹ ings of peace. R

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17**Pat Siler, Elder**

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The 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). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

Cong – Thanks be to God.

(Please rise)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – CHOIR

Alleluia. A voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” *Alleluia.* (Matthew 3:17)

Pastor – The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 3rd chapter.

Cong – Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**Pastor Kelly Reagan**

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John 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. ¹⁷His 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."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and 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."

Pastor – The Gospel of the Lord.

Cong – Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON – “Through the Waters: Embraced as God’s Beloved”

(Please rise)

HYMN OF THE DAY – ELW 305 WHEN JESUS CAME TO JORDAN

APOSTLES' CREED

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

PRAYERS

Pastor – God of grace,

Cong – hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Cong – Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Cong – And also with you.

PEACE

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

(Please rise)

OFFERTORY – (ELW 181) “Let the Vineyards be Fruitful....”

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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OFFERING PRAYER

God of grace, 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.

Cong – Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Preface 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.

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It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

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.

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING III (ELW pg. 110)

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh. 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. 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. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Cong – Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Cong – Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Cong – Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Cong – Amen.

THE 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

Lamb of God



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COMMUNION HYMN – ELW 455 CRASHING WATERS AT CREATION

(Please rise)

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

Now, Lord



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POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Nourishing God, 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,

Cong - Amen.

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

Cong - Amen.

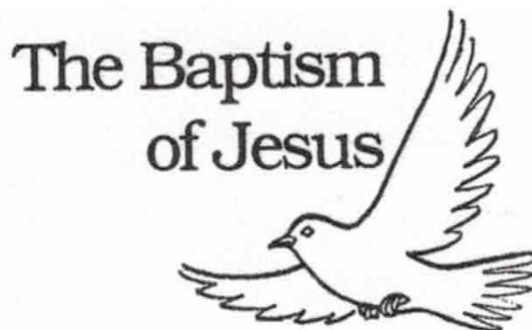
SENDING HYMN – ELW 304 CHRIST, WHEN FOR US YOU WERE BAPTIZED

(Please be seated)

Postlude – “Christ, When For Us You Were Baptized” – J. S. Bach

Pastor - Go in peace. Live in hope.

Cong - Thanks be to God.



Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint-ing soul;
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;

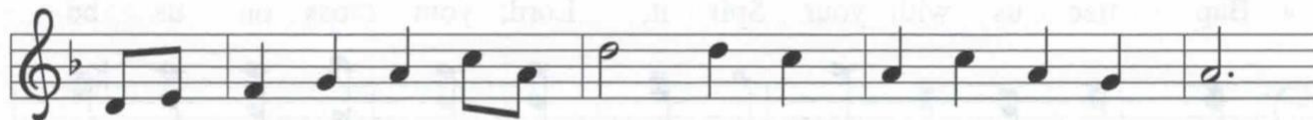
branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,

an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

When Jesus Came to Jordan



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John,
 2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,
 3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.
 for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.
 this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond-age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,
 So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,
 Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.
 the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.
 to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: English folk tune

Text © 1980 Hope Publishing Company

KING'S LYNN

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Crashing Waters at Creation



- 1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the Spir - it's breath,
 2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem - bled as the cap - tives passed on through,
 3 Cleans - ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the one fore - told,
 4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.



first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright - ness of night's death.
 wash - ing off the chains of bond - age — chan - nel to a life made new.
 o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.
 Well - spring, source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness, make us whole.



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: attr. Christian F. Witt, 1660-1716; adapt. Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876

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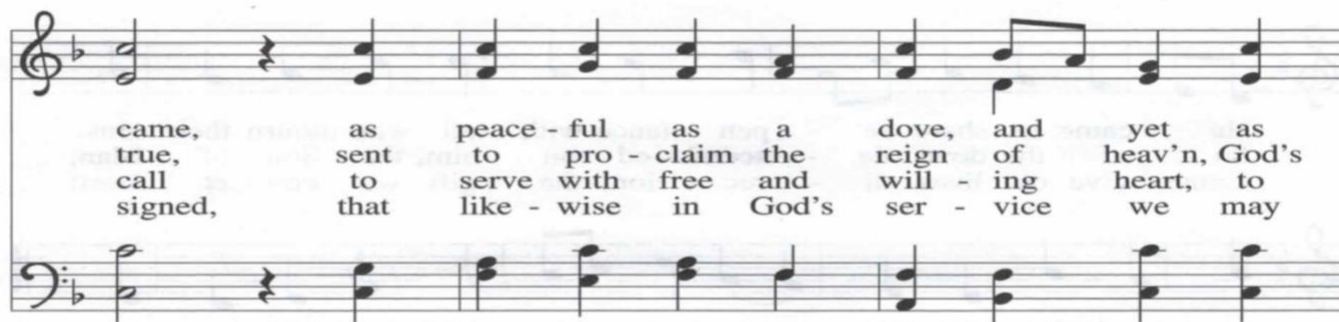
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Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized 304



1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spir - it on you
 2 God called you, "My be - lov - ed Son"; you are God's ser - vant
 3 Straight- way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed the
 4 Bap - tize us with your Spir - it, Lord; your cross on us be



came, as peace - ful as a dove, and yet as
 true, sent to pro - claim the reign of heav'n, God's
 call to serve with free and will - ing heart, to
 signed, that like - wise in God's ser - vice we may



ur - gent as a flame, as ur - gent as a flame.
 ho - ly will to do, God's ho - ly will to do.
 give your life for all, to give your life for all.
 per - fect free - dom find, may per - fect free - dom find.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.
 Music: Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561
 Text © 1985 The Church Pension Fund

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