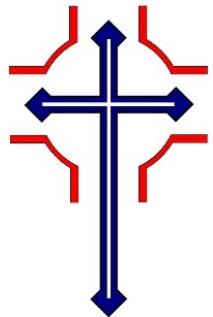


Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Washington, IL
Baptism of Our Lord
January 11, 2026



Welcome – Please take a moment to sign the black attendance books in the pews.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, \dagger one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate One,

C **We confess that we have not loved you with all our heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven. We have been angry, selfish, and dishonest. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to love you more than anything else and to love others the way you love us.**

Amen.

P Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned. Happy is the one whom the Lord does not accuse of doing wrong and who is free from all deceit. As a called and ordained minister, I proclaim to you God's forgiveness. In Him, you are set free. In the name of the Father, and of the \dagger Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Peace: As baptized and forgiven children of God, we have peace with God, and peace with one another.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us share that peace with one another.

Hymn: "Shall We Gather at the River" | Red Book #423



1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv - er, soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow-ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.



Refrain
Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

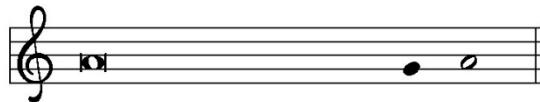
Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899
Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

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

C **And also with you.**



Faith Lutheran Church
2206 Washington Rd,
Washington, IL 61571
Website and online worship:
www.shareourfaith.org
Church: 309-745-9306
faith@shareourfaith.org
Pastor Mike Rahlf
Home: 563-495-3485
pastor@shareourfaith.org



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



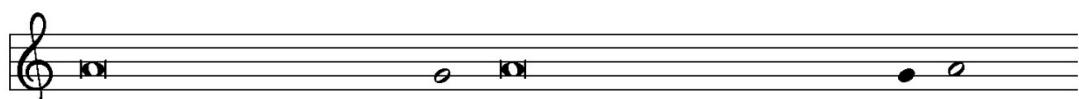
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



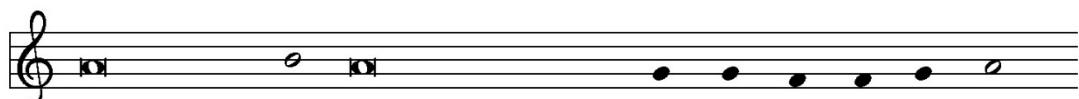
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

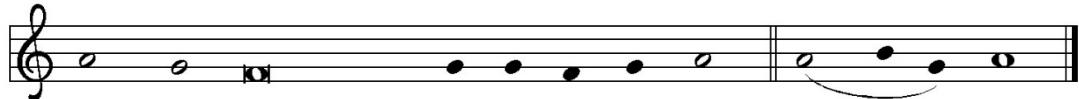


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Hymn of Praise

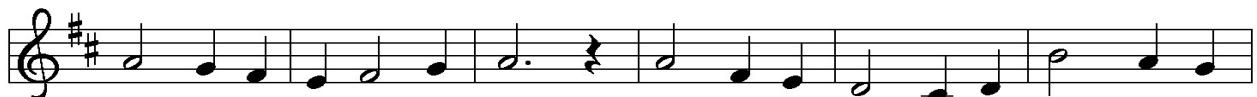
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Lord be with you

C **And also with you.**

Will you pray with me?

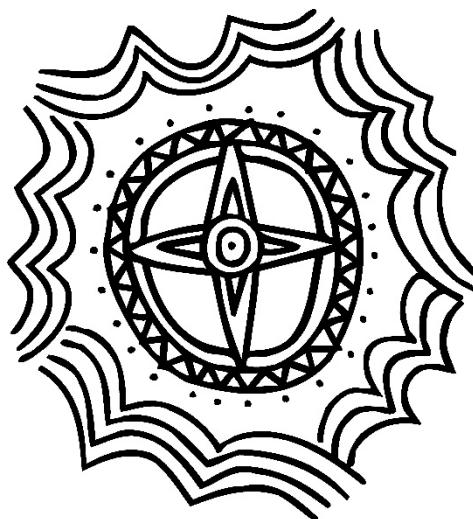
O God our Father, **at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives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

First Reading – Isaiah 42:1-9 | Pew Bible #580

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.

P The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**



Psalm 29

1 Ascribe to the | Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory | due God's name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a | voice of splendor.

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

6 the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

7 The voice of the Lord bursts forth in lightning flashes.

8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

9 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!”

10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.

11 O Lord, give strength | to your people; give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace

Second Reading – Acts 10:34-43 | Pew Bible #890

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. 39 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, 40 but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41 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. 42 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. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

R The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God



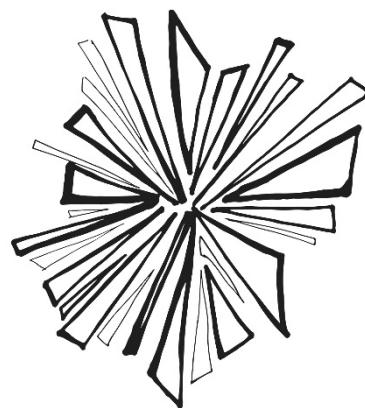
Gospel Reading – Matthew 3:13-17 | Pew Bible #778

C Glory to you, O Lord

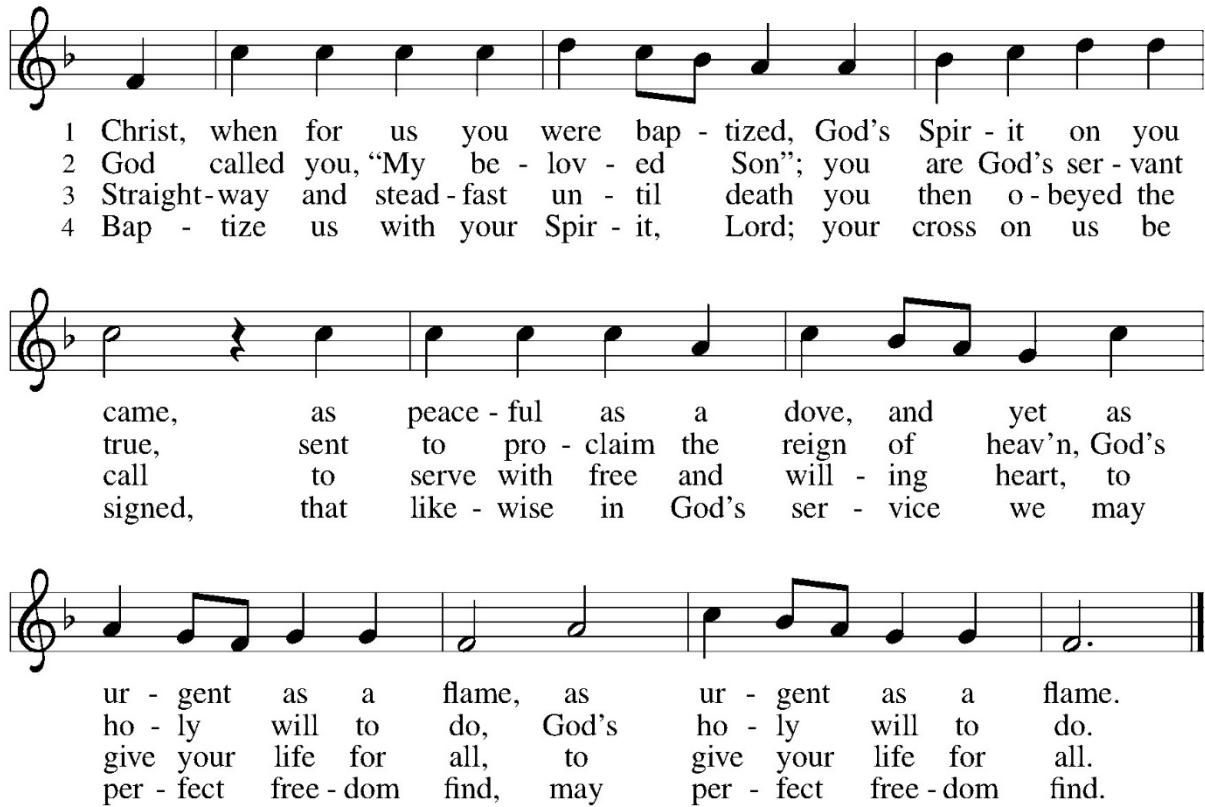
¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented.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

C Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon by Pastor Mike Rahlf



Sermon Hymn: "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized" | Red Book #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: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

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Apostles' Creed

**C: 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.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

Prayers: After each portion of the prayers finishes with “Merciful God,” please respond, **“receive our prayer.”**

Offering: Jesus gives us life, hope, and salvation. Let us commit ourselves to God and joyfully lift our offerings to the Lord.

Please take a moment to give an offering to the church on the website with the Tithe.ly app or bring your gift to the plate during communion.



Faith Lutheran website link
www.shareourfaith.org

Offering Prayer

P Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



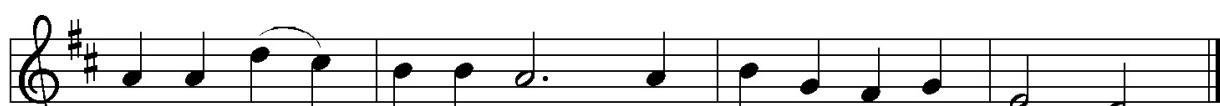
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



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.

Holy Communion

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness
of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.



C 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**



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.

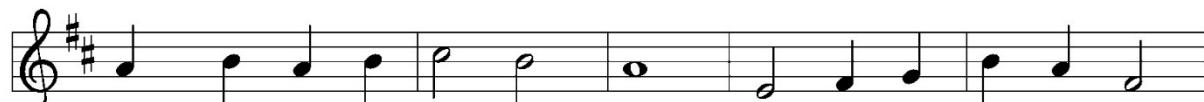
Communion Distribution



Communion Hymn: "Break Now the Bread of Life" | Red Book #515



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly



broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live



I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt.

Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

Communion Prayer

P God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Hymn: "Spirit of Gentleness" | Red Book #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 from plac-id-ness, wind, wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the wa - - ters, 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 wom - en 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 o - pen 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: SPIRIT, James K. Manley
 Text and music © 1978 James K. Manley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

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