

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
LITTLETON, COLORADO

*January 11-12, 2025*

4:00 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday



## **BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

**YOU ARE MINE**

**AS WE GATHER**

Today is the first of the bookends that mark the Epiphany season—the Baptism of Our Lord and His Transfiguration. In common is the command from God to “listen to Him.” We begin our journey of listening to the Lord, learning from those who went before, acknowledging the revelation of the Lamb of God in baptismal water, and looking to Him, the Word made flesh. In His Baptism, our Lord was not washed because He was unclean but because we are. The Father saw the prophetic words of Isaiah fulfilled in the water of the Jordan, and He claimed Jesus as His own Son and our appointed Redeemer. “You are Mine,” said the Lord to Jesus. Because He said those words to Jesus, they are now addressed to us—the people for whom Jesus was baptized.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Prelude (duet)            “Great is Thy Faithfulness”            William Runyan

Pastoral Greeting

Opening Hymn            “Great is Thy Faithfulness”            *LSB 809*

INVOCATION

Pastor:        In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People:       **Amen.**

RITE OF BAPTISMAL RENEWAL

Pastor:        In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People:       **Amen.**

Pastor:        Dear friends, we were buried into Christ by Baptism into His death and raised with Him to newness of life. I call upon you to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced the devil and all his works and ways and were made members of the Holy Christian Church. Do you renounce the devil?

People:       **Yes, I renounce him.**

Pastor:        Do you renounce all his works?

People:       **Yes, I renounce them.**

Pastor:        Do you renounce all his ways?

People:       **Yes, I renounce them.**

Pastor:        Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

People:       **Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

Pastor:        Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

People:       **Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Pastor:        Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People:       **Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Pastor:        Is it your purpose to continue steadfast in this faith and in the promise of Your Baptism and, as a member of the church, to be diligent in the use of the means of grace and prayer?

People:       **Yes, with the help of God.**





1 Bap-tized in - to Your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and  
3 My faith - ful God, You fail me nev - er; Your prom - ise sure - ly  
4 All that I am and love most dear - ly— Re - ceive it all, O



Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,  
will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er  
Lord, from me. Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly;



A - mong Your saints, Your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and  
If words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I  
Help me Your faith - ful child to be! Let noth - ing that I



dead to sin, Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.  
come de - filed; For - give, lift up, re - store Your child.  
am or own Serve an - y will but Yours a - lone.

✠ WORD ✠

**Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7**

*("I have called you by name, you are Mine.")*

**But now thus says the Lord,  
he who created you, O Jacob,**

**he who formed you, O Israel:**

**"Fear not, for I have redeemed you;**

**I have called you by name, you are mine.**

**When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;**

**and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;**

**when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,**

**and the flame shall not consume you.**

**For I am the Lord your God,**

**the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.**

**I give Egypt as your ransom,**

**Cush and Seba in exchange for you.**

**Because you are precious in my eyes,**

and honored, and I love you,  
I give men in return for you,  
peoples in exchange for your life.  
Fear not, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you.  
I will say to the north, Give up,  
and to the south, Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from afar  
and my daughters from the end of the earth,  
everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle: Romans 6:1-11

*(By Baptism, we were united with Christ into His death and resurrection.)*

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

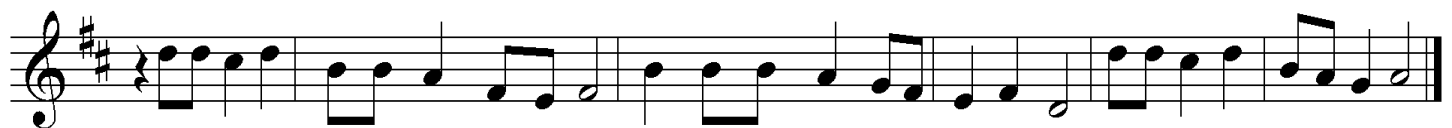
For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

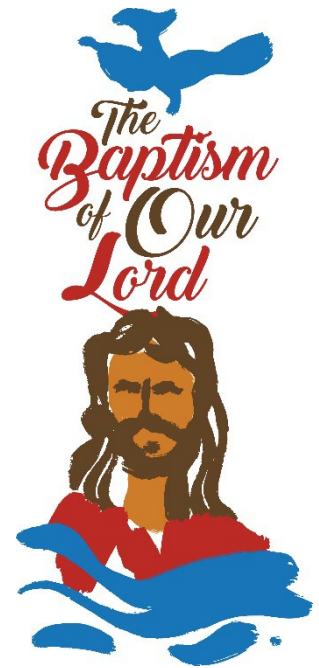
People: Thanks be to God.

*Please rise for the Verse and the Holy Gospel.*

VERSE     *John 6:68*



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.



Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

### **Holy Gospel: Luke 3:15-22**

*(Jesus is baptized in the Jordan River by John.)*

**As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”**

**So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.**

**Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”**

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Hymn of the Day**

“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

*LSB 722*

**Sermon**

“Your Ordination”

Pastor John Larson

Text: Luke 3:15-22

### **Prayer of the Church**

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy ...

People: **Hear our prayer.**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

*You may now greet one another in the name of the Lord using...Peace be with you!*

“This is my Son,  
the Beloved, with whom  
I am well pleased.”



Offering (10:30 am and 4:00 pm - collected in back; 8:00 am – collected in the pews)

Offering Music (8:00) “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me” Richard Wienhorst

✠ HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION ✠

*The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with “Amen!”, a word of affirmation and belief.*

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

**Preface (Divine Service, Setting One)**

LSB 160

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**Proper Preface**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus (Divine Service, Setting One)**

LSB 161

**Words of Institution**

**DISTRIBUTION MUSIC**

**Special Music** “Noel en Musette” Louis Claude D’Aquin

**Hymn** “What is This Bread?” LSB 629

**Hymn** “O Blessed Spring” LSB 595

**General Communion Blessing**



## Benediction

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

LSB 643

## Congregational Concerns

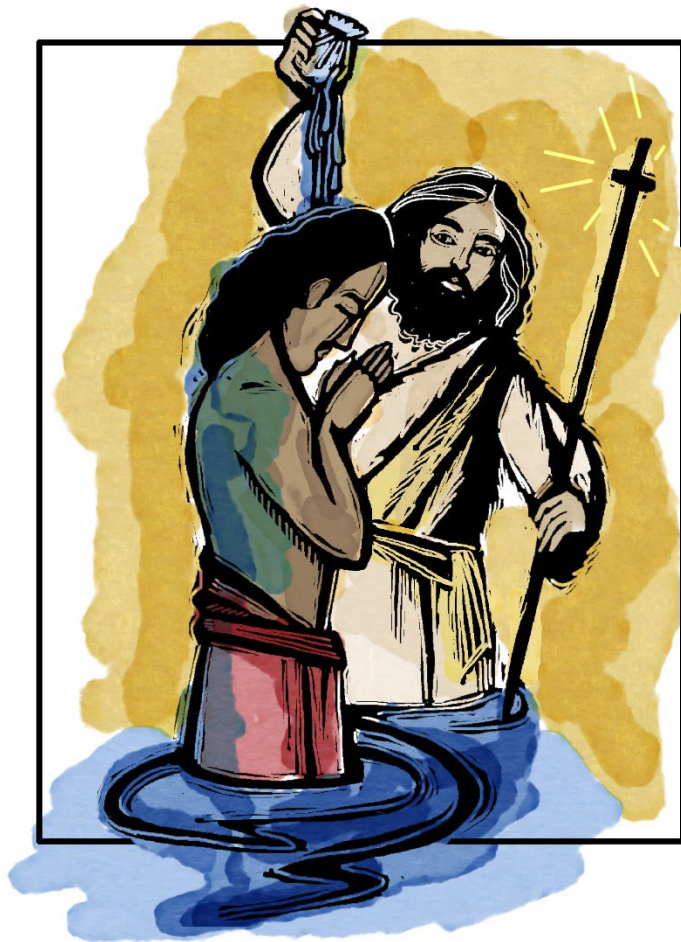
## Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace.  
Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”  
Franklin Ritter



## ✠ SERVING IN WORSHIP ✠

**OFFICIANT**

Pastor John Larson

**MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP**

Michael Zehnder

**ORGANIST**

Linda Olsen

**PIANIST**

Mary Wenkheimer

**ELDERS**

4 p.m. Jeff Dunker; 8 a.m. Arvin Michel; 10:30 a.m. Michael Lawrenz

**ACOLYTES**

8:00 a.m. Sophie Brehmer; 10:30 a.m. Tobin Lawrenz

**LECTORS**

4 p.m. Curt Engle; 8 a.m. Dennis Lord; 10:30 a.m. Jude Donovan

**COMMUNION SERVERS**

4:00 p.m. Curt Engle; 10:30 a.m. Jude Donovan

**ALTAR GUILD**

Tanya Schmitt, Gloria Mielke