

MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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9:15 AM - January 12, 2025 - Baptism of Our Lord

ALIVE! Worship Service

INTRODUCTION

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

Down Galilee's Slow Roadways



1 Down Gal - i - lee's slow road - ways a strang - er trav - eled on
2 A - ris - ing from the riv - er he saw the heav - ens torn;
3 We too have found a road - way; it led us to this place.



from Naz - a - reth to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John.
it seemed the sky so o - pen re - vealed the Spir - it's form.
We all have had to trav - el in search of hope and grace.



He went down to the wa - ters like sol - dier, scribe, and slave,
The ho - ly dove de - scend - ed a - mid a glo - rious voice:
But now be - side this wa - ter a - gain a voice is heard.



but there with - in the riv - er the sign was birth and grave.
"You are my own be - lov - ed, my child, my heart, my choice."
"You are my own, my cho - sen, be - lov - ed of your Lord."

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: MERLE'S TUNE, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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Music © 1983 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

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Take Me to the Water

1 Take me to the wa - ter. Take me to the wa -
 2 I love Je - sus. I love Je -
 3 He's my Sav - ior. He's my Sav -
 4 Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah. Glo - ry hal - le - lu -

ter. Take me to the wa - ter to be bap - tized.
 sus. I love Je - sus, yes, I do.
 ior. He's my Sav - ior, yes, he is.
 jah. Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah to be bap - tized.

This African American spiritual sums up the commitment of a candidate for baptism: the request for the rite, an expression of motivation, and a succinct affirmation of faith. The widening melodic lines build anticipation and give weight to the final phrase of each stanza.

Baptized and Set Free



- 1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956

Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner

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PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYERS

KYRIE

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

BAPTISM

ELW p. 227

Baptismal candidates:

KateLynn Marie Parker
Austin Anthony Parker

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, . . . with - out end. A - men.



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, . . . with - out end. A - men.



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, . . . with - out end. A - men.



As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be. A - men.

Text: Paul M. Vasile, b. 1976, based on the Gloria Patri
Music: GLORY TO GOD (VASILE), Paul M. Vasile
Text and music © Paul M. Vasile, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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A READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

¹ But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

² 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.

³ For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.


I give Egypt as your ransom,
 Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
⁴ Because you are precious in my sight,
 and honored, and I love you,
 I give people in return for you,
 nations in exchange for your life.
⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you;
 I will bring your offspring from the east,
 and from the west I will gather you;
⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
 and to the south, "Do not withhold;
 bring my sons from far away
 and my daughters from the end of the earth—
⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
 whom I created for my glory,
 whom I formed and made."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM HYMN


The God of Heaven

C **Em** **F**




1 The God of heav - en thun - ders, whose voice in stri - dent
 2 The des - ert writhes in tem - pest; wind whips the trees to
 3 The might - y God e - ter - nal is to the throne as -

Am **D7** **C**



ech - oes re - sounds a - bove the wa - ters,
 fu - ry; the light - ning splits the for - est
 cend - ed, and we who are God's peo - ple,

Dm **C** **Bb** **C**



and all the world sings, "Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry!"
 and flame dif - fus - es glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry!
 with - in these walls cry, "Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry!"

This rather telegraphic paraphrase of Psalm 29 effectively conveys the psalm's recurring contrast between the mighty voice of God heard in thunder and tempest and the awe-struck response of creation. Above this tumult, God reigns in peace, and the people of God sing praise.

GLORY
 Irregular
 TEXT: Michael Perry, 1973, alt.
 MUSIC: Norman L. Warren, 1973
 Text and Music © 1973 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

GOSPEL

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Wade Roof

ANTHEM

Come to the Water

Foley/arr. Schrader

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY

Jesus Name Above All Names

Je - sus, name a - bove all names, beau - ti - ful

Sav - ior, glo - ri - ous Lord,

Em - man - u - el, God is with us,

bless - ed Re - deem - er, liv - ing Word.

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 12/8 time signature. The notes are: Staff 1: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter). Staff 2: E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter). Staff 3: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter). Staff 4: E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter). Chords are indicated above the staves: D, F#m7, Em7, A, D, F#m7, Em7, A7, (D), G/A A.

Text and music: Patricia Cain

Text and music © 1974 Scripture in Song, a division of Integrity Music, Inc.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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.


BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**


SENDING HYMN

Born, Reborn


Refrain



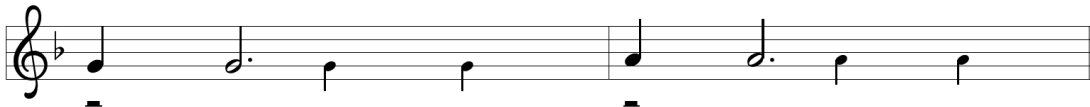
Born, re - born! Born, re - born! Formed, re - formed!




Souls with glad - ness now a - dorned! Born, re - born! Born, re - born!



Formed, re - formed! Praise our God for-ev - er - more!



1 Drown us. Drown us. Raise us. Raise us.
2 Name us. Name us. Heal us. Heal us.



Refrain

Mark us. Mark us. Claim us! Claim us!
Wash us. Wash us. Seal us! Seal us!

Text: Justin Rimbo, b. 1980
Music: BORN, REBORN, Justin Rimbo
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DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

Worship Assistants

Communion assistant *Sherri Moorer*
Lector *Sherri or Rick Moorer*
Greeter *Grace Fuson*
Ushers *Ed & Grace Fuson*

ALIVE! Musicians

<i>Gale McLeod, Co-Director</i>	<i>Clark Ebener</i>	<i>Vaughn Hall</i>
<i>Irelou Moye, Co-Director</i>	<i>Lyndsey Ebener</i>	<i>Ricky Lusk</i>
<i>Beth Branham</i>	<i>Bradley Miller</i>	<i>Ed Redmond</i>
<i>Leah Conrad</i>	<i>David Moye</i>	<i>Roxanne Rich</i>
<i>Brett Ebener</i>	<i>Erin Hall</i>	

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Today's altar flowers are given by Sharon Mattern to the glory of God and in honor of Wayne and Sharon's wedding anniversary on January 12th.

Today's bulletin covers are given by Sharon Mattern to the glory of God and in loving memory of her mother, Evelyn Bland's birthday on January 12th.



FOR FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 29

- ¹ Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- ² Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- ³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- ⁴ The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- ⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- ⁶ the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- ⁷ The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.
- ⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- ⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"
- ¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.
- ¹¹ O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Acts 8:14-17

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Baptism of Jesus

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."
Matthew 3:17 (NIV)



Complete the activity.

1. *A number of words have been removed from the text and placed in a word bank. Use the words from the word bank to fill in the blanks in the text. Write the words in the blanks provided.*

The Baptism of Jesus

Jesus came from Galilee to the _____ river to be baptized by _____. At first, John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be _____ by you," he said.

But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires." So John agreed to baptize _____.

After his baptism, Jesus came up out of the _____. The _____ opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a _____ and settling on him. A _____ from heaven said, "This is my _____, whom I love; with him I am _____."

Matthew 3:13-17 (Paraphrased)

Son	heavens	voice	well-pleased	John
Jesus	baptized	Jordan	water	dove

The Baptism of Jesus

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 3:13-17



T	Y	Y	J	K	E	W	N	U	P	D	N	O	I	D
D	Z	J	J	V	S	E	U	G	J	Z	X	F	X	G
V	Q	V	O	C	X	P	Y	I	A	E	R	J	M	I
O	A	L	I	H	W	F	I	M	S	L	S	D	W	F
I	O	M	K	F	N	U	A	R	Z	H	I	U	P	X
C	M	X	X	B	F	L	E	T	I	U	P	L	S	X
E	H	S	O	N	Z	F	T	J	N	T	Z	W	E	U
A	I	K	R	Z	X	I	J	S	Y	B	E	L	R	E
K	U	A	D	P	S	L	O	B	Y	A	T	T	K	P
C	O	W	S	D	K	L	R	K	C	P	W	H	F	Q
Y	P	D	E	G	A	G	D	W	I	T	A	E	L	M
E	E	S	O	R	P	M	A	E	M	I	T	A	B	S
B	N	K	U	V	H	D	N	B	M	Z	E	V	P	G
S	E	W	R	L	E	Z	O	A	H	E	R	E	A	Z
T	D	P	L	E	A	S	E	D	O	D	L	N	N	Z

GALILEE
OPENED
JORDAN

HEAVEN
DOVE
WATER

VOICE
JOHN
FULFILL

LOVE
PLEASED
BAPTIZED

JESUS
SON
SPIRIT

Welcome to Mt. Tabor. We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us today! If you are a visitor, please fill out and return the attendance card in your pew rack so we may have a record of your attendance. Our ushers and greeters will be glad to answer any questions you may have about our worship service. We hope that you will experience the presence of the Risen Christ today!

Lord Teach Us To Pray:

As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the following members of our church family, who celebrate the anniversary of their baptism this week: Steve Hamilton Courtney Sox, Beau Wright, Patti Gobbel, Tammy O'Quinn, Augusta Anderson, Bonnie King Carol Glance, Gale McLeod, Cindy Edge, Mason Edge, Kim Smith Redmond, Foster Rich Hannah Williams, Pat Watts, Catherine Latham, Katelyn Hilton, Reed Glass.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Linda Price, Elise Helms, John Payne, Kim Pittman, Lynda Mason
Bruce Merchant, Betty Wise, Victoria Marchant, Dennis Rybicki, Sr.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Rachel Bundrick, Al & Judy Jordan, Luther Swicegood, Ron Hutto, Sandra Baker
Drewby McQuillen, Mary Davis, Alice Pollock, Jimmy Williams, Mona Myers
Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Dennis Rybicki Jr., Emma Lou Easley, Paul Addy
Paul & Jeanie Jacobs, Herman Bouknight, Jane Sexton, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Allan Oliver, John Holland, Tonia Boland, Misty Smith, Pastor Kenneth Taylor
Rawlins McCloy & Family, Mark Horne, Willie Beason, John Woods, Jimmy Mitchell
David Baldwin, Salvador Brau, Deidre Huckabee Brau, Falynn Rickards, William Wood
Pat Redmond, Mark Fuller, Chris Holley, Johnny Smith, Jack Hyde, Teddy Bowden
Jackson Bell, Pam Player, Nancy & Emily Waugh, Becky & Phil Frederick
Laura Ann Merrill, Kim Coker, Grace Kelly Chuck Backman, Michelle Roe, Beth Murphy
Justin "Cody" Spires, Billy Holton, Barbara Kohr, Jenny Mack, Tommy Cambell, Niko Bosley
Angela Livingston, Anne Moye, Isabelle Sundlie

Members of Mt. Tabor Serving in the Military:

Adam Davis, Samuel Davis, Scott Hash, Alex Morris

Family and Loved Ones Serving in the Military:

Josh Watson, Jacob Henry Burgan, Caleb Neff

The Family Of:

William Bouknight, Ike McCravy, Nancy Kennerly

Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music