January 8, 2023 The Baptism of Our Lord

Opening Hymn: Baptized into Your Name Most Holy LSB 590



Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Text and tune: Public domain

Holy Baptism (8am) (10:30am continues on pg. 7)

Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

The pastor addresses each candidate:

- **P** How are you named?
- R Luke Edward Bremke

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:

- <u>Luke</u>, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your

 → forehead and upon your

 → heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.
- P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Luke according to Your boundless mercy and bless him with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in him, which has been inherited from Adam and which he himself has committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that he be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your

name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, he would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Enrollment of Sponsors

- From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.
- **P** Is it your intention to serve Luke as sponsors in the Christian faith?
- **R** *Yes, with the help of God.*
- P God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.
- C Amen.
- P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

The pastor places his hands on the head of the candidate, and the congregation joins in praying:

Lord's Prayer

- C 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.
- P The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even

 forevermore.
- C Amen.

The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:

- **P** Luke, do you renounce the devil?
- R Yes, I renounce him.
- **P** Do you renounce all his works?
- R Yes, I renounce them.
- **P** Do you renounce all his ways?
- R Yes, I renounce them.
- **P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?
- R Yes, I believe.
- P Do you believe 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?
- R Yes, I believe.

- **P** Do you 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?
- R Yes, I believe.
- **P** Luke, do you desire to be baptized?
- **R** Yes, I do.

The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:

- Luke Edward Bremke, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

- The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life + everlasting.
- C Amen.

The pastor may place a white garment on the newly baptized while saying:

Receive this white garment to show that you have been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covers all your sin. So shall you stand without fear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the inheritance prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:

Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

The newly baptized may be welcomed with the following:

- A In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brother in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.
- **C** Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Luke the new birth in Holy Baptism and made him a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as he has now become Your child, You would keep him in his baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure he may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

- C Amen.
- Lord and Giver of life, look with kindness upon the father and mother of Luke and upon all our parents. Let them ever rejoice in the gift You have given them. Enable them to be teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own Baptism that they may share eternally with their children the salvation You have given them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.
- Peace

 → be with you.
- C Amen.

All return to their places.

Confession and Absolution Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3-4; Luke 18:13

- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

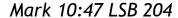
Absolution

[John 20:19-23] LSB 203

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.



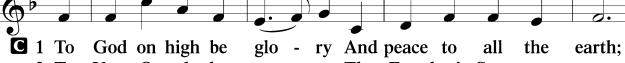




C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 204



2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa-ther's Son, we pray; 3 For You a-lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth! O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way. For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- 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.
 - C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 42.

¹Behold 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. ²He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; ³a bruised reed he will not break. and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. ⁵Thus 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,

⁷to open the eyes that are blind,

to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

8I am the LORD; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to carved idols.

9Behold, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
I tell you of them."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle Romans 6:1-11

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 6.

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We 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.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We 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. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand



P Alleluia. You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia.



Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶And 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; ¹⁷and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

> And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Announcements

Hymn of the Day: Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered



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Offering

Note: Please continue to place your offerings into the plates as you enter or leave church as we will not be passing the plates through the congregation. The offering plates will be brought forward at this time to remind us that our offerings are given in thankfulness to Him for His blessings to each of us.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For all the baptized, that having been united to Christ's death and resurrection through water and the Word, we may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit and equipped with His gifts to live the new life given us by God's gracious act, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For all who proclaim Jesus Christ, that through their godly message, many would repent of their sins and join Him in His heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For families, that the Lord would bless all parents, especially mothers, to joyfully acknowledge the gifts of spouse, children and home; and for the elderly, the widowed and the orphaned, that our heavenly Father would show forth His grace to them so they would not feel alone, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For the rulers of the nations, [especially _______,] that they would submit to the preaching of God's Word and acknowledge Jesus as the Christ and true King, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For those threatened by natural disaster, dangerous weather, pestilence, flood or famine, that our God who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, would provide all that is needed for this body and life, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.

- P For those in need of healing and deliverance, [including _______,] that God would provide healing, restoration and justice according to His good and gracious will; and that He would cause us to rejoice in the everlasting faithfulness of Christ, His Servant, who preserves the bruised reed and the faintly burning wick, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For all who partake of Holy Communion today, that living as those who have been crucified with Christ in Baptism and raised to newness of life, we would receive with repentant hearts His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- Lord God, heavenly Father, You have called Your Church from every tribe and nation. Grant that Your people throughout the world would rejoice in the death and resurrection of Christ and live as those who have died and risen with Him in Holy Baptism; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 208

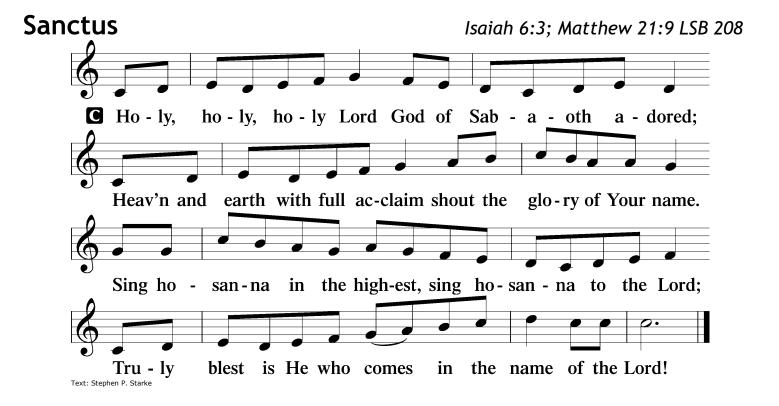
C Amen.

Preface

Service of the Sacrament

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and

archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

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.

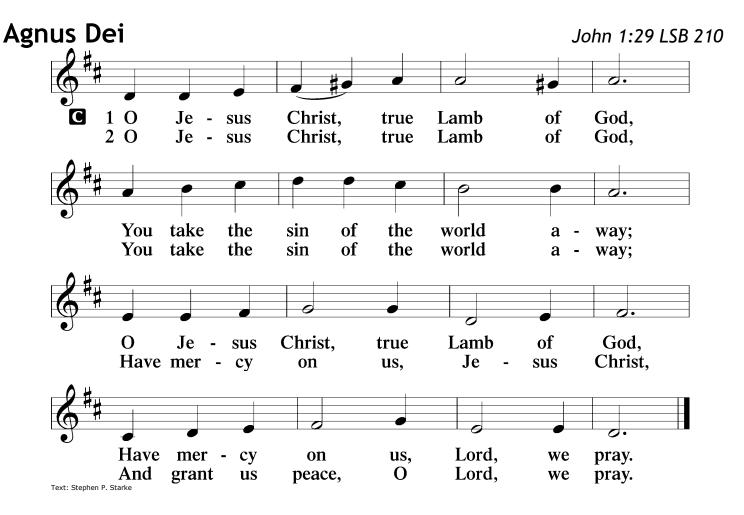
The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

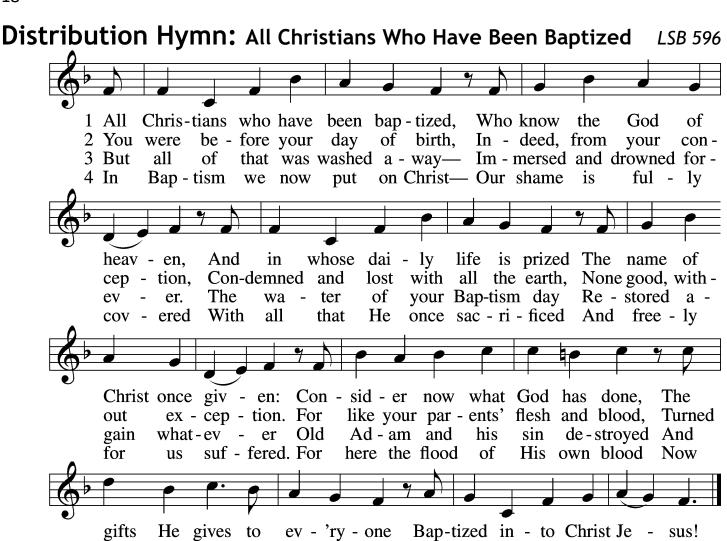
- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



Sit

Distribution

- If—for any reason—you prefer to receive communion while remaining at your seat, please let an usher know as you arrive so that we can bring communion to you.
- Directions
 - o Ushers will dismiss the congregation beginning from the back of the sanctuary.
 - o Fill the communion rail beginning from the lectern side (left).
 - Kneel or stand as you are able.
 - Pastor will distribute the body of Christ followed by the assistants with the blood of Christ (individual or common cup).
 - Once you have received the body and blood of Christ, dismiss yourself and return to your seat via the Fellowship Hall through the side door.
 - If you have received an individual cup, place it in the basket provided on your way out the door.
- Gluten-free communion bread is available. Simply ask pastor for this option as you come forward for communion.
- A low/no-alcohol option is also available. On the tray of individual cups are several
 plastic cups that contain juice with a drop of wine included. This dilute amount of wine
 uses the element with which the Lord's Supper was instituted (wine) while providing an
 alternative if needed. Please feel free to see Pastor or an Elder if you have any
 questions.



in - ward from the high-est good, You con-stant-ly

sin - ful selves em-ployed Ac - cord-ing

ho - ly, right, and good Be - fore our heav'n-ly

5 O Christian, firmly hold this gift
And give God thanks forever!
It gives the power to uplift
In all that you endeavor.
When nothing else revives your soul,
Your Baptism stands and makes you
whole

makes us

And then in death completes you.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. Jon D. Vieker, 1961
Tune: Eltich Cristlich Idler, 1524, Wittenberg
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Tune: Public domain

6 So use it well! You are made new—
In Christ a new creation!
As faithful Christians, live and do
Within your own vocation,
Until that day when you possess
His glorious robe of righteousness
Bestowed on you forever!

to

de - nied Him.

our na - ture.

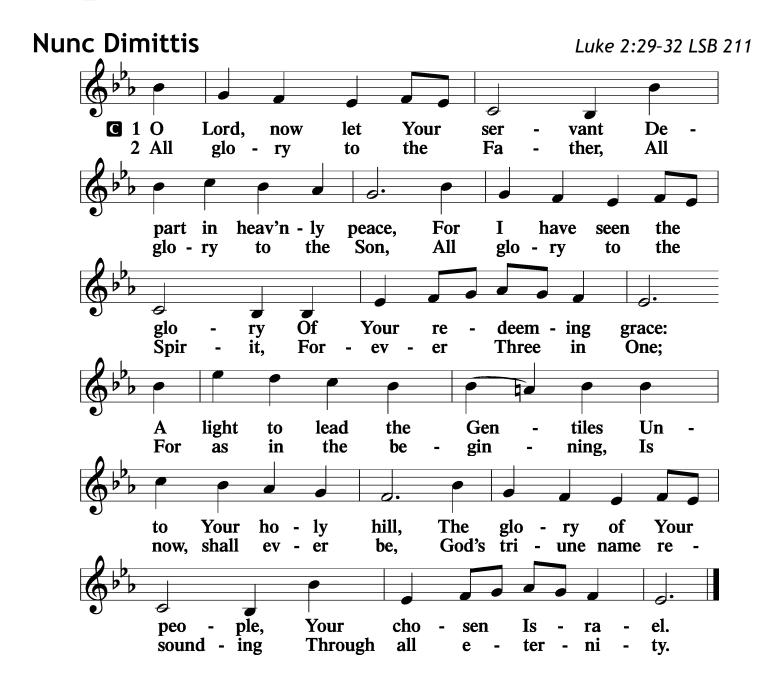
Distribution Hymn: 616 Baptismal Waters Cover Me LSB 616 1 Bap - tis - mal As Ι wa ters er cov me ap bod - y 2 I look to Christ up - on the tree, His 3 Lord, may Your wound heal - ing ed hand Your im - part shep - herd 4 From Your own mouth comes forth Your word; a 5 Bap - tis - mal wa Christ's wound - ed ters cov er me; My proach ed Fa - ther's mer bend knee; on cy bro there for I Him ken me; lay be - fore bro Your ken heart; love a - lone can to my but You heard; Through him Your hand speaks, are now hand has free. Held in my Fa ther's set me For griev - ous thought and deed. plead, sins of here all My dark - est crets from with - in. my sin, se joy You ful - ly. form in Α heart that serves me For - giv - ing sin, de stroy stretch - es out, ing doubt. With joy His grace. praise Him for Hymn: Once in the Blest Baptismal Waters LSB 598 1 Once the blest bap in - tis - mal wa ters put on bod - y His blest 2 His and His blood I've tak In en 3 And thus live in God die with con - tent ed And Now num-bered with God's sons made Him mine; Christ and and Sup - per, feast di - vine; Now Ι shall nev - er he for out thought of fear; My soul has to God's plans con di - vine. daugh - ters, I share His peace and love For His. He sak - en. am and is mine. I sent - ed, For through His Son faith clear. my Refrain O God, for Je-sus' sake I pray Your peace may bless my dy-ing day.

Stand

The Dismissal

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart

 → in peace.
- C Amen.



Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1 LSB 212

- **A** Let us bless the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- 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.
- C Amen.



THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

9:15 AM	Bible Class
9:15 AM	Sunday School
12-2:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
6-7:30 PM	Confirmation
5-7:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
7:00 PM	Elder Meeting
10:00 AM	Bible Study
11:30 AM	Quilters
	9:15 AM 12-2:00 PM 6-7:30 PM 5-7:00 PM 7:00 PM 10:00 AM

BAPTISM today (8am) we welcome into our church family Luke Edward Bremke through the washing of Holy Baptism. Luke's parents are Kyle & Cassie Bremke. Luke was born November 17, 2022. His sponsors are Alan & Meghan Smith. God bless this child and his family.

E-MAIL / PRINT COMMUNICATION SURVEY Look on the back of the Attendance Slip for today! Please indicate for us how you'd like to receive your Newsletter and your end-of-the-year offering statement. Email? Print? Both? Circle which one and be sure to include your email address. Print copies will be placed in your church mailbox.

<u>POINSETTIA PLANTS</u> anyone who is interested - you are welcomed to grab a plant (located in the entryway) to take home with you today!

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY: NEW TIMES AVAILABLE

Saturdays, January 14th & January 21st, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM. To sign up, see Len Maver in the narthex between services and after late service. Photos will be taken off to the side of the sanctuary behind the organ. Each household will receive an email of the digital photo that you can use however you'd like. Questions? Contact Len Maver at 440-781-9009. PLEASE NOTE If you would like your photo in the directory and you were unable to schedule an appointment, you may email the church office your photo file at: secretary@spvc.org by Wednesday, February 1st.

EPIPHANY POT-LUCK PARTY & DE-CHRISTMAS DECORATING A very big and sincere thank you to all of those who helped-out or brought in a dish to share!

<u>THANK YOU</u> On behalf of MMF, heartfelt gratitude for your caring, giving, and generosity to help make medically fragile children and their families enjoy Christmas. A feeling of hope, love, joy – and moments of memories during a very difficult and trying time for them. Thank you and God Bless You!

WORSHIP BULLETINS & ATTENDANCE SLIPS You're encouraged to take home your worship bulletins (use the scriptures, hymns and prayers for your own devotions!). Please use the blue recycle tub that is located in the hallway as you leave the sanctuary to place ONLY the bulletins (including Large Print as we do recycle the black combs) and the unused attendance slips. Thank you.

GOOD STEWARDSHIP Please take a moment to collect your Worship folders, filled out or blank attendance slips, used tissues, and any other items left in the pews after leaving Worship services. Thank you kindly!

<u>PORTALS OF PRAYER</u> the 2023 Jan-March devotion booklets are available on the Welcome Table and in the Narthex hallway, please take your copy home today.

YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP Families with young children are invited to join in fellowship! Dates and times are to be decided, most likely first a weekday morning playdate. If you are interested in that or other gatherings, sign-up at the Welcome Center or contact Sarah Moser at 440-453-0180.

COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor is still providing individual communion opportunities for the foreseeable future.

- 1. Check the posted times for "walk-in" communion below.
- 2. Scheduling an appointment with Pastor at church or in your home.

"Walk-In" times at Church:

- Sundays, 12 2pm
- Tuesdays, 5 7pm

Scheduling an appointment for communion at church or in your home:

- To schedule a time other than the walk-in times
 - Call Pastor 440-458-0189
 - Visit <u>www.spvc.org</u> and click "Book with Pastor" to see available times for appointments.

<u>TITHES & OFFERINGS</u> are needed; our Lord still provides for us and we return to Him a portion of His generosity. You have several ways to continue contributing:

- 1. In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM
- 2. Mail your contributions to the church.
- 3. Talk to your bank about "bill-pay" options. They can likely send a check directly to the church on a scheduled basis.
- 4. Visit www.spvc.org and click on "Give Online" you'll be taken to our secure online giving site where you can make a one-time or on-going contribution.

IN-PERSON SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS watch LIVE or On-Demand just like our worship services (YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org) on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

WATCH LIVE OR ON-DEMAND 8:00 AM on Sundays, or on-demand at YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org – on the homepage is a viewer for the livestream (when active) and for the most recent service. Bulletins are available via the link. Select the bulletin for the date of the service you are watching.

<u>PASTORAL CARE</u> Should you desire pastoral care, please contact the church office 330.483.3883, or 330.483.4119 and leave a message for Pastor.

<u>PRAYER REQUESTS</u> can be sent to prayer@spvc.org (also, email there to join the prayer chain and receive all the updates) ... or ... you may fill out the back side of the attendance slip.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at 10:00 AM. Attend in-person or watch the stream live and on-demand.

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE We continue to take offerings to provide relief to Lutheran church partners affected by the war in Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who has shown their generosity.

<u>THRIVENT FINANCIAL</u> If you're an eligible member, please consider directing Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Valley City, OH. 2022 **Choice Dollars expire March 2023,** so it's use it or lose it. You may learn more by visiting: www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice or by calling Thrivent at: 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice." Thank you for helping to support the mission of St. Paul Church.

JANUARY 2023							
	SERVICE	January 1	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29	
		SUNDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY	
		New Year's Day		Communica		Communica	
FLDED	Oa wa	Communion	Tine Medie	Communion Tire Wedle / Steve Kets	Chave Vete / Chaie Dunes	Communion Stave Kata / Chris Duran	
ELDER	8am	I	Tim Wadle	Tim Wadle / Steve Kato	Steve Kato / Chris Duran	Steve Kato / Chris Duran	
	10:30am		Jim Jackson	Sam Jakabcic / Jim Jackson		Sam Jakabcic / Jim Jackson	
USHERS	8am	10:00 AM	David Hesketh	Mark Gordon	Rob Zacharias	Jim Sherry	
	10:30am	One Service	Rich Proeschel	Jay Moser	Joe Bennett	Brian Dearth	
GREETERS	8am		David & Mackenzie Duran	Dean & Beth Bremke	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes	Dean & Beth Bremke	
	10:30am	Tim Walde / Steve Kato	Barb Pijor	Elder	Barb Pijor	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	
ELDER INFO							
Stephen Kato							
330-242-7183							
Tim Wadle							
216-214-7109							
Jim Jackson							
330-391-6393							
Chris Duran							
216-577-5164							
Sam Jakabcic							
216-789-1076							

Prayers for Worship

On entering a church

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

Before worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for His sake. Amen.

After worship

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Before confession and absolution

Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Before communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send me Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

For blessing on the Word

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.