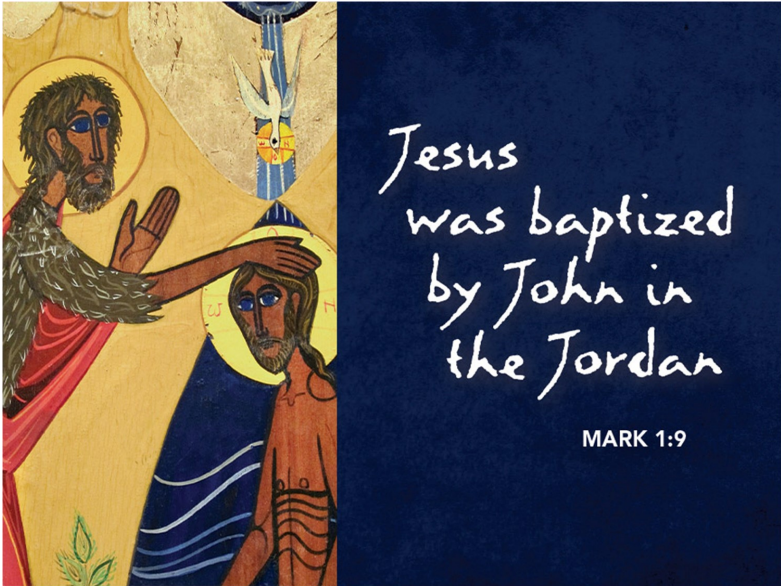


# Baptism of Our Lord

Sunday, January 10, 2021



## TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

408 NORTH SIXTH STREET, ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA 16601

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VISIT TRINITY ONLINE

[TrinityAltoona.com](http://TrinityAltoona.com) | [Facebook.com/TrinityAltoona](https://Facebook.com/TrinityAltoona)

Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Every Member .....	Ministers
Elizabeth Hess .....	Pastor
Ralph Grove .....	Organist
Cindy Finnegan .....	Minister of Music

### Lectors

.....	6:30 PM
.....	8:15 AM
.....	10:45 AM

### Acolytes

.....	6:30 PM
.....	8:15 AM
.....	10:45 AM

### Ushers

.....	6:30 PM
.....	8:15 AM
.....	10:45 AM

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Total donations for the week	\$
Contributions needed every <b>WEEK</b> to meet budget	<u>\$4,987.52</u>
Amount <b>UNDER</b> budget for the week	-\$

## THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRE-WORSHIP MEDITATION:

PASTOR: Let us read together Mark 12:28-31 (the Jesus Rule)

**ALL: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind and with all your strength. Love your neighbor as yourself.**

PASTOR: Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

#### PRELUDE

#### \*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity ☩ one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

C: **Amen**

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

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Loving God,

C: **we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

P: Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of ☩ Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: **Amen**

#### \*ENTRANCE HYMN

#### \*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray....

**C: Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON** Genesis 1:1-5

*Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for us. God created and continues to create new life.*

L: A reading from Genesis

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

L: The word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

**PSALM** Psalm 29

*The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)*

Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. R**

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;  
**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,**

**and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the LORD

bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;**

**the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. R**

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!”

**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;**

**the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

O LORD, give strength to your people;

give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace. **R**

## **SECOND LESSON**      Acts 19:1-7

*In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John’s baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptizes them, the Holy Spirit comes upon them and empowers them with gifts of the Spirit.*

L:      A reading from Acts

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—altogether there were about twelve of them.

L:      The word of the Lord

**C:      Thanks be to God**

*Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the First Chapter

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord**

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ**

## **FOR THE CHILDREN**

### **SERMON**

### **\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

## \*APOSTLE'S CREED

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 into hell.\*

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**

## \*PEACE

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

C: **And also with you.**

*"Each of you shall bring such a gift as he can in proportion to the blessing which the Lord your God has given you" Deuteronomy 16:17*

## OFFERING

### \*THE PRAYERS

A: Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

A: Lord in your mercy

C: **hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

P: Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

**\*THE 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**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**P:** 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:**  A - men

The musical notation shows a treble clef on a five-line staff. The notes are G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), and A4 (quarter), followed by a double bar line. Below the staff, the lyrics 'A - men' are written, with a small square symbol under the 'A'.

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

**\*DISMISSAL**

**P:** Mark 12:28-31

**C:** Love God, Love others.

**\*POSTLUDE**



## **THIS WEEK AT TRINITY!**

*Sunday, January 10— Saturday, January 16, 2020*

Sunday                      9:30 AM                      Live Virtual Service

Monday

Tuesday                      9:00 AM                      Bible Study

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



### **SYNOD NEWSLETTER**

The Synod Council voted to move the Lutheran Letter to an all-digital newsletter. Any congregation member who wishes to continue receiving the newsletter, please send your email address to Michelle Bossler at [Michelle.Bossler@alleghenysynod.com](mailto:Michelle.Bossler@alleghenysynod.com)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are grateful you are joining us today for worship. All who are baptized and receive communion in their home church are welcome to communion with us. In Christ's name we welcome our visitors and ask you to please introduce yourselves to Pastor Hess.



### PASTORAL CARE

Would you like Pastor Eli to visit or call on a loved one that is in the hospital or at home? Take a moment and drop a note in the collection basket; the information will be given to Pastor. After service when talking to members of the congregation she is often told about more than one person in need of a visit so writing it down will give her the necessary information.

Be sure to include the name of the person in need along with where they are and their phone number. Please include your name and phone number, too, so Pastor can contact you if needed.



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Anyone who would like to help out delivering altar flowers to shut-ins please contact Patty Bennett at 944-4823. Ask anyone who has delivered flowers and they will tell you how much the flowers are appreciated.



### ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIP DATES

There is one open date for sponsoring flowers. If you are interested please contact Patty Bennett at 944-4823.

Available date: **April 18, 2021.**

# PRAYER LIST

## MEMBERS

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Jim Aungst  
Ted Baird  
Tyler Bennett  
Bob & Ruth Brubaker  
Tina Chestney  
Church HealthTeam  
Church Council  
Don Corl  
Gary Crownover  
Sondra Deffibaugh  
Jane Eamigh

Paul Hamilton  
Kathy Hatch  
Ron Heiss  
Kristina Henderson  
Doris Hollingshead  
Dave Hoover  
Martha Jones  
Jessica McGraw  
Bill McLaughlin  
Cindy Murphy  
Ken B. Myers

Ray Nycum  
Angie Peacetree Family  
Jaden Rhode  
Shannon Family  
Tom Simpson  
Susie Stacey  
Stenger Family  
Jasmine Wilkins  
Louise Yeager  
Nancy Yeager

## SHUT IN MEMBERS

Chris Burda  
Audrey Deiluliis  
Ron Green  
Ken Kumpf  
Marie Laich  
Dawn Mangus  
Bob Nearhoof  
Arlene Roessing

## ARMED FORCES

Sarah Brown  
Jason Buck  
Jim Buchanan  
Kyle Eberhart  
Nathan Frank  
Justin Patz  
Jason Smith  
Eric Sweet



## FRIENDS AND FAMILY

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Dustin Adams  
Donnie Alwine  
Janet & Charlie Aungst  
Scott Aungst  
Sandy Badorrec  
Rick Beauchamp  
Frank Bennett  
Kris Bennett  
Casey Bondarenka  
Pat Burk  
Dorothy Bush  
John Bush  
Tracee Cole  
Scott Corl  
Jim Cox Family  
Sandy Daddorek  
Jim Deffibaugh  
Jordan DeFrancisco  
Zane Dodson  
Miles Dunkelbarger  
Scott Esch Family  
Nancy & Bill Filler  
Elisie Fogel  
Garth Family  
Haley Gehret  
Dawn George  
Amy Gleason  
Amanda Gregg & Daughters  
Ann Hanczaryk  
Charles W. Harpster

Tim Harrison  
Don Haslem  
Danielle Hatfield  
Dave Hogan  
Jack Hoyne  
Beth Ickes  
Judy Johnson  
Tom Klevan  
Pastor John Klingeman  
Kaylee Kruse  
Lucya Kunkel  
Jean Lane  
Janelle Lehr  
Raija Lind  
Janet Luciano  
Bernie Market  
Ryan Maquire  
Sharon Mayers  
Barb McConnell  
Bob McConnell  
Eddie McGee  
McGilvery Family  
Kathy McIntyre  
Sharon McKeehan  
Connie McKnight  
Janelle Messner  
Denny Miller  
Harry Miller, Sr  
Moore Family  
Rudy Muccitelli

Bill & Penny Murphy  
Wyatt Nite  
David Orr  
Zach Porta  
Abby Remendowski  
Katie Riggelman  
Toran Robertson  
Carl Ruckinger  
Michael Ruckinger  
Bill Senitko  
Ronald Settle  
C. Richard Shaffer  
Patty Smith  
Tina Spahn  
Michael Stacey  
Duane Stenger  
Jennelle Straple  
Denny Sullivan  
George Sultage Sr  
Robert Thomas Family  
Blair Umholtz  
Paul Wallis  
Mary Walter  
LuAnn Wilkinson-Doyle  
James Wilt  
Steve Wood

## A HITCH IN THE STORY

Was it wildfire nerve? Unchecked audacity? Holy purpose? The hammering of parents' expectations? Maybe the privilege of being kin to Jesus? Or was it eccentricity as peculiar as his diet and wardrobe? What desire drove John to the wilderness, into the water of the Jordan? What ignited his fiery proclamation of repentance and forgiveness? What current pulled crowds from city and country into the water?

One can say, rightly, that it was ordained by God, compelled by the Holy Spirit, predicted by an angel. Yet there is a hitch in the story. Four easily missed but utterly important words gum up the works of any timid or tidy explanations: "I am not worthy" (Mark 1:7).

Something in John's four words opens the baptismal story to torrents of wonder, floods of hope, drenching relief and recovery.

For some years the two friends had been together through what we often call the thick and the thin. They knew this and that, bits and pieces, the here and there of one another's lives. And not only the trivial. They probed each other's shadowed corridors and crumbling edges. Still, there were secrets, withholdings. One day, for reasons wrapped with nothing but the ragged swaddling of unaccountable grace, one said to the other, "It has been such a long, lonely journey, carrying a suitcase filled with secrets, the shames and deceptions I've folded and packed." Then he began to tell. To confess. A repenting, a turning. His friend's eyes filled with tears that watered his cheeks and dripped into his lap. All he could say through the flood was, "I love you all the more."

Born literally of grace, breaking the dam of John's four words, "I am not worthy," is one stronger word, the word of the more powerful one: *forgiveness*. To John and to us who say, "I am not worthy," Jesus answers, "Yes, yes, yes, you are."

