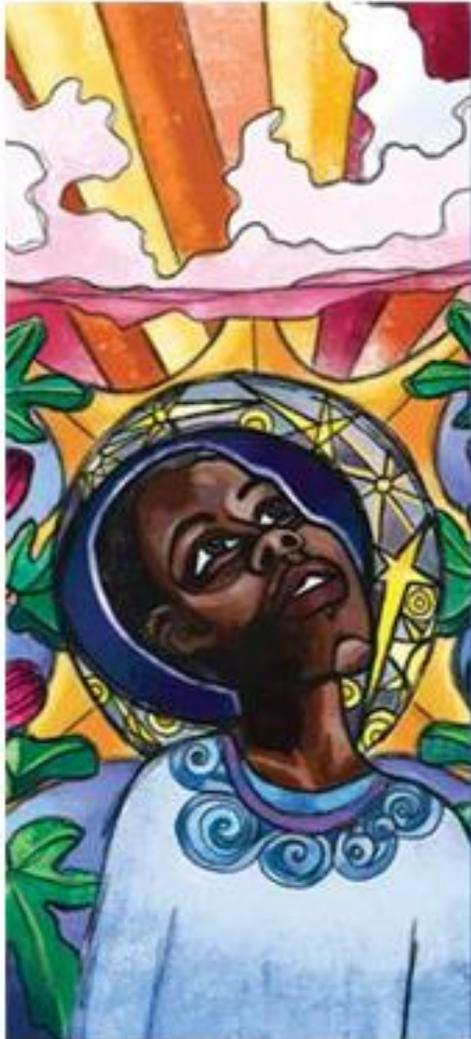


# *Second Sunday of Christmas*

January 4, 2026 9:30AM



**The Word  
became flesh  
and lived  
among us**

JOHN 1:14

**Jefferson Prairie Lutheran Church**

*As a community called by Christ,  
we live our faith by loving and serving all creation*

## Second Sunday of Christmas

January 4, 2026 9:30AM

### Prelude Announcements Welcome

*Please stand as you are able*

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

### Invocation

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty Savior,  
Prince of Peace.  
**Amen.**

### Gathering Hymn

**"O Word of God Incarnate"**

**#514**

### Greeting

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.**

### Canticle of Praise

**Glory to God**

p 213

### Prayer of the Day

. . . one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

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

### Reading

**Jeremiah 31:7-14**

p 720

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

### Reading

**Ephesians 1:3-14**

p 1064

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

### Choir Anthem

**One King**

**Choir**

### Children's Message

*Please stand as you are able*

### Gospel

The holy gospel according to John, chapter 1.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**John 1:1-18**

p 966

### Response to Gospel

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

*Please be seated*

**Silence for Meditation** *We pause in contemplation of God's word, preparing to respond with song.*

*Please stand as you are able*

**Message Response**

**"Word of God, Come Down on Earth"**

**#510**

**Nicene Creed**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

Petition Response: **Your mercy is great.**

. . . through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

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

**Offerings** Place offerings in the plate at the sanctuary entrance, mail to the church, or give through our website or Tithe.ly App. Thanks you for your financial support of our ministry.

## Presentation of Gifts

## "What Child Is This" vs. 1

#296

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

## Offering Prayer

God of glory,

**great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow.  
Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of  
the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.  
Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

p 153

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

## Words of Promise

### Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

*Please be seated*

**Communion** *All are welcome at God's table. Communion is by intinction. You will receive the wafer and then dip it into the wine. Gluten-Free wafers are available by request.*

### Communion Hymns

**"He Comes to Us as One Unknown"**

**#737**

**"Peace Came to Earth"**

**#285**

**"Here is Bread"**

**#483**

*Please stand as you are able*

### Post Communion Blessing & Prayer

. . .through Christ born in us.

**Amen.**

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

**Blessing**

**Bell Toll**

**Sending Hymn**

**“Let All Together Praise Our God”**

**#287**

**Dismissal**

Glory to God in the highest!

**And peace to God’s people on earth!**

Go in joy. Embody God’s redeeming grace.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Worship Leaders**

**Brett Erickson**—Livestream

**Carol & Margaret Hansen**—Ushers/Greeters

**Hattie Erickson**—Acolyte

**Ginny Erickson**—Reader

**Jim & Connie Johnson**—Communion Assistants

**Steve Mentele**—Choir Director

**Robin Hoefler**—Pianist

**Wade Crevier**—Pastor

## O Word of God Incarnate

514

1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,  
2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;  
3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold

O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:  
and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.  
to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;

we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,  
It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,  
oh, teach your wand - ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,

a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.  
mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.  
till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.  
Music: Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693

MÜNICH  
76 76 D

*Refrain* S213b

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



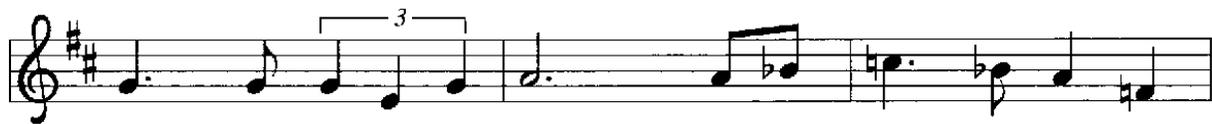
glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



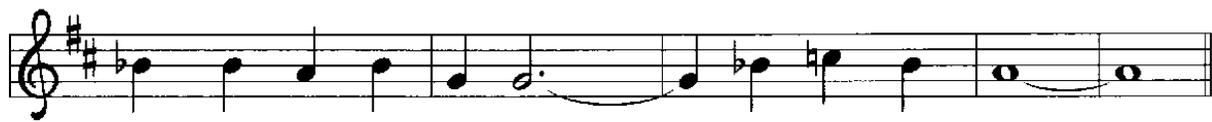
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir-it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

*Final refrain*



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on



earth, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

# Word of God, Come Down on Earth. 510

1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from  
 2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to  
 3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -

heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth  
 life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,  
 yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove

faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,  
 cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the  
 God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to

we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.  
 world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.  
 all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, SJ, b. 1919  
 Music: Johann R. Ahle, 1625-1673  
 Text © James Quinn, SJ, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER  
 787888



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?  
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.  
 The - King of kings sal - va-tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.

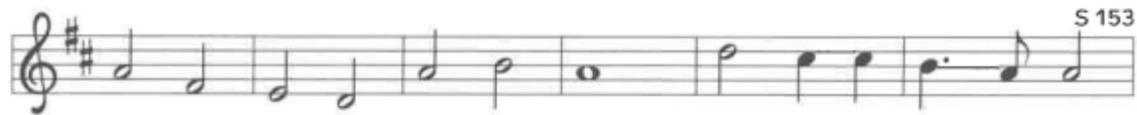


This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;  
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!





Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

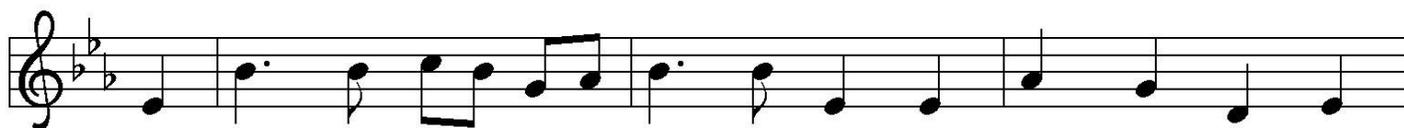


Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

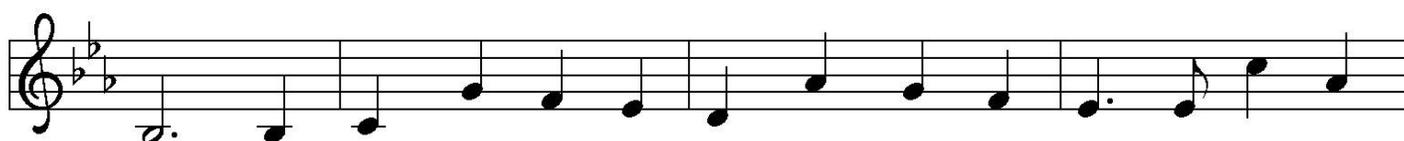


in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

# He Comes to Us as One Unknown



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -  
2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -  
3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and  
4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and  
5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in  
part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -  
foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the  
birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a  
dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.  
cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.  
tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.  
sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.  
not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918

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## Peace Came to Earth



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho - sen night  
 2 And who could be the same for hav - ing held  
 3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen,  
 4 How else could I have known you, O my God!



when an - gels clove the sky with song and light  
 the in - fant in their arms, and lat - er felt  
 in flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pains,  
 How else could I have loved you, O my God!



and God em - bod - ied love and sheathed his might—  
 the wound - ed hands and side, all doubts dis - pelled—  
 in bread and wine you vis - it us a - gain—  
 How else could I em - brace you, O my God!



Who could but gasp: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but sigh: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but see: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but pray: Im - man - u - el!



Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!



1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
 2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
 3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.



Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.  
 Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Je - sus here.  
 We'll pro - claim till he comes Je - sus cru - ci - fied.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music © 1991 Make Way Music, admin. by Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

HERE IS BREAD

3 3 4 4 3 3 5 and refrain



In this bread there is heal - ing, in this cup is life for - ev - er.

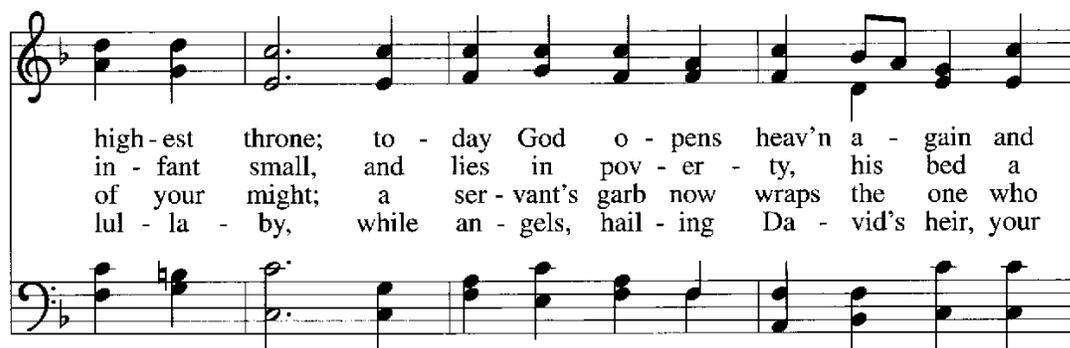


In this mo - ment, by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

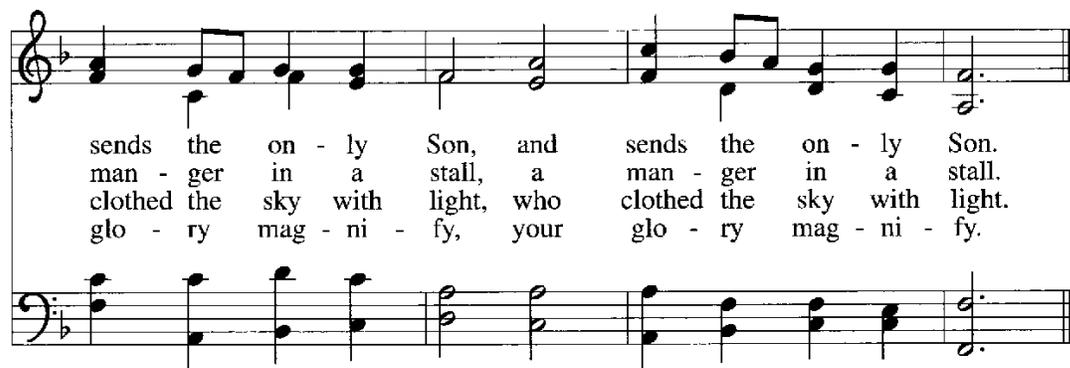
## Let All Together Praise Our God



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore the  
 2 From God's right hand the Son de - scends, is born an  
 3 O ten - der Child, you veil in flesh the splen - dor  
 4 Your moth - er feeds you ten - der - ly, sings you a



high - est throne; to - day God o - pens heav'n a - gain and  
 in - fant small, and lies in pov - er - ty, his bed a  
 of your might; a ser - vant's garb now wraps the one who  
 lul - la - by, while an - gels, hail - ing Da - vid's heir, your



sends the on - ly Son, and sends the on - ly Son.  
 man - ger in a stall, a man - ger in a stall.  
 clothed the sky with light, who clothed the sky with light.  
 glo - ry mag - ni - fy, your glo - ry mag - ni - fy.

5 A wonderful exchange you make:  
 you take our flesh and blood,  
 and in return give us to share  
 the shining realm of God,  
 the shining realm of God.

6 Unlock the door again today  
 that leads to paradise;  
 the angel bars the way no more.  
 To God let praises rise,  
 to God let praises rise!

## Announcements for January 4, 2026

**Welcome!** We are happy you are here today!

- **Families:** It is our hope that you will find a comfortable way to worship at JP. There are activity bags in the Narthex for young children to use during worship. There is also a large pew area, "Prayground", on the righthand side of the Sanctuary, near the pulpit, that is available for families to use.
- **Large Print Bulletins and Hymns** are available in the narthex in a red binder. Ask the ushers!
- **Visitors: Sign the Visitor's Book** and pick up a visitor's bag located on the table in the Connecting Room.

**Keep in prayer:** June Bates, Mary Carlson, Judy Clark (sister-in-law of Bill), Dean Erickson (Brett's dad), the family of John Ferger, Jill Fiorenza (Jim Baker's Sister), Barb Grenawalt, David Hagemann, Lois Keller, Leandra Miller (Ginny's friend), Brad Pfaff (son-in-law of Mary Jane), Emma Schutt (Rose's niece), Don Seeger, Ron Torkilson, Lynn Tracy, Mary Jane Tracy, Susan (Svenson) Witte. **Please contact the office with any changes in requests.**

**"Emergency" Pastoral Care** will be provided by Pastor Kalen Barkholtz, Christ Lutheran Church of Sharon, January 5-January 13. In case of urgent request/hospitalization she may be reached at 608-724-0212.

**Donations of hats and mittens** may be placed on the tree outside the offices through January 4th. New and CLEAN, like-new used items may be donated. Last year donations went to the Clinton Elementary School.

**Congregational Annual Meeting** will be held Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup> following worship. If needed, reschedule date will be February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Movie Night: The Lutefisk Wars** is scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm. Invite a friend and come watch in Fellowship Hall. Please see Ginny if you have access to a Theatre Style popcorn machine that we may use for the event.

**Neighborhood Dinner** is Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> 5:30pm-6:30pm. Italian Beef Sandwiches are on the menu. Sign-up on the Connecting Room Board.

**Parsonage Update:** Council discussed and decided that a Planning Team, made up of members of Jefferson Prairie, would be most appropriate for mapping out the future of the parsonage. Are you interested in gathering ideas and information? Do you have suggestions? Contact Terry Pearson to sign-up for the Parsonage Planning.

**Sharing Your Offering:** Thank you for your generosity that supports God's ministry here at Jefferson Prairie and our mission partners. There are multiple options for sharing your offering.

\***Offering plates** are located on stands by the entrance to the sanctuary.

\***Give online** at [www.jplchurch.org](http://www.jplchurch.org). Click on the GIVE tab at the top to be directed to Tithe.ly.

\***Mail** your check to church: 23184 Bergen Rd. Poplar Grove, IL 61065

**Online worship** available at: <https://www.facebook.com/jeffersonprairie/live/> and [www.jplchurch.org](http://www.jplchurch.org) homepage. Click on Sermons on the website to watch previous worship services. The bulletin is under Sermon Notes.

**NOTE:** This worship service is being livestreamed.

Please contact the church office 815-292-3226, prior to driving to the building if you have business to do there. During the holidays and with winter weather, there is a chance we could be delayed or working from home.

### This Week's Calendar

Sunday, January 4	Prairie Light Available 9:30 am	Worship Fellowship Youth Activity
Tuesday, January 6	Epiphany of Our Lord 9:00am	Quilting
Friday, January 9	9:30am-10:45am 11:00am 1:30pm	John Ferger Visitation Funeral followed by luncheon Internment at East Lawn Cemetery
Sunday, January 11	Baptism of Our Lord 9:30am	Worship w/Pr. Mary Pharmer Fellowship Sunday School