

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE  
JANUARY 11, 2026

american  
LUTHERAN CHURCH



THIS IS MY SON, THE  
*beloved*  
WITH WHOM I AM  
*well pleased*

Matthew 3:17

# american LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## Volunteer

Select a Sunday.  
Select a Role.

**BE OF SERVICE.**



## OUR MISSION

We are people who worship Jesus Christ, reaching out to teach and share his love for people. We believe through the Holy Spirit, God has empowered us to worship Jesus Christ through music, Word and Sacrament; To Teach the gospel through Sunday School, confirmation, Bible Study and Youth Ministry. To share the gospel and reach out through Fellowship, Evangelism and Ministry to all in need.

## JOIN US for Worship, Fellowship & Sunday School each week!

- \* Worship begins @ 9 am
- \* Fellowship @ 10 am
- \* Sunday School @ 10 am (September - May)

## Welcome to Worship

### BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

### INTRODUCTION

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.

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESION & FORGIVENESS

*(Congregation, please stand)*

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you.  
Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.. Amen.

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in <sup>†</sup> Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

Amen.

*(Acolytes come forward to light the candles once the congregation has started to sing our gathering hymn.)*

## **GATHERING HYMN**

**GREETING** ELW #454 Remember and Rejoice

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

**KYRIE** ELW pg. 138 (*Kyrie*); pg. 139 (*Glory to God*)

## **PRAAYER OF THE DAY**

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.

*(Congregation, please be seated)*

## FIRST READING

*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.*

## Isaiah 42:1-9

<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 out 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.

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

## PSALM

*The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. (Psalm 29:3)*

## Psalm 29

<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.

*(Psalm continued on page 5)*

**<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**

*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 Roman 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.*

Acts 10:34-43

<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 people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness 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, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit 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 Judea 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 commanded 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.”

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

*(Congregation, please stand)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

## 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.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> 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 God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

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

*(Congregation, please be seated)*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #304 Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized

*(Congregation, please stand)*

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Petitions end “Merciful God.” Congregation responds, “Receive our prayer.”*

## SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*(Congregation, please be seated)*

## OFFERING

*(Congregation, please stand)*

## OFFERTORY

ELW #302 As with Gladness Men of Old (*verse 4*)

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way; and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.

Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## BLESSING

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise <sup>†</sup> bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

**ELW #310 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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