

**Readings for Sunday, January 13, 2019**  
**Baptism of the Lord**  
**Woodbury United Methodist Church**

**A Reading from the Book of Isaiah:**

Israel, the LORD who created you says,

“Do not be afraid—I will save you. I have called you by name—you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you; your troubles will not overwhelm you. When you pass through fire, you will not be burned; the hard trials that come will not hurt you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God, the holy God of Israel, who saves you. I will give up Egypt to set you free; I will give up Ethiopia<sup>[a]</sup> and Seba. <sup>4</sup>I will give up whole nations to save your life, because you are precious to me and because I love you and give you honor. <sup>5</sup>Do not be afraid—I am with you! “From the distant east and the farthest west I will bring your people home. <sup>6</sup>I will tell the north to let them go and the south not to hold them back. Let my people return from distant lands, from every part of the world. <sup>7</sup>They are my own people, and I created them to bring me glory.”

**A Reading from the ACTS of the Apostles:**

<sup>14</sup>The apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria had received the word of God, so they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup>When they arrived, they prayed for the believers that they might receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>16</sup>For the Holy Spirit had not yet come down on any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>17</sup>Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE:**

<sup>15</sup>People's hopes began to rise, and they began to wonder whether John perhaps might be the Messiah. <sup>16</sup>So John said to all of them, “I baptize you with water, but someone is coming who is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to untie his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy

**Readings for Sunday, January 13, 2019**  
**Baptism of the Lord**  
**Woodbury United Methodist Church**

Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>He has his winnowing shovel with him, to thresh out all the grain and gather the wheat into his barn; but he will burn the chaff in a fire that never goes out.”

<sup>21</sup>After all the people had been baptized, Jesus also was baptized. While he was praying, heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my own dear Son. I am pleased with you.”

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**