

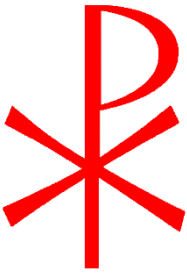
Welcome to Worship

St. Juke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church



The Baptism of Our Lord

January 8, 2023



Disciples and Ministers: *All the People*
Interim Pastor: *Rob Johnson*
NWOS Bishop: *Daniel Beaudoin*
ELCA Presiding Bishop: *Elizabeth Eaton*
Companion Church: *Mwanawotta, Tanzania*
Web Page: <http://www.stlukesnb.org>
eMail: StLukesNB@gmail.com
Pastor Rob's phone: 419-913-7506

*Whether this is your first time with us or you have been here your whole life, **WELCOME** to the place where we stand together before God as equals. If you are new here and seeking a church home, please contact the church office at 419-257-3253 and leave a message.*

Assisting in Worship

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader: *Carl Lieser*
Prayer Leader: *Carl Lieser*
Acolyte: *Avery Wymer*
Ushers: *Nancy & Jim Wymer*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

To the Glory of God

January Altar Candles: *Pam & Rick Van Mooy*
January Bulletins: *Pam & Rick Van Mooy*
January Newsletter: *Pam & Rick Van Mooy*



North Baltimore Food Pantry January requested donations include: canned soups and dry & instant cereals. Start the new year off right by making a commitment to donate to the food pantry every month. Thank you for your continued support of this vital community mission.

Order of Worship

Baptism of our Lord

January 8, 2023

God is glad you have joined us for worship today. At the symbol ✠ assembly members may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked upon us at baptism.

Pandemic update: we will continue monitoring the CDC and following their guidelines.

**please stand as you feel comfortable. We are grateful that you are here, regardless if you are standing or sitting.*

GOD GATHERS US

PRAYER REQUESTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE WITH SILENT MEDITATIVE PRAYER

Use your breath as a form of prayer as you listen to the music. When you breathe in, pray, "My soul proclaims." When you exhale, pray, "the Lord's greatness."

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: and also with you

Please share God's peace using the "peace sign."

AN OFFERING OF CONFESSION

Leader: Please join me in an offering of confession,

ALL: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people. Turn me from my sin to live for you alone. Give me the power of your Holy Spirit that I may confess my sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

In your heart and your spirit, confess to God your fears, your anger, your greed, and your disappointments. Lift up the names of people whom you've hurt recently.

Leader: Let us pray,

ALL: have mercy on me. I confess that I have turned from you and given myself into the power of sin. I am truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive me my sins, known and unknown; things I have done and things I have failed to do. Turn me again to you; and uphold me by your Spirit, so that I may live and serve you in newness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN #458**

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING BE TO GOD

***KYRIE, LORD HAVE MERCY**

SETTING 2 HYMNAL PAGE 120

***THE FEAST OF VICTORY**

SETTING 2 HYMNAL PAGE 122

GOD SPEAKS TO US

PROPHETIC READING

(responsively)

ISAIAH 42:1-9

Reader: “Look at my servant, whom I strengthen.

ALL: He is my chosen one, who pleases me.

Reader: I have put my Spirit upon him.

ALL: He will bring justice to the nations.

Reader: ² He will not shout or raise his voice in public.

ALL: ³ He will not crush the weakest reed or put out a flickering candle.

Reader: He will bring justice to all who have been wronged.

ALL: ⁴ He will not falter or lose heart until justice prevails throughout the earth.

Reader: Even distant lands beyond the sea will wait for his instruction.”

ALL: ⁵ God, the Lord, created the heavens and stretched them out.

Reader: He created the earth and everything in it.

ALL: He gives breath to everyone, life to everyone who walks the earth.

Reader: And it is he who says, ⁶ “I, the LORD, have called you to demonstrate my righteousness.

ALL: I will take you by the hand and guard you, and I will give you to my people, Israel, as a symbol of my covenant with them.

Reader: And you will be a light to guide the nations.

ALL: ⁷ You will open the eyes of the blind.

Reader: You will free the captives from prison, releasing those who sit in dark dungeons.

ALL: ⁸ “I am the Lord; that is my name!

Reader: I will not give my glory to anyone else, nor share my praise with carved idols.

ALL: ⁹ Everything I prophesied has come true, and now I will prophesy again.

Reader: I will tell you the future before it happens.”

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

DISCIPLESHIP READING

ACTS 10:34-43

Reader: ³⁴ Then Peter replied, “I see very clearly that God shows no favoritism. ³⁵ In every nation he accepts those who fear him and do what is right. ³⁶ This is the message of Good News for the people of Israel—that there is peace with God through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. ³⁷ You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee, after John began preaching his message of baptism. ³⁸ And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

³⁹ “And we apostles are witnesses of all he did throughout Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a cross,^[a] ⁴⁰ but God raised him to life on the third day. Then God allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to the general public,^[b] but to us whom God had chosen in advance to be his witnesses. We were those who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² And he ordered us to preach everywhere and to testify that Jesus is the one appointed by God to be the judge of all—the living and the dead. ⁴³ He is the one all the prophets testified about, saying that everyone who believes in him will have their sins forgiven through his name.”

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

SETTING 2 HYMNAL PAGE 124

***GOSPEL INTRODUCTION**

MATTHEW 3:13-17

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

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 3. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: ¹³⁻¹⁴ Jesus then appeared, arriving at the Jordan River from Galilee. He wanted John to baptize him. John objected, “I’m the one who needs to be baptized, not you!”

¹⁵ But Jesus insisted. “Do it. God’s work, putting things right all these centuries, is coming together right now in this baptism.” So John did it.

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ The moment Jesus came up out of the baptismal waters, the skies opened up and he saw God’s Spirit—it looked like a dove—descending and landing on him. And along with the Spirit, a voice: “This is my Son, chosen and marked by my love, delight of my life.”

Leader: The gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

SETTING 2 HYMNAL PAGE 127

THE MESSAGE

*HYMN OF THE DAY #249

ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERINGS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Leader: Merciful God, **ALL: receive our prayer.**

We pray for Harry, Julie, Cheryl, John, Fred, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Eloise, Marilyn, Bertha, Jim, Barb, Jack, Gloria, Rex, Ryan, Frances, Isabella, A.J., Frank, Bill, Mike, Mavery, Caroline, Mike, Chelsea, Ethan, Tom, Beth, Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, Cindy, Sally, Catherine, Ja-nét, Ann, Ed, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Braxton, Eric, Lisa, Cindy, Chris, Arlene, Logan, Don, Gus, Michelle, Barb, Riker, and Kelly.

.....In Jesus' name we pray the prayer he taught us saying,

THE PRAYER OUR LORD TAUGHT US

**All: 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**



GOD NOURISHES US

When Holy Communion is not shared, the service continues with the Benediction.

THE TABLE PRAYER

SETTING 2 HYMNAL PAGE 129

THE EXHORTATION

Leader: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life.

ALL: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

Leader: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. And so, with all the universe and the hosts of heaven, we join in praise and sing....

SANCTUS

SETTING 2 HYMNAL PAGE 130

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: In the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, gave a piece to each disciple and said,

ALL: This is my body, given for you. Do this and remember me.

Leader: Again, after supper, Jesus took a cup of wine, gave thanks; and gave it to each disciple to drink, saying

ALL: This is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this and remember me.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

Please join in prayer if you are unable to receive the elements.

ALL: Forgiving and faithful God, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed and Holy Sacrament. Like a river through the desert, your Spirit floods my thirsty heart with mercy and peace. Since I cannot now receive You through bread and wine, come spiritually into my heart. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a forgiving spirit within me. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

SETTING 2 HYMNAL PAGE 135

DISTRIBUTION

*** HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #204**

THANKFUL HEARTS AND VOICES RAISE

PRAYER OF ABSOLUTION

Leader: Please join me in the absolution,

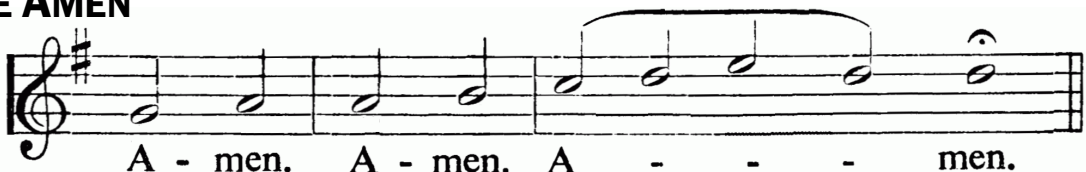
ALL: Merciful and forgiving God, you have made this promise to me: I am a gift. Through the birth and resurrection of your Son, you offer me a new dawn, a new day, and a new life through the forgiveness of my sins. By removing my sins, you give me strength to forgive myself and those who have offended and sinned against me. Amen.

GOD SENDS US

*** BLESSING**

SETTING 2 HYMNAL PAGE 136-137

*** THE AMEN**



* SENDING HYMN #881

LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING

* DISMISSAL

SETTING 2 HYMNAL PAGE 137

POSTLUDE

ELCA “Hunger Appeal” Offering Each week as we leave worship, we remember the poor by placing loose change offerings in the “hunger bowls” on the bench in the Narthex.

TODAY’S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

Designated liturgical music text, Prayers of the People, back-page devotions are from *Sundays and Seasons.com* © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission: Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS18497. All rights reserved.

Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-717176:

“Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God” TEXT: H. Francis Yardley, 191-1990; Frank J. Whiteley, b. 1914, alt. © 1969 H. Francis Yardley and Frank J. Whiteley MUSIC: Paris *Antiphoner*, 1681

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” TEXT: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite MUSIC: European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

“Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” TEXT AND MUSIC: © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress MUSIC: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

“Let All Things Now Living” TEXT: Katherine K. Davis, 1892-1980, alt. ©1939, 1966 E.C. Schirmer Music Company MUSIC: Welsh folk tune

The Prophetic reading: Printed from *Holy Bible, New Living Translation*, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

The Discipleship reading: Printed from *Holy Bible, New Living Translation*, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

The Gospel reading: Printed from *The Message*. Copyright © 1993, 2002, 2018 by [Eugene H. Peterson](#)

A Local Mission Opportunity



With the unpleasant weather that caused the cancellation of our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship services, also came the delay of getting the gift cards for our adopted family for the holiday. We will now be giving a New Year/Epiphany gift. In order to give you the opportunity to participate in giving, we are extending the date for financially donating to January 11, 2023. Please make your check out to the church and mark “Christmas family” on the memo line. Thank you to those who have already given. God bless.



Please help to keep our Prayer List up-to-date by notifying the church office of any changes, additions or deletions.

WE GIVE THANKS: for a new year of opportunities and possibilities. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Harry & Julie Friess, Cheryl & John Kruse, Fred Husing, Shirley Heilman, Larry Slaughterbeck, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Eloise Matthes, Marilyn Ziegler, Bertha & Jim Carter, Barb Williams, Gloria Hoffsis, Rex McCarty.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Patty Webb, Cheryl, Ryan Bullock, Isabella Miller, A.J., Frank Strausbaugh, Bill Bankey, Mike Gorsline, Mavery Breece, Caroline, Mike Lerma, Ethan, Tom Szor, Beth Johnson, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, Deanna Griffith, Laura, Michael Sullivan, Cindy, Sally Eggleston, Catherine Pritts, Ja-nét Moske.

MILITARY: For all those who are in training and who are serving in the military & their families; the chaplains (*especially those in combat zones*); grieving families and friends of those who died while serving.

COMPANION CHURCH: Mwanawotta Lutheran Church, of the Dodoma Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

WIDER CHURCH PRAYERS: all ministries of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), our presiding **Bishop Elizabeth Eaton**, all our bishops, pastors, leaders, of the congregations of the NWOS (Northwestern Ohio Synod), **Bishop Daniel Beaudoin**, and our 15 Central Conference congregations.

THE WORLD: for the people of Ukraine and for peace in our country and around the world. For the end of violence against one another. For everyone to seek You and share Your love, grace, and mercy.

The Power of a God Who Is Humble

From the time Jesus first presented himself for baptism by John until today, Christians have puzzled over why Jesus had to be baptized. The act of baptism was understood to be an act of repentance and the cleansing of one's sins. John does not understand why Jesus, whose sandals John is "not worthy to carry" (Matt. 3:11) should seek to be baptized. Instead, John declares to Jesus, "I need

He will baptize

you with the ...

Holy
Spirit

Knowing-Jesus.com

to be baptized by you" (Matt. 3:14). Why should the Son of God, who is without sin, need to be baptized?

Frederick Dale Bruner, in *Matthew: A Commentary* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004), says that he considers Jesus' first miracle to have occurred at his baptism. The miracle is that Jesus was humble. The divine Son of God humbles himself by allowing John to baptize him. This act of humility is an act of

obedience to God and solidarity with all humankind. Jesus has no sins to be forgiven. However, for us, he goes down to the river of repentance with all the other sinners to be baptized. Jesus' baptism, his first adult act as recorded in Matthew's gospel, gives us a clear indication of how Jesus will act for his entire life. The Son of God will come down with us, on our level, identifying with our needs. His baptism, then, foreshadows how his life will end, on the cross. In his death, Jesus experiences the worst we could ever experience as mortal humans. But, because Jesus united with us in baptism, we are united with him in both his death and resurrection. The barriers that separate us from God, including the barriers of sinfulness, mortality, and death, are broken by Jesus' obedience to God, through his humility to come down to us in the depths of our humanity.

215 North Second Street, North Baltimore, Ohio 45872-1105

419-257-3253

StLukesNB@gmail.com

Church Office Hours M-F 9-1