



FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third & Terry, Longmont, Colorado
(303) 776-2800 | www.firstluth.org
Pastor Garrett Struessel and Deacon Korra Looschen

Ordinary Time

Baptism of Our Lord
Sunday, January 11, 2026
9:30 a.m.



GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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.

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

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, \ddagger 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 \ddagger Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized"

ELW 304

Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized

ELW 304

1. Christ, when for us you were bap-tized, God's Spir - it on you
 2. God called you, "My be - lov - ed Son"; you are God's ser - vant
 3. Straight- way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - obeyed the
 4. Bap - tize us with your Spir - it, Lord; your cross on us be

came, as peace - ful as a dove, and yet as
 true, sent to pro - claim the reign of heav'n, God's
 call to serve with free and will - ing heart, to
 signed, that like - wise in God's ser - vice we may

ur - gent as a flame, as ur - gent as a flame.
 ho - ly will to do, God's ho - ly will to do.
 give your life for all, to give your life for all.
 per - fect free - dom find, may per - fect free - dom find.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984, alt.

Music: Nikolaus Herman, 1480-1561

Text © 1985 The Church Pension Fund

LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN

8 6 8 6 6

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

ANTHEM

"Arise, Your Light Has Come"

Eli Brast, Trumpet
Accompanied by Sally Campbell

WORD

READINGS

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.

¹ 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. ² He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street; ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth, and the coastlands wait for his teaching. ⁵ 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: ⁶ 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, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸ I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. ⁹ See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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 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.

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ 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. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not 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. ⁴²He 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. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDRENS TIME

Deacon Korra Looschen

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Page 102

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

P *Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.*

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 3rd chapter beginning at the 13th verse.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation.

Today, we welcome Cynthia and Miriam Keller, sisters in Christ, led by the Holy Spirit to join us in Mission.

With the whole church, let us confess our faith, using the Apostle's 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.**

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called 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 justice and peace in all the earth.

Sisters in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

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

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

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

We give you thanks for our new members whom you have drawn to yourself by the love of Jesus Christ and whom we have welcomed into this household of faith. Keep us close together in your Spirit, in the breaking of bread and the prayers, and in service to others.

Let us welcome these sisters in Christ to this community of faith.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Cynthia and Miriam Keller

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us O God
Your mercy is great.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Peace of the Lord be with you always
And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.
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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

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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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Page 108

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. Blessed is he who comes in the

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

SHARING OF COMMUNION

All are welcome who come trusting in the gift of God's presence in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation shared in this meal. "The body of Christ, broken for you", and "the blood of Christ shed for you", include the promise of forgiveness, life and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord.

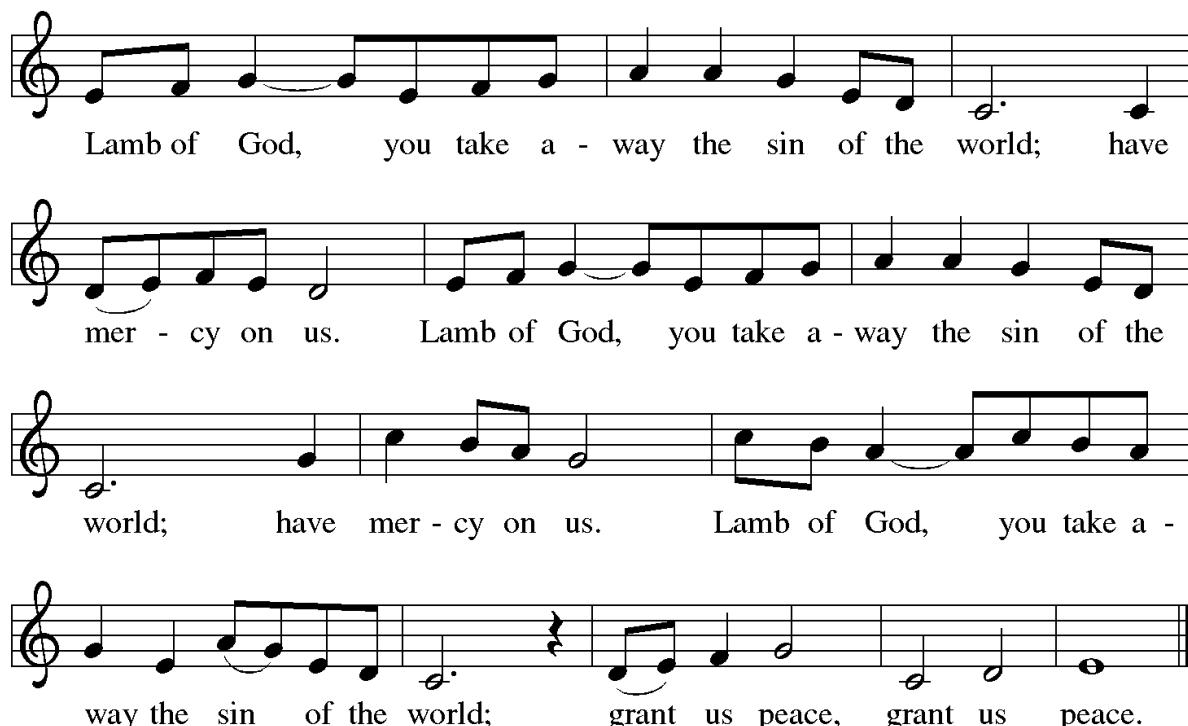
Hear these words and partake of the bread/cracker and wine/juice, giving it to each other, if possible:

"The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you."

All are welcome who come trusting in the gift of God's presence in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, shared in this meal. "The body of Christ, broken for you", and "the blood of Christ shed for you", include the promise of the forgiveness of sin, life and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord. The ushers will invite you to come forward for communion. We invite everyone to receive communion if you so desire. The invitation to receive Holy Communion is from Christ Jesus; therefore "all are welcome". In our serving communion trays, wine is darker red on the outside, and grape juice is the lighter color in the center. We serve only gluten-free bread prepared in a kitchen excluding wheat flour, to include everyone regardless of wheat-gluten sensitivities. Come, taste and see, that the Lord is good.

LAMB OF GOD

Page 112



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

<i>“Spirit of Gentleness”</i>	ELW 396
<i>“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”</i>	ELW 445
<i>“This Little Light of Mine”</i>	ELW 677

Spirit of Gentleness

ELW 396

Refrain

Spir - it, Spir-it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness

call-ing and free; Spir - it, Spir-it of rest - less - ness,

stir me for plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.

1. You moved on the wa - ter, you called to the deep, _____
 2. You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand, _____
 3. You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill, _____
 4. You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes. _____

then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep; _____
 and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land; _____
 then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still; _____
 From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams; _____

and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing: _____
 and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies, _____
 and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain, _____
 our wo - men see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes. _____

Refrain

"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
 then you spoke through your proph - ets to op - en their eyes.
 when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
 With bold new de - ci - sions your peo-ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940
 Music: James K. Manley
 Text and music ELW 396 © 1978

SPIRIT
 Irregular

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters **ELW 445**



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daugh-ters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
2 We who bring them long for nur - ture; by your milk may we be fed.
3 Oh, how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - im - ag - ined, all your ways!



Num - ber them a - mong your peo - ple; bless as Christ blessed long a - go.
Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of bless - ing, liv - ing bread.
To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.
God, re - new us, guide our foot - steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo - ple stand be - fore you, wa - ter-washed and Spir - it - born.



Fill, a - noint them; send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.
one with Christ in liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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This Little Light of Mine

ELW 677

Text: African American spiritual

**Music: African American Spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935
Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer**

THIS JOY

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Radiant God,

we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

ELW 310 vs. 1,2,4

SENDING

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Preacher/Presider	The Rev. Garrett Struessel
Worship Assistant	Deacon Korra Looschen
Acolyte	Jonathan Leos
Council Members	Kayla Morelli Amy Ley
Ushers	Holly Keenan Mike Shiveley
Reader	Shannon Satur
Communion Assistants	Sally Campbell Mary Hall Dwight Tilford
Pianist/Organist	Jeffrey Hartmann

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1. Songs of thank-ful-ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to you we raise;
 2. Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph - et, priest, and king su - preme;
 3. Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak - ened bod - y, faint-ing soul;
 4. Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God - head man - i - fest;
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,

an - themes be to thee ad - dressed,
 an - themes be to thee ad - dressed,
 an - themes be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man-i - fest.
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,