



**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**  
**January 8, 2023**

**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*A Place for Everyone . . .*

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The Rev. Michael Faust, Pastor



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

*Peace to all who enter God's house for worship today.  
We pray that all will find strength, security, and fellowship with God and with one another.*

*Congregation, please stand/sit as you are able.*  
☐ Presiding Minister ☑ Congregation ▲ Assisting Minister

*Welcome to our Visitors*  
*If you are a visitor, please see one of our greeters and fill out our gold visitor's slip.  
We hope that you will come back and worship with us again!*

**INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

**THE GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

*Please stand.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

☐ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

☑ Amen.

☞ Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

☞ Holy One, source of our renewal ,

☛ **we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

☞ Thus says our God: “The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.” God’s mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of ☩ Christ our Savior.

☛ **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN: *Angels We Have Heard on High***  
(green hymnal #71)

## **GREETING**

☞ From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

☛ **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

☞ Let us pray. O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☛ **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9**

*God’s servant is endowed with God’s spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant’s task. God’s old promises have been fulfilled; the servant’s new assignment is to bring light to the nations.*

<sup>1</sup>Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup>He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

<sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup>I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,

<sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup>I am the LORD, that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup>See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

📖 This is the word of the Lord.      🙏 Thanks be to God.

### PSALM: 29

📖/🙏 *by whole verse*

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory  
and strength.

<sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship  
the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory  
thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of  
the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD  
breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup>**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount  
Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup>**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD  
shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup>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!”

<sup>10</sup>**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits  
enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD,  
the blessings of peace.

### SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43

*Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating  
Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's  
inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Ro-  
man centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius  
and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in  
the name of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I  
truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every  
nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is  
acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the  
people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is  
Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, be-  
ginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:  
<sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spir-  
it and with power; how he went about doing good and  
healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was  
with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Ju-  
dea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging  
him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and  
allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us  
who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and  
drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He com-  
manded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is  
the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the  
dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone  
who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through  
his name.”

📖 This is the word of the Lord.      🙏 Thanks be to God.

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

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

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

## GOSPEL: 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.*

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented.

<sup>16</sup>And 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. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

## GOSPEL RESPONSE

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

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDREN'S TIME

**SERMON: "APPROVED!!"**

*(Silence for a time of reflection)*

*Please stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *Borning Cry***  
(blue hymnal #770)

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

**P** Brothers and sisters in Christ, it is appropriate on this day of the Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ that we remember and renew the vows once spoken at our baptisms—that time when we were washed of our sins and received the Holy Spirit to dwell within us. Let us boldly make our confession of faith before God, renouncing the sinful life of godless men and women and embracing the godly life of the Spirit-filled Christian.

**P** I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

**P** Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**C** I renounce them.

**P** Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**C** I renounce them.

**P** Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**C** **I renounce them.**

**P** Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

**C** **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.**

**P** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C** **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resur-  
rection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**P** You have made public profession of your faith. Do you in-  
tend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy  
baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word  
of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good  
news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all  
people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for jus-  
tice and peace in all the earth?

**C** **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

**P** People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one  
another in your life in Christ?

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

**P** Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through  
water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us  
from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people  
the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and un-  
derstanding, 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**A** Merciful God...

**C** **receive our prayer.**

## THE PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

*Please share this peace with one another.*

*Please be seated.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE COMMUNION MEAL

### THE OFFERING

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*Please stand.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN:

### Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*



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

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
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## OFFERTORY PRAYER

**A** Let us pray. Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

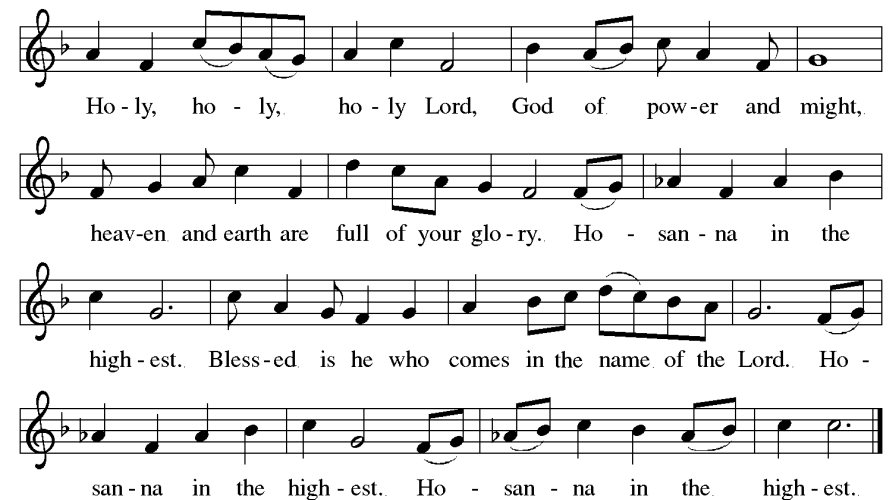
**C** Amen.

## DIALOGUE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## THE PROPER PREFACE

### THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

*Let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us:*

### THE 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.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**☐** Come and taste the joy of God!

*All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please come forward to receive the bread, then proceed to the chalice to receive the wine or continue to the second chalice to receive grape juice. Those who do not yet commune may come forward for a blessing.*

*Please be seated*

### COMMUNION MEAL

### COMMUNION HYMN:

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*  
(blue hymnal #649)

*Please stand.*

### BLESSING

**☐** The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**☑** Amen.

### POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

## THE LITURGY OF SENDING FOR SERVICE

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

☩ Let us pray. Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

☩ Amen.

### BENEDICTION

☩ The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod ✝ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

☩ Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*  
(blue hymnal #771)

### DISMISSAL

☩ Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

☩ Thanks be to God. We will!

### POSTLUDE

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