



Lightbulb
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THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD  JANUARY 12, 2024

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Lightbulb Moments:

BAPTISM TELLS US WHO WE ARE

When Jesus was baptized, God the Father spoke and declared Jesus' true identity: "You are my Son, whom I love. With you I am well-pleased." With that, Jesus was revealed to be the one God had chosen to be the Savior of the world.

When you were baptized, God spoke and declared your true identity, too. Through the Holy Spirit's work, God united you with Christ by faith, and he declared who he considers you to be: "My son, my daughter, whom I love!" Here's your "aha" moment: with Jesus' name upon us, we never have to worry about our identity. And since we've been anointed with the power of the Spirit, we now have power to be who God has made us.

THE MISSION OF TRINITY

*The members of Trinity are joined together in Jesus' love to **worship** our Lord, **grow** in his Word, and **share** it with others.*

WELCOME TO TRINITY! We're happy you're here! Thank you for joining us this morning to worship our gracious God. This **worship folder** has everything you'll need for the service except some of our songs. For those, you'll be able to find the words on the screen in the front of the church and the music in the blue hymnal.

We love to see **families worshipping together**, and to see little children coming to Jesus unhindered. However, if you would like a place to quiet your little ones' "joyful noises," there is a **nursery** down the hall on the south side of the building. There, you'll find a television streaming the service so you can follow along until you feel comfortable returning to the sanctuary.

The **restrooms** are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. If you need anything before, during, or after the service, our **ushers** will be happy to assist you.

God bless your worship with us today!

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

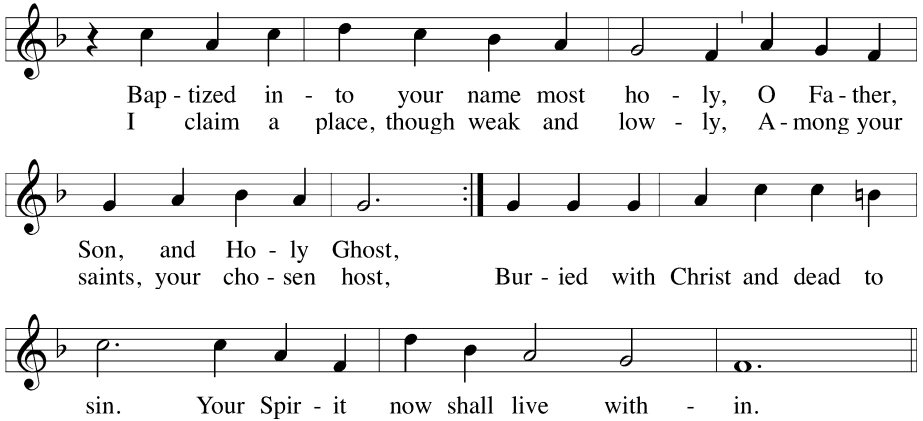
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Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.



Bap - tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther,
I claim a place, though weak and low - ly, A - mong your
Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
saints, your cho - sen host, Bur - ied with Christ and dead to
sin. Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.

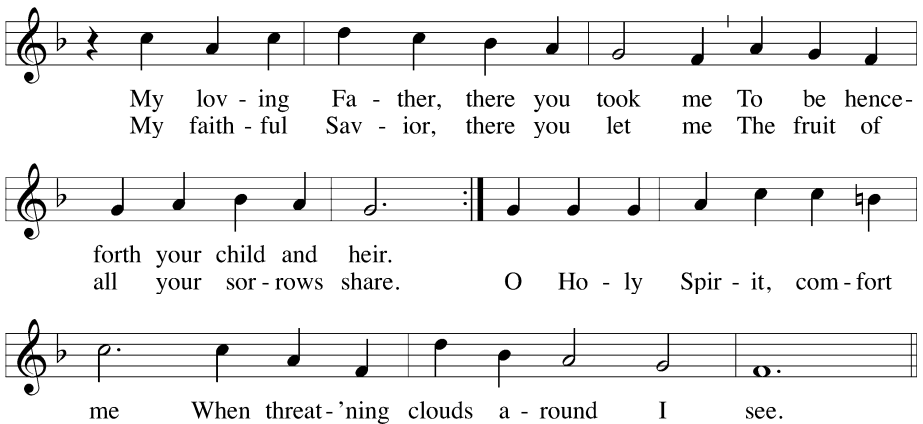
I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is
born of water and the Spirit.

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. (*John 3:5,6*)

Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers
conceived us. (*Psalms 51:5*)

**But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the
name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**

(*1 Corinthians 6:11*)



My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me To be hence -
My faith - ful Sav - ior, there you let me The fruit of
forth your child and heir.
all your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it, com - fort
me When threat - 'ning clouds a - round I see.

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

My faith - ful God, you fail me nev - er; Your pro - mise
 Oh, cast me not a - way for - ev - er If words and
 sure - ly will en - dure.
 deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I come de -
 filed; For - give, lift up, re - store your child.

Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (*Ephesians 5:25-27*). Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. *(spoken)* Amen.

All that I am and love most dear - ly— Re - ceive it
 Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly, And help me
 all, O Lord, from me.
 your own child to be! Let noth - ing that I am or
 own Serve an - y will but yours a - lone.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children, and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be Seated

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."

²But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."

The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate."

⁴Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?"

⁵Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."

⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The LORD has not chosen this one either.” ⁹Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the LORD chosen this one.” ¹⁰Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The LORD has not chosen these.” ¹¹So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?”

“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.”

Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”

¹²So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”

¹³So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

The children are invited to come forward for a message designed specially for them.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 2A

Second Reading

Titus 3:4-7

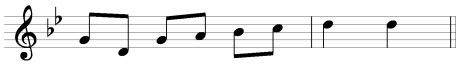
⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 1:11

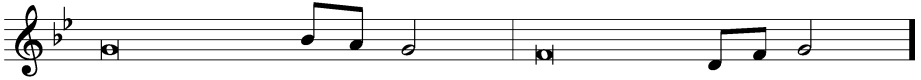


Refrain



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

Tone



You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.

Tune: © 2010 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 715790

Gospel

Luke 3:15-17,21-22

¹⁵The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

²¹When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

377 *To Jordan's River Came Our Lord*

Sermon

Titus 3:4-7

Baptism Made You God's Own Child

1. Because of God's mercy (4-5)
2. Through God's means (5-6)
3. To be God's heir (7)

Remembrance of Baptism

Holy Baptism is the priceless means of grace by which our Father in heaven connects us with Christ in his life, death, and resurrection. The apostle Paul wrote: "All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." Again Paul wrote: "All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."

In Holy Baptism, God takes away our sins and gives us new life. We reject the devil and confess that we believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

I ask you: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

Yes, and I ask God to help me.

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

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. Amen.

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to remain faithful to your Lord Jesus, to value the Word and sacraments, and to live a life that pleases God?

Yes, and I ask God to help me.

May the eternal God, who saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you to everlasting life.

Amen.

Installation of Officers

Alex Johnson – President
Nick Thom – Christian Ed.
Danny Sheeks – MVL Delegate
Adam Aschenbrenner – Trustee
Mark Koehler – Cemetery

Jim Gronholz – Elder*
Jacob Enter – Elder*
Kevin Lendt – Evangelism*
Louis Krohn – Stewardship*

Outgoing:

Gary Hulke – President
Jordan Rudenick – Trustee
Warren Krohn – MVL Delegate
David Otto – Cemetery

Prayer of the Church

Each petition will end with “Lord, in your mercy...” The congregation is invited to respond, “**Hear our prayer.**”

Offering

The members of Trinity Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord’s work in this community and throughout the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

At this time, we ask both members and guests to fill out the **friendship register** found at the end of each pew. When you’ve written your information, please pass it to the next person until everyone has had a chance to sign it. Thank you for helping us serve you with the gospel!

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
Amen.

Seasonal Closing Hymn

549 Across the Lands

* * *

ON THE RADAR

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Men of the Congregation please join us at Mankato Brewery, *Thursday, January 16th* at 7:00 pm for fellowship and then again on *Tuesday, January 27th* at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room for a Bible Study. Please let Pastor know if you will be at the Brewery so he can make a reservation.

2025 VOTERS MEETING: Please join us on Sunday *January 26th* for the first Voters meeting of this year right after church. This will follow with a potluck at about noon.

MVL TRINITY NIGHT: Friday, *January 31st* is our designated night. It is a girl's BB game at 7:00 pm. If you would like tickets, they are in the office. Thanks!

TRINITY NEWS

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: In today's service, we will install our congregation's newly elected officers. We also thank God for those outgoing men that have led our congregation, some for many years!

GAMES & GOSPEL SAVE THE DATE: On Sunday, *January 19th* after Bible Study we'll hold our annual Bunco/Chili Dump. All adults 18 and older are welcome! If you don't know how to play Bunco, don't worry, we'll teach you! For those who don't know what a chili dump is, we dump everyone's chili into the same pot to create a brand-new chili. It's delicious and different every year. Please sign up in the Narthex. If you have any questions, ask JoElyn Krohn or Nicole Lehman. We hope to see you there!

MLC CHURCH VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENTS: The annual church volleyball tournaments hosted by MLC are scheduled: *March 8* for the men and *March 29* for the women. If you're interested in playing, *sign up on the bulletin board*. Whether you can make it for the tournament or not, you're invited to volleyball open gyms starting *Sunday, January 19 at 3:00 pm*.

KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP: Please join us on *Tuesday, February 4th* at 6:00 pm for Kindergarten Roundup in the TLS Kindergarten room. *Come make a splash, we'll have a whale of a time!*

AREA NEWS

OWLS MEETING: Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 Organization of Wels Lutheran Seniors will gather on *Monday, January 13* for a noon pizza meal at St. Paul's, New Ulm. Fellowship begins at 11:30 AM. After the meal, Prof. Dan Balge will present on the "History of European Civilian Chaplaincy." RSVP to Myron Fluegge at flueggemtj@hotmail.com or 507-359-2424 by Wednesday noon, January 8, 2025.

ST. JOHN'S, NEW ULM, CANCER JOURNEY GROUP will meet on *Sunday, January 19 at 3:00pm* in the church's fellowship area. You are invited to attend if your life has been touched by cancer at any time. Our gatherings are not only for the person diagnosed with cancer. We also include adult family members and supportive friends. Our purpose is to receive encouragement from God's Word and each other. We also have special presentations at some of our meetings.

TIME OF GRACE WOMEN'S EVENT: Join us on *March 28-29*, at the Renaissance Minneapolis Hotel, The Depot for the "Unbreakable and Flourishing" Women's event. Our first event was held in Pewaukee, WI in April 2024 and hosted 450 women! The registration link is [time of grace-women's-event-2025.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/time-of-grace-women-s-event-2025). See the bulletin board for a QR code and information.



January 2025

TRINITY EV.
LUTHERAN
NICOLLET, MN

Pastor Micah Plocher

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
December 29 9 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study/K in C	30 NO WORSHIP 7 pm Bible Study	31	January 1	2 7:00 pm Board of Ed	3	4 9:00 am Christmas UN-Decorating
5 9 am Worship /Comm 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study/K in C	6 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	7 3:15 pm Faculty 7:00 pm Elders	8 3:30 pm NPS Catechism	9 1:30 pm Ladies Guild 4:30 pm Home BB	10 8 am TLS Chapel	11 7:00 pm Women, Wine & Word
12 9 am Worship/ Installation of officers 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study/K in C	13 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	14	15 3:30 pm NPS Catechism 6:00 pm Academic Fair 7:30 pm Council Meeting	16 4:00 pm BB at St. Pauls 7:00 pm Mens Fellowship Night Mankato Brewery	17 8 am TLS Chapel	18
19 9 am Worship / Comm 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study/K in C	20 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	21 3:15 pm Faculty	22 3:30 pm NPS Catechism	23 4:00 pm Home BB	24 8 am TLS Chapel	25
26 9 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study/K in C 10:30 am Voters Meeting & Potluck	27 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	28 7:00 pm Men' s Bible Study	29 3:30 pm NPS Catechism	30	31 8 am TLS Chapel 7:00 pm Trinity Night @MYL-Girls BB	February 1