



Sunday, January 11, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Baptism of Our Lord



Pastor Erik Allen

“Energized By the Spirit”

# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

## Prelude

“Brightest and Best”

Robert Hobby

## Gathering Song

Way Maker

## Call to Worship

P: Come, you who are weary, you who have been bruised by life, you whose flame has flickered in the winds of the world.

C: **We come, longing to be renewed.**

P: The Holy One who stretches out the heavens is stretching us now—stretching our hearts toward courage, our hands toward compassion, our lives toward justice.

C: **We open ourselves to be stretched into new life.**

P: A voice from heaven says to us, as it said to Jesus: You are my beloved. This Spirit rests upon us, too.

C: **We are God’s Beloved, called to be a part of God’s justice.**

P: Come, let us remember who we are.

C: **Let us worship God with joy.**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

*(pass the peace as you feel comfortable)*

## Song

Baptized In Water

## Remembrance of Baptism

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.*

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Source of Life and Breath of love.

C: **Amen.**

P: In this season of Epiphany, we remember that God’s light is not hidden. It shines for all people, drawing us in, calling us by name, and meeting us where we are. At the font, we remember who we are and whose we are.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

We give thanks for the gift of water—water that hovered over creation, water that set limits to chaos and carried a covenant of mercy, water that led people from bondage into freedom. In the river Jordan, you named Jesus as your beloved and sent your Spirit to rest upon him. In these same waters, you name us beloved too and claim us as your own.

**C: We are God's beloved. All that we have and all that we are belongs to God.**

P: In these life giving waters, you promise that death does not win, that love endures, and that new beginnings are always possible. This water reminds us that we are held, guided, and never abandoned.

**C: God's light goes before us. God's Spirit is the light given to us, and the light we see in others.**

P: People of God, remember your baptism. You were sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever—claimed in love, named for mercy, and sent for the sake of the world.

**C: We remember our baptism. We trust the promise. We give thanks to God for all of it.**

P: Let us pray. Holy God, shining light and flowing grace, renew us in your promise throughout this season. When the path ahead feels unclear, give us courage to take the next faithful step. When your light unsettles us, give us trust to follow where you lead. Send us out— beloved, claimed, and guided— ready to reflect your love in a world still learning how to see.

**C: Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

P: Almighty God, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*please be seated*

**Lesson** Acts 10:34-43

**Gospel** Matthew 3:13-17

### **Gospel Response**

P: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Children's Message**

Pastor Erik

### **Sermon**

"Energized By the Spirit"

Pastor Erik

### **Hymn**

Spirit of Gentleness

ELW 396

## The Apostles' Creed

**C:** I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.**

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

*please be seated*

## The Offering

**The Offering Response**

Brightest and Best of the Stars  
(vs 4)

ELW 303

## Offertory Prayer

**P:** God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C:** Amen.

**Prayers of the Church** (*the congregation joins in speaking the first names of those for whom we pray.*)

Members: Judy, Marion, Kelly, Jeff, Lee, Marj, Vickie

Family & Friends: Charles, Mark, Faizah, Darin, Tom, Chris, Chuck, Sylvia, Bill, Ken,  
Dana, Marie, Mary, Carol, Susan, Bob, Mark

## Communion

## Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

**C:** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen!

### Distribution

*All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome. Those who do not wish to receive may come forward for a blessing. Please let your server know if you desire a gluten-free wafer.*

**P:** God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

**C:** Amen.

*please be seated*

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### Benediction

**P:** May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ✠ bless you now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

### Song

Walkin' In the Light

### Sending

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C:** Thanks be to God!

### Postlude

"How Lovely Shines the Morning Star"

Jeffrey Blersch

# Announcements

## Silverbox Deliveries

Our next rotation is this Friday and Saturday. We could use a little more help on Saturday. Thank you to all who donated cereal! We could still use some more peanut butter and spaghetti sauce. See Hans Loyda with questions.

## Euchre Night

It is time for some more fun and fellowship at Euchre Night hosted by the Fraziers.

Where: KOG Fellowship Hall

When: Saturday night January 24 at 7:00 PM

What to bring:

1. A snack to share
2. Your non-alcoholic drink
3. Feel free to bring your friends and neighbors
4. Beginners welcome

## Devotions for Lent

We've ordered "Love Outpoured" booklets for Lent. "Love Outpoured" focuses on portions of the apostle Paul's letter to the Romans. In words that continue to speak to us today, Paul lays out foundational beliefs for a life of faith in Christian community. With diverse voices and pastoral wisdom, the daily devotions encompass Ash Wednesday through Easter. Keep an eye out and pick one up on the table in front of the Sanctuary or the Gathering Place Desk.

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

Members

Kelly Baugh

Lee Bucher

Marion Loyda

Jeff Minich

Judy Naaman

Vickie Samson

Marj Schott

## Family & Friends

Charles James Anderson, Tom Anderson, Bob Bohn, Marcia Duhm, Mary Hall, Carol Happ, Susan Haywood, Brenda Ingle, Ken North, Billy Ross,

Chuck Sousa, Darin & Faizah, Chris, Wendy, Sylvia

## WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

### **Theme of the Week:** The Youthfulness of Jesus

Jesus redeemed the whole extent of our human lives, from birth to death. Nothing pertaining to our humanity is left untouched by Jesus' life-giving flesh. God be praised! Throughout His life Jesus offered up His obedience to God as our own. On the cross, He offered up His sufferings under the Law's punishments as our own. For Jesus' sake, God loves us as dear children, whether we are newly born or nearing the last moments of this life.

### **SUNDAY SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:41–52 “Learning Trust and Faithfulness”**

In this story, the Holy Spirit invites us to trust in Jesus' faithful love toward God and neighbor. The world often treats faith as a choice between loving God or loving people. But in Jesus, these are never in conflict. When Mary and Joseph lost Jesus, he remained in his Father's house, listening and learning. In doing so, he lived out trust in God. When they found him, Jesus did not resist them, but returned home and honored their authority. In this way, Jesus shows us what faithful living looks like: devotion to God and care for others held together. Through baptism and faith, Jesus' faithfulness becomes ours. We are freed to trust God and to live patiently and lovingly with those placed in authority over us. Gracious God, help us trust in the righteousness of Christ as our life and salvation. Amen.

### **MONDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 13 “How Long?”**

Bringing our sorrow before God is not a sign of weakness; it is an act of faith. We often hide our pain from others, fearing judgment or misunderstanding. Yet unspoken grief can weigh heavily on our hearts. At times it feels as though God is distant or silent. The psalmist gives us permission to speak honestly, naming grief, fear, and longing without pretending they do not exist. In prayer, we place our pain into the hands of the God who knows suffering from the inside, revealed in Jesus Christ. Remember the cross. Remember God's steadfast love made known through Christ's suffering and resurrection. God does not abandon us—in this we find our hope! “I will sing to the Lord, for the Lord has dealt generously with me.” Amen.

### **TUESDAY SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:1–5 “Living by God's Mercy”**

Our old selves resist giving up control, seeking recognition and approval even at the expense of others. But God's mercy in Christ reshapes our lives. We are invited to offer ourselves as living sacrifices—not to earn God's love, but in response to the grace we have already received. In Christ, we learn humility, discovering our place within the body of Christ where each member belongs and is valued. We live this way not by our own strength, but by trusting the mercy of God revealed in Jesus, who humbled himself even to death on a cross. Holy God, by your mercy, shape our lives for service and love. Amen.

**WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:1–3 “Good News for All”**

Jesus regularly gathered with others to hear God’s Word and to worship. On this day in Nazareth, he read from the prophet Isaiah and boldly declared that the promise was being fulfilled in their hearing. Having been anointed by the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus began his public ministry by proclaiming good news to the poor, release to the captives, and hope to the brokenhearted. In him, God’s promise of healing and renewal takes flesh. The year of the Lord’s favor has come! Loving God, open our hearts to receive your Word and follow your Son in faith. Amen.

**THURSDAY SCRIPTURE: Mark 10:13–16 “Receiving the Kingdom Like a Child”**

Jesus reminds us that God’s reign is received, not achieved. Children do not earn love; they trust that it is given. In the same way, faith rests not on our accomplishments, but on God’s grace. Jesus welcomes children, naming them as examples of trust and dependence. As baptized children of God, we live by that same trust, confident that God provides what we need for life and salvation. Gracious God, strengthen our faith to rely on you alone for every good gift. Amen.

**FRIDAY SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 6:1–4 “Living Love in Daily Life”**

Jesus lived faithfully within his family, honoring both God and those entrusted with his care. In Christ, we learn that love of God is made visible in love for others. Within households and communities, faith takes shape through patience, care, guidance, and mutual respect. All our callings—to love, serve, and nurture one another—are lived out in Christ. Faithful God, thank you for the gift of family in all its forms. Help us live in love, grounded in you. Amen.

**SATURDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 86 “Held by God’s Mercy”**

When we cry out to God, especially in moments of deep need, we discover again that God is gracious and compassionate. No failure, shame, or guilt can separate us from the love made known in Jesus Christ. Through the cross, God’s mercy has already claimed us. Even when life feels overwhelming, we trust that God hears our prayers and responds with steadfast love. Nothing brings God greater joy than to restore and comfort those who turn to God in hope. You, O Lord, have helped and comforted me. Amen.