

Baptism of Our Lord

January 8, 2023

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Jean Welch, pianist “Jesus Loves Me,” arr. Line

GATHERING

**Call to Worship* – “We Know that Christ is Raised” ELW 449 (*organ*)

- 1 **We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.
Hallelujah!**
- 2 **We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,
as living members of our Savior Christ.
Hallelujah!**
- 3 **The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One.
Hallelujah!**
- 4 **A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe restored and whole will sing:
Hallelujah!**

**Confession and Forgiveness*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made
flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth.

C: Amen.

P: In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: I bring you good news of great joy for all people:

God has come among us

in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.

✠ In Christ your sins are forgiven

and you are clothed in peace.

C: Amen.

**Sharing of the Peace*

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

C: And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Children's Sermon

Hymn of Praise – “Children of the Heavenly Father” ELW 781 (organ)

- 1 **Children of the heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.**
- 2 **God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.**
- 3 **Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.**
- 4 **Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.**

WORD

First Reading: Galatians 3:23-29

Reader: Kelly Hartz

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Reader: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

**Gospel Reading:* Matthew 3:1-6, 13-17

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And 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. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*Song – “Crucified with Christ”

(piano)

*Refrain: I've been crucified with Christ. Oh Christ alive in me.
And the life I live, I live by faith in the Son who died for me.
I've been crucified with Christ. Oh Christ alive in me.
And the life within my body now's the life He lives in me.*

**I bring nothing but a heart that's full of sin and ripped apart and
I can't even make a start of walking in Your way.
But in Your cross Your love I'm given. On Your cross my sins forgiven.
By Your cross new life I'm living, rising ev'ry day. Refrain**

**Help me stand, I'm full of weakness. Help me speak, I'm full of meekness.
Help me shine through all the bleakness, trusting only You.
Without You, I'm just not able. Take me, Lord, up to Your table.
Feed me, fill me, Lord, enable me to follow You. Refrain**

**Crucified with Christ. Crucified with Christ.
Crucified with Christ. Crucified with Christ.**
Refrain

Sermon – “So... what really is Baptism?”

Song of the Day – “You Are Mine” ELW 581, vv. 1, 3, & 4

(piano)

- 1. I will come to you in the silence, I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice, Be still and know I am here.**
- 3. I am strength for all the despairing, Healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see, The lame will all run free, And all will know my name.**

*Refrain: Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me. I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine.*

- 4. I am the Word that leads all to freedom, I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name, Embracing all your pain, Stand up, now walk, and live!
(Refrain)**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

“Words for the Beginning of Your Christian Life”

(adapted from a poem by Rev. Sarah Speed)

Maeve Katherine, if we could give you words for the very beginning –
for this journey we make together,
for the celebrations and the sorrows,
we would say, “Oh, dear child, how you are loved.”

But the thing about love is that you can’t stop there,
So, we would go on to say, “You are strong, stronger than you think.
And you are not alone – look at these parents who adore you,
Godparents who pray for you, and this congregation that surrounds you.
Know that you are enough, already enough.”

You haven’t done anything yet.
You’ve just been here, breathing, sleeping, laughing, playing –
and already you are enough.
And then we might say, “This world is a mess, but it is our home,
and you can make it better, so always try to make it better.”

And maybe most important of all:
“There is love that is bigger than our understanding,
that moves through this world, and that love is called God.
That love is here, here in this room, and that love knows your name by heart.”

Those are the words we would say to you
as you laugh and cry, stretch and splash in these waters on this day,
the first day of your Christian life.
Let God be your foundation.
Let love be your beginning.

P: God is our foundation. Love is our beginning. And in God’s great love, we are given a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. By water and the Word, God frees us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God’s mission for the life of the world. In the waters of baptism, God proclaims to us who we are. We are beloved children of God.

Presentation

Parents: We bring Maeve Katherine to this Christian community and to the waters of Holy Baptism.

P: Maeve, you are a beloved child of God and today you are given the name Christian. To help you grow into your name, your parents are called to make promises.

Levi and Sheila, as you bring Maeve to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people,
bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in her hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture her in faith and prayer,
so that she may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help her grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Briar, Sydney, Kathy, and Larry, as godparents, you have a responsibility to pray for Maeve and help her always remember that she is a beloved child of God. Do you promise to nurture her in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Godparents: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

The congregation stands.

P: People of God, you have a responsibility to support and surround Maeve with Christian love, praying for her, discipling her, and serving with her. Do you promise to support Maeve and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Profession of Faith

P: There is evil in this world that we name devil and brokenness we call sin. We are powerless to overcome them, but the grace of God gives us strength to stand against them and forgiveness when we fall. Together, we profess our desire to live in this grace and in opposition to this brokenness.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

P: As we live together in Christ, we are made one in baptism and profess one faith. It is this faith that centers us on the grace of our Triune God – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Water is poured into the font.

P: We give you thanks, O God. 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. In the waters of the flood you called Noah and brought forth new life. By Moses, you called the people of Israel to follow you through the waters and led them from slavery into

freedom. You nourished them with water from the rock and brought them to the promised land. At the river your Son was baptized by John and you proclaimed to all that he is your “beloved child.” In the waters of baptism, you create, you bring forth new life in us, you set us free from the power of sin, and you proclaim that we too are your beloved Children.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Holy Baptism

The congregation sits

P: Maeve Katherine, in this water, God calls you by name. Beloved child of God, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Laying on of Hands

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Maeve with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C: Amen

Anointing with Oil

P: In the Old Testament, oil is used to anoint and set people apart. In baptism, we are set apart as God’s beloved children to live lives of love, justice, and mercy. Maeve, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C: Amen.

Giving of a Candle

Congregational Representative: In John 8:12, Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. The one who follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” In Matthew 5:14, Jesus said, “You are the light of the world... Let your light shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven.” Levi and Sheila, we give you this candle to light again and again as Maeve grows up. Remember this day and always know that she is and will always be a beloved child of God.

Welcome

Welcome Song – “Jesus Loves You”

*As Maeve is brought into the midst of the congregation, we welcome her
as God’s beloved child as we sing...*

**Jesus loves you, this we know, for the Bible tells us so.
Little ones to God belong, you are weak but God is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves you! Yes, Jesus loves you!
Yes, Jesus loves you! The Bible tells us so!**

P: Together we say:

**C: Maeve Katherine Ion, you are beloved and blessed. By the grace of God that flows
in the waters of baptism, we are drenched in our love for you, washed in our delight
for you, and born anew by the grace that flows from the heart of our God who bore
you to us. We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share.
Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and in bearing God’s creative and
redeeming love to all the world.**

*Every day we are to remember our baptism and remember that God’s promises are for us
as well. We have just heard the proclamation that Maeve is God’s beloved child. Now it
is time for you to hear it for yourself. Turn to your neighbor and exchange the sweet
assurance that you are also God’s beloved child as you say, “Jesus loves you!”*

**Prayers*

Stewardship Time

“Child of Mine,” arr. Schmid
Sung by Melissa Street

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

**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.

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*

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.

Communion Songs

"Borning Cry" ELW 732 (piano)

- 1 "I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell."
- 2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun."
- 3 "In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been, with just one more surprise."
- 4 "I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold."

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" ELW 733 (organ)

- 1 **Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

*Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

- 2 **Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain***
- 3 **Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain***

**Post-Communion Blessing*

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

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you
and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
C: **Amen.**

**Sending Song – “Joy Unto the World”* *(piano)*

**1 It was a silent night, a holy night when all the world was sleeping
In a little town on lowly ground, no one knew what was coming.
In a manger, we would find, our humble King
All creation held its breath, when suddenly.**

*Refrain: Your light came breaking through the darkness
Waking every heart with heaven singing joy unto the world!
Our long-awaited Savior, you will reign forever.
We are singing “Joy unto the world!”*

**2 Hope is here so lift your eyes and see His glory and splendor.
Son of God, Love's pure light, we come before You in wonder.
In a manger, we have found our Mighty King.**

All creation held its breath, when suddenly. *Refrain*

**Joy to the world! The Lord has come! Let earth receive her King!
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room. And heaven and nature sing!**

And heaven and nature sing! And heaven and nature sing!

And heaven and nature sing! All heaven and nature sing! *Refrain twice*

“Joy unto the world!” “Joy unto the world!”

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Ken Devlin

Greeter: Lillian Korous

Reader: Kelly Hartz

Usher: John Williams

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Pianist: Jean Welch

Organist: Sandi Watts

Drummer: John Demien

Financial Assistants: Ken Devlin & Mike Oldenettel

Chancel Committee: Pat Glyshaw

Coffee Host: Martha Krohe



Singers:

Marilyn Dichsen

Terri Kimler

Kris Roth

Carol VanderKloot

Kelly Hartz

Adam Krohe

Melissa Street

Church Council Members:

Barb Davenport

Naomi Hahn

Mike Oldenettel

Kelly Street

Ken Devlin

Kelly Hartz

Karen Sibert

Lisa Taylor

Song Credits

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“Crucified With Christ,” by Michael A. Schmid c/o True Vine Music, Ó 2004. CCLI#973583
“Joy Unto the World,” arr. Erik Foster, © Be Essential Songs. CCLI#973583

What’s Coming Up at Faith?

Monday-Friday, January 9-13: Doorbell Dinners

Wednesday, January 11, 7-8am: Men’s Prayer Group

Thursday, January 12, 6pm: Exaltation Ringer Rehearsal
6:45pm: Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, January 14: 9am: Women’s Retreat – “Ties that Bind”

Sunday, January 15: **Newsletter Deadline**

Monday, January 16, 12pm: Lunch & Movie – “Selma”

Wednesday, January 18, 7-8am: Men’s Prayer Group
10am: Discipleship Group in the Faith Library

Thursday, January 19, 6pm: Church Council Meeting
6pm: Exaltation Ringer Rehearsal
6:45pm: Choir Rehearsal

News Updates

Ties That Bind - A Women's Retreat—January 14

Start your new year off by taking time to reflect on the ties (relationships) that have had an impact on your life while creating new ones at the same time. Women at Faith are invited to join us on **Saturday, January 14th from 9:00am to noon** for brunch and a macrame plant hanger workshop led by local macrame artist and owner of One Knotty Maker. Cost is \$25 per person and includes all supplies, a plant to take home in your hanger, and brunch. Only 6 more spots are available. Sign up at the coffee sales table **by today, January 8th**.

New Pastor’s Pick for January:

“Tattoos on the Heart: the power of boundless compassion”

Start your year off with a powerful read! For 20 years, Gregory Boyle has run Homeboy Industries, a gang-prevention program located in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, the gang capital of the world. In *Tattoos on the Heart*, he distills his experience working in the ghetto into a breathtaking series of parables inspired by faith. Pick up a copy at Faith for \$10, and join Pastor Adam on January 25 at either noon or 6:00 pm for a discussion.

Faith and Film – Monday, January 16

Do you like the ways movies nurture and challenge our faith? Come check out this new small group as we gather for fellowship and lunch, then watch a movie and have discussion. We'll begin by watching "Selma" on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 16. Join us for a free lunch at noon and then stay for the movie and discussion.

Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange

On Sunday, January 15, bring a puzzle you no longer wish to keep and take home another. They will be set out in the gathering area for all to see and pick from.

Pastor Adam and others plan trip to Uganda

On January 22, after worship, we are hosting a meal to raise funds and tell our story. Pastor Adam's article in the January Newsletter just scratches the surface of how God has been opening doors and drawing us on this journey, and we want to share more. Our goal is ambitious. We seek to raise \$10,000 to support those of us from Faith, covering airfare and room and board while we are there. After the four days of travel to get there and back, we will have 10 days with our friends in Uganda to experience their lives and what God is doing through their ministry. We know that it will change their lives, and ours, forever. Stay tuned!

Doorbell Dinners

Faith's next **Doorbell Dinners** delivery will be **January 9-13**, and there are still some spots to fill. If you are able to help, please sign up in the gathering area (counter by the coat closet) or contact Sharon Zuiderveld.

Annual Reports

Anyone who would like to have an **Annual Report** included in the Annual Report Packets for 2022, please have your report to the church office (by e-mail is preferred) **by January 15**. The Annual Meeting will be held on January 29, and we need time to duplicate the reports into a packet to distribute on Sunday, January 22.

Contribution Envelopes for 2023 will be available in the gathering area soon. The printing has been delayed, but the company will get them to us as soon as they can.

Sign-Up Sheets are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea: Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange. Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display (**\$6.50** regular; **\$7.50** decaf & flavored; **\$3.00** tea; **\$2.50** chocolate bars; **\$5.50** hot chocolate—milk & dark; **\$5.50** coffee pods; **New Item: \$6.00 Cashews**). Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.