

# The Baptism of Our Lord

## Grace Lutheran Church

### Worship with Holy Communion

### January 12, 2025

***Good morning & welcome to Grace!***

***Our mission is to invite and welcome all  
to the fellowship of Christ in service to our community.***

Listen! God's voice comes from heaven to call us by name, speak to the earth, shake the wilderness, and to anoint "the Beloved." Listen! God's word surrounds this day with power and majesty and "in the temple of the LORD all are crying, 'Glory!'" (Ps. 29:9).

In this season of epiphanies, today's miraculous encounter with the living God immerses us in the sound of God's voice and bathes us in God's baptismal promise. Let all who have breath, praise the Lord!



**We are glad you are with us for worship today, and we offer a special welcome to any guests who may be with us this morning, and to all those who are joining us via Live-Stream.**

**Children are welcome in worship at Grace!** The voices of children only enhance worship, and they are welcome in this space! There is a Children's Corner in the sanctuary and, if needed, a nursery off the lobby.

**In thanksgiving to God for the saving grace shown to all of us in the death and resurrection of Christ, we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion each week. All are welcome at the Table.** We do come forward to the front of the sanctuary for communion. The Pastor stands in the center of the aisle with the bread. Gluten free bread is available – just ask when you come forward. Communion assistants are located on both sides of the sanctuary, with both **wine (red)** and **juice (white)**.

**For those participating from home, please have a small glass of wine or juice and a small piece of bread available for all who are planning to commune. When you see people here coming forward for communion, you may share the meal where you are, saying: This is the body of Christ, given for you and This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.**

**If you have questions** about our worship service, please don't hesitate to ask someone around you. For more information about Baptism or Communion, about what Lutherans believe, or even about Grace Lutheran Church, please do not hesitate to reach out to our pastor.

**Again, we're glad you're here! Welcome to worship!**

## GATHERING ~ The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

⌘ See Screens Up Front

**PRELUDE**

*“Angels Holy, High and Lowly”*

**Franklin Ritter**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

All who are thirsty, **Come to the water.**

All who are seeking, **Come to the water.**

All who are longing for justice, **Come to the water.**

All who are carrying heavy burdens, **Come to the water.**

All who are in need of mercy, **Come to the water.**

All are from every time and every place, **Come to the water. Amen**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*“Shall We Gather at the River”*

**ELW 423**

⌘ **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISMAL WATERS I**

⌘ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**WORD ~ God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.**

**FIRST READING**

**Excerpts from Genesis 7 – 9** (*The Beginners Bible*)

Many years passed after Adam and Eve left the garden. People began to forget about God. They began to do bad things. There was only one good man. His name was Noah.

God said, “I am sorry that I made people. I will start all over again.” God told Noah to build a big boat called an “ark.” God showed Noah exactly how to build it. When the ark was finished, God told Noah to put animals in it. Noah obeyed God. He put some of every kind of animal into the ark. Then God shut the door.

Soon rain began to fall. The raindrops made little puddles, then bigger puddles. The big puddles became streams, then rushing rivers, then sloshing seas. Soon the whole earth was covered with water. The ark tossed up and down on the waves. But Noah and his family and all the animals were safe and dry inside the ark.

Then one day the rain stopped. Noah opened a window in the ark. He saw water everywhere. He sent a dove to fly out and look for land. But the dove came right back. It could not find a place to rest. The next time Noah sent the dove, it brought back an olive leaf. The water was going down. The next time, the dove did not come back. It was time to leave the ark.

The ark was resting on top of a mountain. Noah and his family and all the animals came out. Noah thanked God for keeping them safe. Then God put a dazzling rainbow in the sky. It was God’s promise that water would never again cover the whole earth.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

**Acts 10.34 – 43** (*Easy-to-Read Bible*)

Peter began to speak: “I really understand now that God does not consider some people to be better than others. He accepts anyone who worships him and does what is right. It is not important what nation they come from. God has spoken to the people of Israel. He sent them the Good News that peace has come through Jesus Christ, the Lord of all people.

“You know what has happened all over Judea. It began in Galilee after John told the people they needed to be baptized. You know about Jesus from Nazareth. God made him the Messiah by giving him the Holy Spirit and power. Jesus went everywhere doing good for people. He healed those who were ruled by the devil, showing that God was with him.”

“We saw all that Jesus did in Judea and in Jerusalem. But he was killed. They put him on a cross made of wood. But on the third day after his death, God raised him to life and let him be seen openly. He was not seen by everyone, but only by us, the ones God had already chosen to be witnesses. We ate and drank with him after he was raised from death.”

“Jesus told us to go and speak to the people. He told us to tell them that he is the one God chose to be the Judge of all who are living and all who have died. Everyone who believes in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name. All the prophets agree that this is true.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

✠ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*Matthew 3.17*)

**Alleluia. A voice from heaven said, “This is my Son,  
the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL**

**Luke 3.15 -17, 21 – 22** (*NRSV Updated Edition*)

The Holy Gospel According to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John 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 strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His 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.”

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

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**            *“Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized”*            **ELW 304**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE PEACE**

**MEAL ~ God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.**

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**MUSICAL OFFERING**            *“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”*            **ELW 445**

**⌘ OFFERING & OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *“Create in Me a Clean Heart”*            **ELW 186**

**⌘ OFFERING PRAYER**

**⌘ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISMAL WATERS II**

**⌘ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** (Those moved to do so may rise.)

**⌘ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (THE SANCTUS)**            **ELW 191**

**⌘ THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE & THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**⌘ INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION** *Those on live stream may commune at this time.*

**⌘ LAMB OF GOD**            **ELW 195**

**COMMUNION HYMNS**            *“Wade in the Water”*            **ELW 459**

*“O Living Breath of God”*            **ELW 407**

**⌘ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISMAL WATERS III**

**SENDING ~ God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.**

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**⌘ BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN**            *“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”*            **Back Page**

**⌘ DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE**            *“Nun freut euch, lieben, Christen”*            **Bach**

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# Every Time I Feel the Spirit

ACS 942

*Refrain*

Ev - 'ry time I feel the spir - it mov - ing

in my heart, I will pray. Ev - 'ry time I feel the

spir - it mov - ing in my heart, I will pray.

1 Up - on the moun - tain my Lord spoke,

- 2 . . All a - round me looked so fine,  
3 . . Jor - dan riv - er, chilly and cold,

*Refrain*

out of his mouth came fire and smoke.  
asked . . . . . my Lord if all was mine.  
chills the bod - y but not the soul.