



**MORRISON
ZION
LUTHERAN**
Wisconsin Evangelical
Lutheran Synod

Our mission is to
Glorify God
as we
Gather
around the Gospel
to help people
Grow
in the Gospel
and
Go
with the Gospel

Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

January 9 & 12, 2024
1st Sunday after Epiphany – The Baptism of Our Lord



Baptism is the Cure for an Identity Crisis

“Who is Jesus?” For the longest time, people thought the answer to that question was, “Mary and Joseph’s son” or “a carpenter from Nazareth.” While true enough, those answers do not adequately describe Jesus. But when Jesus was baptized, God the Father spoke, declaring Jesus true identity. Jesus was the dearly loved Son of God, chosen to be the Savior of the world.

“Who are you?” someone asks. Perhaps you would answer by providing your name. Maybe you would add additional information—where you are from or what you do for a living. Perhaps, in some dark corner of your mind, you would answer negatively. “I’m no one.”

We need to understand that none of those things really describes who we are. To answer that question—Who are you?—we must look to our baptism. Baptism is the cure for an identity crisis. There, just like he did with Jesus, our Father declares us to be his dearly loved child. Moreover, in baptism God anointed us with power for a life of selfless service. May God grant us this epiphany moment!

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) and warns there are dangers in taking communion in an improper way (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), we practice close communion. WELS, ELS, and members of other churches around the world who are in fellowship with WELS are welcome to commune with us. If you would like to learn more about becoming a member and communing with us in the future, please speak to pastor or an usher.

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

Stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

During the introduction to the hymn, water is poured into the font.



Bap - tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther,
I claim a place, though weak and low - ly, A - mong your



Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
saints, your cho - sen host, Bur - ied with Christ and dead to



sin. Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.

M: I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

C: **Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.**

(John 3:5,6)

M: Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us. (Ps 51:5)

C: **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)

My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me To be hence -
My faith - ful Sav - ior, there you let me The fruit of

forth your child and heir.
all your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it, com - fort

me When threat - 'ning clouds a - round I see.

M: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

C: **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.**

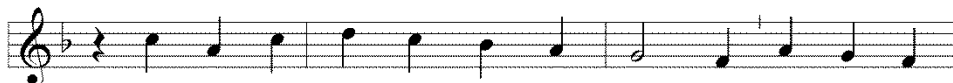
My faith - ful God, you fail me nev - er; Your pro - mise
Oh, cast me not a - way for - ev - er If words and

sure - ly will en - dure.
deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I come de -

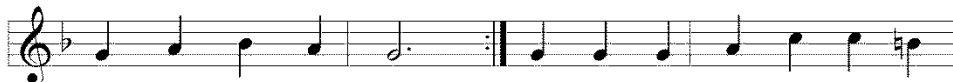
filed; For - give, lift up, re - store your child.

M: 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.

C: Amen.



All that I am and love most dear - ly— Re - ceive it
Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly, And help me



all, O Lord, from me.
your own child to be! Let noth - ing that I am or



own Serve an - y will but yours a - lone.

Be Seated

Sunday 10:30 am service continues with the Rite of Holy Baptism. Thursday and Sunday 8:00 am services continue on page 6.

THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM (Pg. 262)

M: Christ's almighty Word gives Baptism its power to save. Jesus promises in the last chapter of Mark, "*Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.*" The apostle Peter declares in 1 Peter 3, "*Baptism now saves you.*" Scripture also teaches that the power and promise of Baptism are intended for young and old alike. On the day of Pentecost, the apostle testified, "*The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.*" By water and the Spirit, we are born again and are united with Christ and his people as members of the Church.

In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought *Willa* to be baptized. In Mark 10, it is written: *Jesus said to them, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."* It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

We see the Holy Trinity at work in baptism. Paul writes in Galatians 3, *for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.* For it is in baptism that a child receives the benefits of the death and resurrection of Christ. It is through baptism that a child receives the gift of the Holy Spirit which, plants the seed of the faith. It is in baptism that God the Father adopts us as his children.

Holding firmly to your command and promise, we ask that you would look with favor on *Willia*. Through this water of Baptism, cleanse *her* from all sin and deliver *her* from death and the devil. Set *her* apart from the unbelieving world and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep *her* in the true Christian faith all the days of *her* life. Guide, strengthen, and protect *her* so that *she* may honor your holy name and at last receive, together with all your people, the promised inheritance of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Willia June Meissner, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and the heart \mp to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

EXHORTATION

Stand

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that *Willia* may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

M: Let us pray: We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received *Willia* as your own child and made her a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to her and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

Junior Choir *(Sunday 10:30 am)*

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness shining.
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Refrain

Shine, Jesus, shine!
Fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze!
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow!
Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your Word, Lord,
And let there be light!

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance.
By the blood I may enter your brightness;
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Refrain

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Refrain

By Graham Kendrick 1987 Make Way Music

Thursday and Sunday 8:00 am services continue here.

THE WORD

Salutation

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

THE WORD

First Lesson

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 be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.”

²But Samuel 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 show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate.”

⁴Samuel did what the Lord said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, “Do you come in peace?”

⁵Samuel replied, “Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me.” Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed stands here before the Lord.”

⁷But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look 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.” ⁹Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the Lord chosen this one.” ¹⁰Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The Lord has not chosen these.” ¹¹So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?”

“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.”

Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”

¹²So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”

¹³So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

You are My Son Psalm 2a

Refrain



Tone



Why do the / nations rage?

Why do the peoples / plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers assemble a- / gainst the LORD
and against his A- / noointed One. *Refrain*

He who sits in / heaven laughs;
the Lord / scoffs at them.

Then he addresses them in his anger and frightens them with his fury, / saying,
“I have set my King on Zion, my / holy hill.” *Refrain*

I will declare the / LORD’s decree:

He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have be- / gotten you.”

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*

Text: translation

Tune: Thomas Pavlechko

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Second Lesson

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 appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia. (Mark 1:11 NIV)

Stand

Gospel

Luke 3:15-17,21-22

People wondered if John the Baptist was the Messiah. He was a powerful preacher who lived a unique life. 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 possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. 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 barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

²¹When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as 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; with you I am well pleased.” (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be Seated

Hymn of the Day

All Who Believe and Are Baptized CW 692



1 All who be-lieve and are bap-tized shall see the Lord's sal-
2 With one ac-cord, O God, we pray: grant us your Ho - ly



va - tion; bap-tized in - to the death of Christ, they are a
Spir - it; help us in our in - firm - i - ty through Je - sus'



new cre - a - tion; through Christ's re-demp-tion they shall stand a -
blood and mer - it; grant us to grow in grace each day that



mong the glo-rious, heav'n-ly band of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.
by this sac - ra - ment we may e - ter - nal life in - her - it.

Text: tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.; Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703
Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Titus 3:4-7

Stand

Create in Me

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 un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

Be Seated

Offering

Stand

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

Proper Preface

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who came as the Light of the world so that the world may have light and life through him. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



C: **Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:**



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen

O Christ, Lamb of God



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - - men.

Be Seated

Distribution

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Distribution Hymn

Baptized into Your Name Most Holy CW 680



1 Bap-tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me to be hence-forth your
3 My faith-ful God, you fail me nev - er; your prom-ise sure - ly
4 All that I am and love most dear - ly— re - ceive it all, O



Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,
child and heir. My faith - ful Sav - ior, there you let me
will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er
Lord, from me. Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly;



a - mong your saints, your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and
the fruit of all your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it,
if words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I
help me your faith - ful child to be! Let noth - ing that I



dead to sin, your Spir - it now shall live with - in.
com - fort me when threat - ning clouds a - round I see.
come de - filed; for - give, lift up, re - store your child.
am or own serve an - y will but yours a - lone.

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

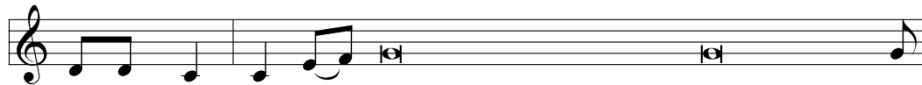
THANKSGIVING

Stand

Song of Simeon



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing



to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-



pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the



Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Benediction

M: 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.

C: **Amen.**

Be Seated

Hymn

Christ is with Me CW 681



1 We were bur - ied with him in - to death, that as he was raised
 2 I have now been graft - ed to the vine, draw - ing life from roots
 3 I have now been cru - ci - fied with Christ, I no long - er live,



by God's glo - ry, we might walk in life made new by grace;
 rich in mer - cy, bear - ing fruit as I a - bide in him,
 Christ lives in me; now I live by faith in God's own Son—



hav - ing died with Christ, we shall live with him.
 fruit for - ev - er fresh, glo - ri - fy - ing God.
 one who loved me so, gave him - self for me.

Refrain



Christ is with me ev - 'ry - where I go;



nev - er to leave me, this I know.

Text: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953, alt.

Tune: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953, alt.

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