

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

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## The Baptism Of Our Lord

January 11, 2026



### AS WE GATHER The Spirit-Marked Servant

All people are descendants of the first man, Adam. After the worldwide flood of God's judgment of sin, Noah and his sons became the progenitors of all mankind. It was of the lineage of Shem (Genesis 11) that the man Abram was born. The descendants of Abram/Abraham were named Hebrews or Jews, after Judah, one of Jacob's sons; this naming pertained to all of Israel after the Babylonian exile. To this day, they are referred to as God's "chosen people" after the words of Moses: "For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth" (Deuteronomy 7:6). They were chosen to be the lineage of the Messiah, the deliverer, the Christ. Faithful to His promise, God took on flesh "of the house and lineage of David" (Luke 2:4) as the incarnate Son of God and Son of Mary of Nazareth.

Today we hear that divine promise in Isaiah 42, identifying Jesus as God's chosen servant. From the beginning, however, we are told He is not only to be King of the Jews alone but a light to lighten the Gentiles also. The great news is that He is the Savior of and for all people, the descendants not only of Abraham but also of Adam and Noah! By repentance of sin and faith in Christ, worked by the same Spirit that marked Jesus as the chosen one at His Baptism, now all who are baptized into Christ—Jew or Gentile—are the chosen people of God. Praising and thanking God for calling and saving us, we echo the Gospel to all people in the words of the Psalm: "Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples!" (Psalm 117:1).

## PRELUDE AND WELCOME

### ✖ PREPARATION ✖

**HYMN**     "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord"     #405

*Please stand as you are able.*

### OPENING SENTENCES     *Psalm 43:4; Psalm 117*

**Pastor:** I will go to the altar of God,

**People:** to God my exceeding joy.

**Pastor:** Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples!

**People:** For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!

### CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:** Jesus Christ is God's chosen one, who came and who comes again today to call everyone to salvation from sin and death and who makes all who are baptized in His name to be the chosen sons and daughters of God. Marked by the sacred waters of Holy Baptism, let us receive God's assurance and promise of forgiveness.

**People:** Almighty God, our dear Father in heaven, in Holy Baptism You have marked us with the sign of the holy cross upon our foreheads and upon our hearts to mark us as people of Your choosing to be redeemed by Christ the crucified. Open our eyes to Your light of freedom and forgiveness and to Your calling of us to be Your own chosen people of Your eternal kingdom.

**Pastor:** Upon this your confession, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit, has forgiven you all your sins. God strengthen you with His grace to life ✖ everlasting.

**People:** Amen.

## ANTIPHON

Pastor: Oh, come, let us worship the Lord.

People: ♫ For He is our maker.

**VENITE** *hymnal page 220-221*

♫ O come, let us sing unto the Lord,  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving,  
and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.

For the LORD is a great God  
and a great king above all gods.  
In His hand are the deep places of the earth;  
the strength of the hills is His also.

The sea is His, and He made it,  
and His hands form-ed the dry land.  
O come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the LORD, our maker.  
For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture  
and the sheep of His hand.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son ✕ and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world  
without end. Amen.

## SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, this day we rejoice in the anointing of the Son of God at His Baptism in the Jordan River to be Your chosen deliverer, Your Spirit-marked servant. Grant that the light of Your salvation through Him enlighten all people today, calling everyone through the waters of Holy Baptism to be Your chosen people for eternity; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

### OLD TESTAMENT READING      *Isaiah 42:1-9 (The LORD's chosen servant.)*

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE**      Romans 6:1-11      *(Dead to sin, alive to God.)*

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**VERSE**      *Mark 1:11b*

**Alleluia. You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 3:13-17      *(The Baptism of Jesus)*

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

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

*The Gospel is read.*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**THE APOSTLE'S CREED** *Found on the last page of your pew hymnal.*

*Please be seated.*

**HYMN** "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" #411

**SERMON** Pr. Mark Croucher

### **OFFERING AND OFFERTORY**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN** "We Give Thee But Thine Own" #781 v1-2

**We give Thee but Thine own,  
What e'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee,**

**May we Thy bounties thus,  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,  
To Thee our first-fruits give!**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: All glory and praise to You, O God, for You have created all mankind in Your image to live in Your love and fellowship forever in Your eternal kingdom. By Your design, You have defeated the devil and the power of sin and death by the sacrifice of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. He became Your chosen one in His Baptism in the waters of the Jordan River and by Your Holy Spirit, in order that all who are baptized in His name and by the same Spirit may be restored to newness of life as Your chosen sons and daughters. Help us to extend the same invitation of Your mercy and grace to all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Grant that Your church be guided in true faith and worship by faithful pastors and shepherds of Your flock, that we may sing Your praises joyfully now and in eternity. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Help us to live with integrity as people of Your own possession, guarding us from all evil and leading us safely in the ways of Your good and gracious will. Give to all in the authority of government a desire for good order to the promotion of freedom and faithfulness to the ways of peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: To all who are yet enslaved by the darkness of sin and separation from You, cause the light of Your salvation to break forth that many may hear of Your deliverance and the hope of life and love by faith in the Savior and be drawn by the Spirit to Your covenant of Holy Baptism. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Grant healing and relief to all who are sick, homebound, or in any need or distress, especially Liz, Myron, Betty, Karla, Dan, Ian and Luetta, that they may know the power of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We remember all the saints who have gone before us. Give us a heart of wisdom that when our last hour comes, we are granted a blessed end in the life of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## **SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People:** ♫ And with thy spirit.

## **BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People:** ♫ Thanks be to God.

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.

**HYMN**     “Beautiful Savior”     #537

## **POSTLUDE**

# THE MESSENGER

## January 11, 2026

**WELCOME!** Dear guest, we pray that your worship with us is as spiritually enriching for you as your presence is encouraging to us. We invite you to sign our guest book in the foyer. Please leave your email address if you would like periodic updates from Immanuel. Most importantly, come back and worship with us again next Sunday.

**SERVING US TODAY:** Rev. Mark Croucher  
Dan Henggeler, Organist

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Liz Kraft, Myron Kimber, Betty Peuster, Karla Kass, Dan and Ian Henggeler and Luetta Buchholz

**LAST SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE: 26 total, 5 guests**

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** theme for next Sunday, January 18 is  
**"Outstanding Universal Value"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler The Christian faith has the power to make us act better. But that's not the goal. 1 Corinthians 1:18-19 Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.