

January 10th & 11th – Baptism of Our Lord

A As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

A Steadfast God, give courage to your servant church. Heal our divisions and unite us in mission. Uphold our lay leaders, missionaries, pastors, and bishops, and all who proclaim hope in a broken world. Continue to walk alongside those who walk for peace. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

A Restoring God, cleanse the life-giving waters of rivers, seas, and springs. Use us to bring health to the Mississippi River, and so many others around us. Create in us an urgent desire to preserve the beauty and bounty of your good creation. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

A Righteous God, you guide the nations. Reconcile warring enemies and end cycles of violent retribution. Defend the rights of prisoners, detainees, and all who flee from persecution. Sustain international aid workers and peacemakers. We remember the people of Venezuela. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

A Compassionate God, you care for all in distress. Provide safety and support for those seeking asylum or in need of shelter. Be near to the dying, and comfort all who are grieving or ill *especially Linda, Paula* and all those whose names we now lift silently or aloud. (pause) Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

A Loving God, awaken the gifts of the Spirit in this congregation, that we may serve Christ by loving one another, our neighbors, and our enemies. We pray for travelers and those who are homebound. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

A We continue to lift our call committee and our synod before you as they seek to find a pastor to answer your call here at Zion. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Promising God, in baptism we die and rise with Christ. We give thanks for those who have gone before us, and we trust that we will join them in your everlasting peace. We pause to remember their names. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

P Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.
Amen.