

Second Sunday after Christmas- January 4, 2026

Welcome / Announcements

Opening Song "The Blessing"

Verse:

The Lord bless you, and keep you. Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord burn His face toward you and give You peace.

Chorus:

A---men, A-men, a-men. A---men, a-men, a-men.

Verse:

The Lord bless you, and keep you. Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn His face toward you and give You peace.

Chorus:

A---men, A-men, a-men. A---men, a-men, a-men.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Holy Baptism for Sutton Lynn Kolterman

The Pastor addresses the baptismal group and the congregation:

Our Lord Jesus commanded Baptism, saying to His disciples in the last chapter of Matthew: *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.”* The holy apostles of the Lord have written: *“The promise is for you and your children,”* and: *“Baptism now saves you.”*

We also learn from the Word of God that we all are conceived and born sinful and so are in need of forgiveness. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

The Pastor turns to the candidate/candidates to be baptized.

Receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your forehead + and upon your heart + to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

The Pastor says: Hear how our Lord Jesus Christ has opened the kingdom of God to little children. *“People were bringing little children to Jesus to have Him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, He was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”*

The Pastor addresses the sponsors:

It is your task as sponsors to confess with the whole Church the faith in our God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in whose name this child is to be baptized. After this child has been baptized you are at all times to remember her in your prayers, put her in mind of her Baptism, and, as much as in you lies, give your counsel and aid, especially if she should lose her parents, that she be brought up in the true knowledge and worship of God and be taught the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer; and that, as she grows in years, you will ensure that the Holy Scriptures are placed in her hands, bring her to the services of God's house, and provide for her further instruction in the Christian faith, that she come to the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood and so, abiding in her baptismal grace and in communion with the Church, she may grow up to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ.

This, then, you intend gladly and willingly to do? If so, then answer "Yes."

Sponsors: Yes.

Pastor: God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

Pastor: In order to implore the blessing of our Lord Jesus Christ upon the gathering of this child into the family of our Father, let us with all the family pray the prayer He gave us.

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

Pastor: The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even forevermore.

C Amen.

The Pastor says:

Because this child cannot answer for herself, we shall all, together with congregation, sponsors and parents, faithfully speak on her behalf in testimony of the forgiveness of sin and the birth of the life of faith which God our Father gives in and through Baptism.

Pastor: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

ALL: I do renounce them.

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

A 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 there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

A 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.

P How is this child to be named?

P Sutton Lynn Kolterman I baptize you in the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting. Peace be with you!

C Amen

The Baptismal Candle

Receive this burning light. Live always by the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming that you may meet him with joy and enter with him to the marriage feast of the Lamb in his kingdom, which shall have no end.

P Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Sutton the new birth in Holy Baptism and made her a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly ask You that, as she has

now become Your child, You would keep her in her baptismal grace that according to all Your good pleasure she may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy Name and finally with all Your saints obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen

P Lord and giver of life, look also with kindness upon the father and mother of this child and upon all our parents. Let them always rejoice in the gift You have given them. Enable them to be teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so that they may share eternally with their children the salvation You have given them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen

P Through Baptism God has added Sutton Lynn Kolterman to His own people to declare the wonderful deeds of our Savior, who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

ALL: **We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, to work with us in His kingdom.**

P And you, Sutton, the Lord bless you in all your ways from this time forth and even forevermore.

C Amen

Reprise of Opening Song “The Blessing”

Chorus:

A----men, a-men, a-men. A----men, a-men, a-men

A----men, a-men, a-men. A----men, a-men, a-men

Bridge:

May His favor be upon you, and a thousand generations and your family and your children, and their children, and their children.

May His favor be upon you and a thousand generations and your family and your children, and their children, and their children.

May His presence go before you and behind you and beside.

All around you and within you, He is with you, He is with you.

In the morning, in the evening, in your coming and your going.

In your weeping and rejoicing. He is for you, He is for you.

He is for you, He is for you, He is for you, He is for you. He is for you, He is for you.

Chorus:

A----men, a-men, a-men. A----men, a-men, a-men.

Bridge:

May His presence go before you and behind you and beside you.

All around you and behind you and beside you

He is with you; He is with you.

In the morning, in the evening, in your coming and your going.

In your weeping and rejoicing He is for you.

Confession and Absolution

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(We quietly confess our sins to God)

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, I confess that I am in my flesh, sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Upon your heartfelt and sincere confession, as a Called and Ordained servant of Christ and by His authority I forgive you all of your sins in the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 3:4-15

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness,

and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

Epistle

Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:40-52

⁴⁰The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” ⁴⁹And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?” ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

Children's Message

Sermon Song “Holy Forever”

Verse:

A thousand generations falling down in worship to sing the song of ages to the Lamb.
And all who've gone before us and all who will believe will sing the song of ages to the Lamb.

Your name is the highest, Your name is the greatest.

Your name stands above them all.

All thrones and dominions, all power and positions.

Your name stands above them all.

Chorus:

And the angels cry, Holy! All creation cries, Holy! You are lifted high, Holy! Holy forever!

Verse:

If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed, sing the song forever to the Lamb.

If you walk in freedom, and if you bear His name, sing the song forever to the Lamb.

We'll sing the song forever and amen.

Chorus:

And the angels cry, Holy! All creation cries, Holy! You are lifted high, Holy! Holy forever!

Hear Your people sing, Holy! To the King of Kings, Holy! You will always be, Holy! Holy forever!

Your name is the highest, Your name is the greatest. Your name stands above them all.

All thrones and dominions, all powers and positions. Your name stands above them all.

Jesus, Your name is the highest, Your name is the greatest. Your name stands above them all.

All thrones and dominions, all powers and positions. Your name stands above them all.

Chorus:

And the angels cry Holy! All creation cries, Holy! You are lifted high, Holy! Holy forever!
Hear your people sing, Holy! To the King of Kings, Holy! You will always be, Holy! Holy forever!

You will always be, Holy! Holy forever!

Sermon

Offering

“Goodness of God”

Verse:

I love You, Lord. Oh, Your mercy never fails me. All my days I've been held in Your hands.

From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

Chorus:

And all my life You have been faithful. And all my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able. Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

Verse:

I love your voice. You have led me through the fire and in darkest nights.
You are close like no other.

I've known You a father. I've known You as a friend. And I have lived in the goodness of God.

Chorus:

And all my life You have been faithful. And all my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able. Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

Bridge:

'Cause Your goodness is runnin' after, it's runnin' after me.

Your goodness is runnin' after, it's runnin' after me.

With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now. I give You everything.

'Cause Your goodness is runnin' after, it's runnin' after me.

'Cause Your goodness is runnin' after, it's runnin' after me.

Your goodness is runnin' after, it's runnin' after me.

With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now. I give You everything.

'Cause Your goodness is runnin' after, it's runnin' after me.

Chorus:

And all my life You have been faithful. And all my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able. Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God.
'Cause all my life You have been faithful. And all my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able. Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.
Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God.

Prayers of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Closing Song "We Three Kings"

Verse:

We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts we traverse afar.
Field and fountain, moor and mountain following yonder star.

Verse:

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain. Gold I'll bring to corn Him again.
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign.

Chorus:

O star of wonder, star of night. Star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding guide us to thy perfect Light.

Verse:

Glorious now behold Him arise. King and God and Sacrifice.
Alleluia, alleluia sounds through the earth and skies.

Chorus:

O star of wonder, star of night. Star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding guide us to thy perfect Light.

Tag:

Oh, I'm gonna need, gonna need some perfect Light.
Yeah, I'm gonna need, gonna need some perfect Light.

Bridge:

Let Your light shine, let your light. Let Your light shine, let your light.
Let Your light shine, let your light. Let Your light shine, let your light.
Let Your light shine, let your light. Light Your light shine, let, let Your light!

Benediction

P 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.

C Amen.

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