

A Reconciling in Christ congregation, celebrating the diversity of God's children and fostering understanding and healing in community

Baptism of Our Lord

"You are my beloved,



Istockphoto

chosen and marked by my love,

delight of my life.

January 8, 2023 + 10:00 am

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all... an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Assistive hearing devices are available from the ushers.
- Please silence your cell phone.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Jesus Loves Me, arr. Joel Raney

Welcome



Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt. Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

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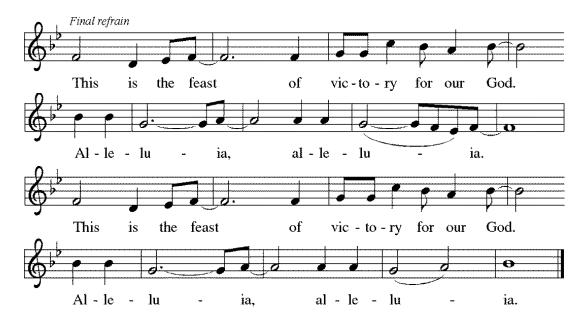
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Greeting

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

Hymn of Praise





Please be seated

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

Reading Isaiah 42:1-7 (New Living Translation, inclusivized)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

"Look at my servant, whom I strengthen.

who is my chosen one, who pleases me.

I have put my Spirit upon my chosen one

to bring justice to the nations.

My servant will not shout in public,

crush the weakest reed.

or put out a flickering candle.

Instead, my servant will bring justice to all who have been wronged, and until justice prevails throughout the earth,

will not falter or lose heart.

Even distant lands beyond the sea will wait for my servant's instruction."

God, the Lord, created the heavens and stretched them out,

created the earth and everything in it.

God gives breath to everyone,

life to everyone who walks the earth.

And it is God who says,

"I, the Lord, have called you to demonstrate my righteousness.

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.

And you will be a light to guide the nations.

You will open the eyes of the blind.

You will free the captives from prison,

releasing those who sit in dark dungeons.".

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29



Psalm tone reproduced from Psalter for Worship Year C © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,

ascribe to the LORD glo- I ry and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name; worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of [|] glory thunders; The LORD is upon the [|] mighty waters.

The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice; the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.

The voice of the LORD breaks the I cedar trees;

The LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

The LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.

The voice I of the LORD

bursts forth in I lightning flashes.

The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;

The LORD shakes the wilder- ness of Kadesh.

The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.

And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, "Glory!"

The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;

The LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.

O LORD, give strength | to your people; give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace.

Gospel Acclamation





Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17 (The Message)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus...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!"

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.

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."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Message

ORIGINAL BLESSING

Down Galilee's Slow Roadways

Sylvia G. Dunstan Kathy Rapp

Down Galilee's slow roadways a stranger traveled on from Nazareth to Jordan to be baptized by John. He went down to the waters like soldier, scribe, and slave, but there within the river the sign was birth and grave.

Arising from the river he saw the heavens torn; it seemed the sky so open revealed the Spirit's form. The holy dove descended amid a glorious voice: "You are my own beloved, my child, my heart, my choice."

We too have found a roadway; it led us to this place. We all have had to travel in search of hope and grace. But now beside this water again a voice is heard. "You are my own, my chosen, beloved of your Lord."

Apostles Creed

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

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.

Community Prayers

Let us pray.... Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their sister Betty Weaver, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Kelley Frank, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, Skye Andree, Kathleen Zwanziger, Karen Kent and Kathy Rapp's mother Mary Watt, Laura Warren's brother Walt Hudson, family of Jeanne Eakin and family,

The people of Trinity Lutheran Church, Columbus; Redeemer community members Kathie and Nancy Ehrich

Presentation of Story Bibles to young children led by Cora Marquez

Children's Time

Remembrance of Baptism

- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
- Holy God, merciful and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.
- Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow. Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you. You are the fountain of resurrection.
- Thank you for your saving waters: Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea and drink from your gushing rock. Namaan washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.
- Praise to you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us in the water. Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation. Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us and drown the evil around us. Renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.
- To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Spirit, now and forever.

 Amen.

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

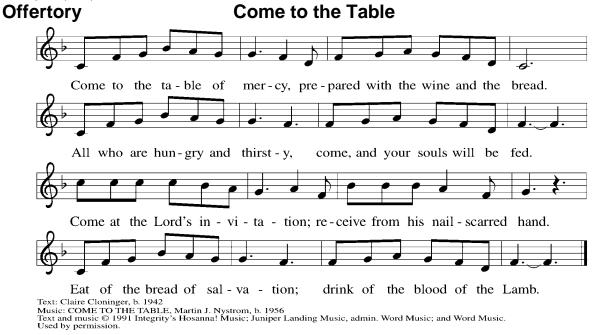
We take time to greet one another with words like Peace be with you.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.

In body or spirit, please stand



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Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

And also with you. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

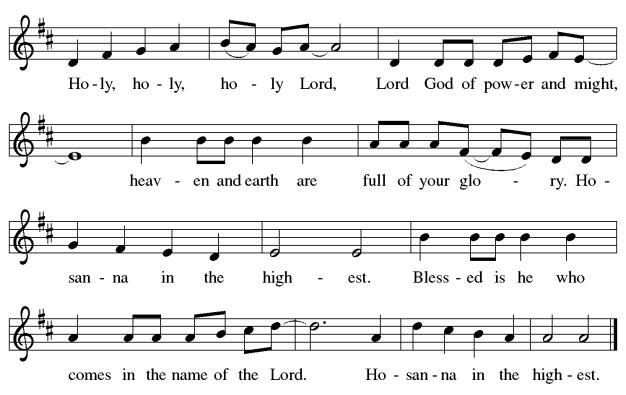
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In a refugee child playing under a star, in an unknown young man requesting baptism, in a wandering preacher refreshed by water from a woman's hand, God was waiting to be recognized and known, to transform seeing and change the world.

In the routine smallness of everyday life, in the painful uncertainty of struggle and transition, in the timeless grace of hospitality, and the gifts of bread and wine, God is waiting to be recognized and known, to transform our seeing and change our world.

Here, at this table, under the welcoming light of a morning star, the God of epiphanies waits to be encountered. So – though you may be weary and worn by your journey or stained and sore with travel – look up and see the star, lay aside your packs, and enter with joy for God waits here – to refresh and renew, to comfort and restore, to challenge and transform, to know, and be known.

Now, gathered around this table, we recall and recount how the Epiphany God appeared in the actions and words of Jesus as he shared a last supper with his friends in which Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take this and eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me." And after supper, Jesus took the cup and gave it to them, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. As often as you drink this, do so to remember me." Recalling and treasuring these things, we join our voices with those of all creation to recognize and celebrate the grace and goodness of God present and at work in the world.



Epiphany God, send down your Holy Spirit now on us, and on these gifts of bread and wine – that we might recognize and know you present with us here, and in receiving the gifts of your love find ourselves renewed. By this meal, renew our commitment to make real the prayer Jesus teaches:

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.

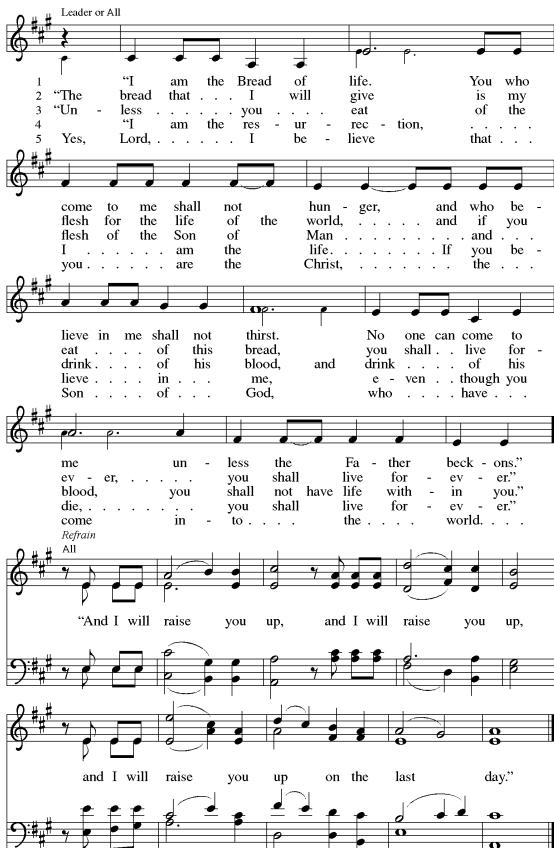
Sharing the Meal

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal. So do we.

You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat.

Hymn

I Am the Bread of Life



Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6

Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM
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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Emmanuel – bright Morning Star: Gift us the grace and generosity to respond freely and fully, whatever you might ask of us. So may our loving and living become places of epiphany where you can be recognized and known, and the transforming life of your Kingdom unleashed. Amen.

WE ARE SENT

Please stand in body or spirit



- 5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all with music crowned, our voices gaily blending! For Christ goes with us all the way today, tomorrow, ev'ry day! His love is never ending! Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation!
 - Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!

Tell the story!

6 What joy to know, when life is past, the Lord we love is first and last, the end and the beginning! He will one day, oh, glorious grace, transport us to that happy place beyond all tears and sinning! Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness! We are yearning for the day of your returning.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship* Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Blessing Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms, arr. Bill Wolaver

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Communion liturgy adapted from one written by the Rev. Bill Loader of the Uniting Church in Australia.

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Redeemer's mission: To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all Redeemer's vision: To foster understanding and healing in community



RLC Budget Sunday, January 8

The congregation will vote on our proposed 2023 budget at our meeting after worship on <u>January 29</u>.

<u>Today</u>, our Congregation Council invites you to attend a presentation of the budget after worship. Council's hope is that this opportunity will help you feel more informed as we discuss and vote on the budget at the end of the month.

If you're unable to join us in-person, here is how you can join us on Zoom.

Topic: Budget presentation and discussion

Time: Jan 8, 2023 11:15 AM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86591680137?pwd= dEYvV09FM1JzMXEzbFZrWjlydzdyZz09

Meeting ID: **865 9168 0137** = Passcode: **520176** Phone only: **312 626 6799**

Personal Finances Sunday, January 15

"How to Take Care of Our Own Financial Well-Being and Reduce Money-Related Stress" Led by Berwick resident **Helen Wang**, owner of Money Coach Helen, LLC, who has become active in RLC groups.



"The Book of Hebrews"

Bible Study Tuesdays 1:00 pm

Join us in-person or on Zoom, from 1-2:30.

https://us02web.zoom.us/zoom.us/j/89816662484?pwd =UnpVZHV3M2ZTSW14K1R1VnRySXIiQT09 Meeting ID: 898 1666 2484= Passcode: 072258

Phone only: 646-876-9923



Birthdays this week: 9 – Marques Highland 11 – Rich Pautsch 13 – Michelle Skoog



Tuesday, January 10, 6:30 pm

Conversation and fellowship Via ZOOM

 $\frac{https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89679620020?pwd=Mk4w}{YWJ1ZXk2MUVNSTJEelM0}VGtGQT09$

Meeting ID: 896 7962 0020- Passcode: 162684 Phone only: 312 626 6799



Monthly Sunday School for all ages! Sunday, January 8 == 11:15 am

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister David Shull, Pastor **Emily Ott Assisting Minister ASL Interpreter** Bryan Neal / Kiara Santiago Connie Criswell Cantor Children's Time Reader Cora Marquez **Organist & Senior Choir Director** Kathy Rapp **Pianist & Chimes Choir Director** Karen Kent Usher Nate Ott **Hospitality** Katie Jacobs Verger Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica **Producers** Tom Mimlitch, Sue Yehling

Noisy Offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response.

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER JANUARY 8 - 15

Today	8:45 am 10:00 am	Chime Choir Rehearsal IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	Sunday School for All Ages
	11:15 am	In-Person and Zoom
		2023 Budget Overview
	11:15 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday	1:00 pm 6:30 pm	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Bible Study ZOOM A Brewing Faith
Wednesday	2:00 pm	Stewardship Team
Next Sunday	8:45 am 10:00 am	Chime Choir Rehearsal IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am 11:15 am	In-Person and Zoom Adult Education Senior Choir Rehearsal

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America