

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TEMPLE CITY

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BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

The Spirit-Marked Servant

January 11, 2026



AS WE GATHER

All people are descendants of the first man, Adam. After the worldwide flood of God's judgment of sin, Noah and his sons became the progenitors of all mankind. It was of the lineage of Shem (Genesis 11) that the man Abram was born. The descendants of Abram/Abraham were named Hebrews or Jews, after Judah, one of Jacob's sons; this naming pertained to all of Israel after the Babylonian exile. To this day, they are referred to as God's "chosen people" after the words of Moses: "For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth" (Deuteronomy 7:6). They were chosen to be the lineage of the Messiah, the deliverer, the Christ. Faithful to His promise, God took on flesh "of the house and lineage of David" (Luke 2:4) as the incarnate Son of God and Son of Mary of Nazareth.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord" Hymnal page 405, verses 1 and 2

1. To Jordan's river came our Lord,
The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,
The God from God, the Light from Light,
The Lord of glory, pow'r and might.

2. The Savior came to be baptized—
The Son of God in flesh disguised—
To stand beneath the Father's will
And all His righteousness fulfill.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 43:4; Psalm 117*

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God,

People: **to God my exceeding joy.**

Pastor: Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples!

People: **For great is His steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Jesus Christ is God's chosen one, who came and who comes again today to call everyone to salvation from sin and death and who makes all who are baptized in His name to be the chosen sons and daughters of God. Marked by the sacred waters of Holy Baptism, let us receive God's assurance and promise of forgiveness.

People: **Almighty God, our dear Father in heaven, in Holy Baptism You have marked us with the sign of the holy cross upon our foreheads and upon our hearts to mark us as people of Your choosing to be redeemed by Christ the crucified. Open our eyes to Your light of freedom and forgiveness and to Your calling of us to be Your own chosen people of Your eternal kingdom.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit, has forgiven you all your sins. God strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

People: **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT *Psalm 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a*

Pastor: Behold My servant, whom I uphold, My chosen, in whom My soul delights.

People: I will tell of the decree:

**The LORD said to Me, “You are My Son; today I have begotten You.
Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage,
and the ends of the earth Your possession.**

Pastor: You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”
Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

People: **Serve the LORD with fear,
and rejoice with trembling,
for His wrath is quickly kindled.**

Pastor: Blessed are all who take refuge in Him.

All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was
in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: Behold My servant, whom I uphold, My chosen, in whom My soul delights.

KYRIE Hymnal page 168

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise
let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN

“Baptized into Your Name Most Holy”

Hymnal page 590

1. Baptized into Your name most holy,
O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
Among Your saints, Your chosen host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin,
Your Spirit now shall live within.

2. My loving Father, here You take me
To be henceforth Your child and heir.
My faithful Savior, here You make me
The fruit of all Your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me
When threat'ning clouds around I see.

3. My faithful God, You fail me never;
Your promise surely will endure.
O cast me not away forever
If words and deeds become impure.
Have mercy when I come defiled;
Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.

4. All that I am and love most dearly—
Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely;
Help me Your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own
Serve any will but Yours alone.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 42:1–9

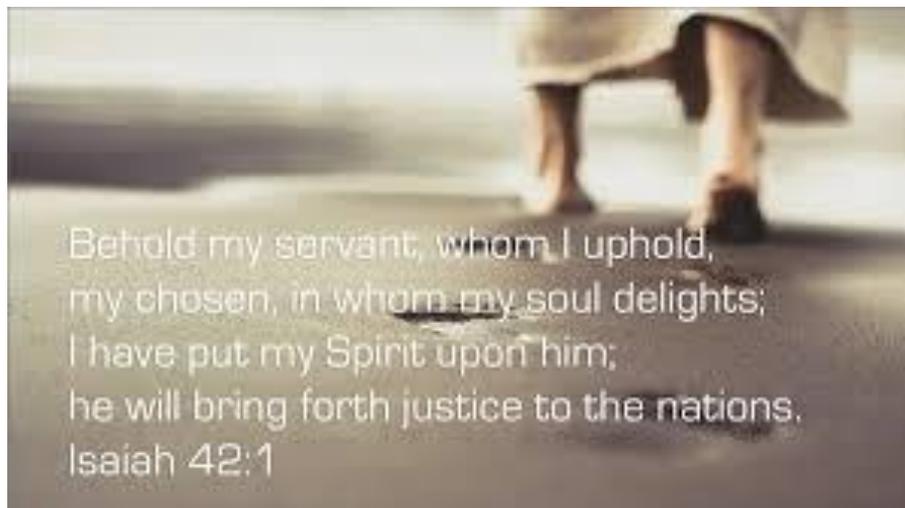
(The LORD's chosen servant)

42 ¹ Behold My servant, whom I uphold,
My chosen, in whom My soul delights;
I have put My Spirit upon Him;
He will bring forth justice to the nations.

² He will not cry aloud or lift up His voice,
or make it heard in the street;
³ a bruised reed He will not break,
and a faintly burning wick He will not quench;
He will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴ He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till He has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for His law.
⁵ Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
⁶ “I am the Lord; I have called You in righteousness;
I will take You by the hand and keep You;
I will give You as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
⁷ to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
⁸ I am the LORD; that is My name;
My glory I give to no other,
nor My praise to carved idols.
⁹ Behold, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
I tell you of them.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM *Psalm 29; antiphon: v. 3*

- 29** ¹ Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength
² Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.
³ The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over many waters.
⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
⁶ He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
⁷ The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare,
and in His temple all cry, "Glory!"
¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as King forever.
¹¹ May the LORD give strength to His people!
May the LORD bless His people with peace!

EPISTLE *Romans 6:1–11*

(Dead to sin, alive to God)

6 ¹ What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. ¹⁰ For the death He died He died to sin, once for all, but the life He lives He lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 3:13–17*

(The Baptism of Jesus)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately He went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on Him; ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” Hymnal page 411

1. I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

2. I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,

And show me the way to the Father. [Refrain]

Refrain:

In Him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

3. I’m looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,

We shall know the joy of Jesus. [Refrain]

CHILDREN / YOUTHFUL MINISTRY MOMENT

SERMON

CREED

Apostles' Creed

People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth

**And 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 thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: All glory and praise to You, O God, for You have created all mankind in Your image to live in Your love and fellowship forever in Your eternal kingdom. By Your design, You have defeated the devil and the power of sin and death by the sacrifice of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. He became Your chosen one in His Baptism in the waters of the Jordan River and by Your Holy Spirit, in order that all who are baptized in His name and by the same Spirit may be restored to newness of life as Your chosen sons and daughters. Help us to extend the same invitation of Your mercy and grace to all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Grant that Your church be guided in true faith and worship by faithful pastors and shepherds of Your flock, that we may sing Your praises joyfully now and in eternity. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Help us to live with integrity as people of Your own possession, guarding us from all evil and leading us safely in the ways of Your good and gracious will. Give to all in the authority of government a desire for good order to the promotion of freedom and faithfulness to the ways of peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: To all who are yet enslaved by the darkness of sin and separation from You, cause the light of Your salvation to break forth that many may hear of Your deliverance and the hope of life and love by faith in the Savior and be drawn by the Spirit to Your covenant of Holy Baptism. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Grant healing and relief to all who are sick, homebound, or in any need or distress, that they may know the power of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We remember all the saints who have gone before us, especially Oscar Tschopp and Pastor Scott Ganas. Give us a heart of wisdom that when our last hour comes, we are granted a blessed end in the life of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Take My Life and Let It Be” Hymnal page 783, verses 3 and 4

3. Take my voice and let me sing
Always only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.

4. Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9–13)*

**People: 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN “Beautiful Savior” Hymnal page 537

1. Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2. Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer;
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

3. Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

4. Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Song of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine!

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 1.
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Pastoral Care:

Please contact –

Pastor Frank Matthews at: (213) 247-8838 or no1redder@gmail.com

BLESSED TO BE SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Pastor Frank Matthews
Greeter: Diane Oberlander
Reader: Christine Geltz
Musician: Christine Geltz
Ushers: Donald Lammerts, Dave Lassanke, and Craig Boehne

PRAYERS OF CARE & CONCERN FOR OUR FLC FAMILY

Monica Ganas: Please continue to extend prayers to her family of their unexpected loss, and the dealing with their grief.

Judy Gunther: Please continue to pray for her healing.

Bob Lujan: Prayer for Christine Geltz's friend as he is dealing with many health issues.

Rachel Witcher: Please continue to extend healing prayers for her wrist as she is recovering slowly.

Perry Singleton, Jan and Keith Edmunds: More prayers for Pastor Frank Matthews' friends and cousin as they continue to deal with many health issues.

Betty Nelson: Pray for this shut-in member as she continues to deal with the challenges of aging.

Gregg Ruiz: Please pray for his family during their time of grief. Pray also for Penny (Gregg's sister-in-law), as well.



VOTERS' MEETING 2026

Join us on January 25th, 2026 (Sunday), at 11:00 a.m. for the annual Voters' Meeting. The budget for 2026 will also be on the agenda, along with any other topics for discussion and voting. A light lunch shall also be provided.

TECH FRIDAYS

Members & community are invited to come with their smart phone, laptop, Chrome Book, iPad etc. to learn more about their devices and receive help from Foothill Prep students. Some public libraries have regularly scheduled hours with volunteers helping senior citizens and others with technology challenges. First Lutheran will have high school volunteers eager to help you on Fridays from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please let Pat Grabowski know if you are interested in this opportunity. Here are the following dates: January 23rd, February 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, March 6th, 13th, 27th, April 17th, 24th, May 1st and 29th.





Sunday Worship at Home

Although the Lutheran Hour no longer airs on KBRT 740 AM, you can find other airings at: lhm.org/guide.

Also, listeners can hear the weekly sermons whenever and wherever they are, and daily devotions are available which come in a daily email to read or listen to. Just go to:

<https://familytalktoday.com/programguidedaily>.

Or you can listen to Lutheran Hour podcasts any time by going to: <https://www.youtube.com/@LutheranHourMin>.

If you have a TV and can get DirectTV, Channel 377 you can view Worship Anew at: 8:30 a.m. on Sundays. This service is filmed at our Fort Wayne Seminary in Indiana.

You may also access or review the sermons online by going to: <https://firstlutherantc.org/Media>

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

SUNDAY	TODAY – JANUARY 11
9:30 a.m.	Fellowship time
9:45 a.m.	Bible Study and Sunday School

NEXT WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

SUNDAY	JANUARY 18
9:30 a.m.	Fellowship time
9:45 a.m.	Bible Study and Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Board of Directors meeting



THE
Baptism
OF THE
Lord