

# January 19, 2025 **Baptism of our Lord**



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**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** God's work. Our hands.

## Welcome to Church of the Savior – Lutheran:

We are a community of believers, seekers, and doubters. We affirm all of God's people just as they are. We are a welcoming and inclusive community that does not require you to change in any way to worship with us.

We strive to make love grow both in our congregational life and in our nursery school. We recognize all the love we have is given to us from the Holy Spirit, we are but reflections of God's love. One of the ways we make love grow is by being accepting and existing the way Jesus taught us; living in harmony together no matter one's race, nationality, or gender. We strive to create and ensure the safest and most loving environment for everyone. We look forward to growing in faith with you.

## With Regard to Holy Communion:

We celebrate Holy Communion nearly every week at Church of the Savior. Holy Communion is a sacred meal in which Christ comes to us in bread and wine. "This is my body given for you... This is my blood shed for you." We believe those words to be true. Christ is truly present in Holy Communion. When we receive the bread and wine of this meal, we receive his body and blood "in, with, and under the forms" of the consecrated bread and wine. All of God's beautiful children are welcome to our Lord's table — it's our Lord's table, after all, and all are invited. Let's be clear — it is not "my" table, or "our" table or a "Lutheran" table. It is our Lord's table, and he sends out the invitations — to everyone under the sun. This includes you to come forward just as are.

For the bread we provide two types of host, with gluten and without. If you would like gluten free let Pastor Paul know when you come forward. We offer both red wine and white grape juice.

## To the Parents of Children:

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome! Sit toward the front where it is easier for children to see and hear what is going on. Little one's tire of seeing the back of others' heads.

Explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, ushers, choir, and the people who make worship happen. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

The way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to The Church, to God and to one another. Let them know, and let us show them, that they are at home in their house of worship. The presence of your child is a gift to Church of the Savior. We are blessed to welcome and worship with our children. We know that is took a lot of work to get to this pew today; you are doing a really good job!

## PRELUDE: Cause Me to Come to Thy River, O Lord

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.** 

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another.

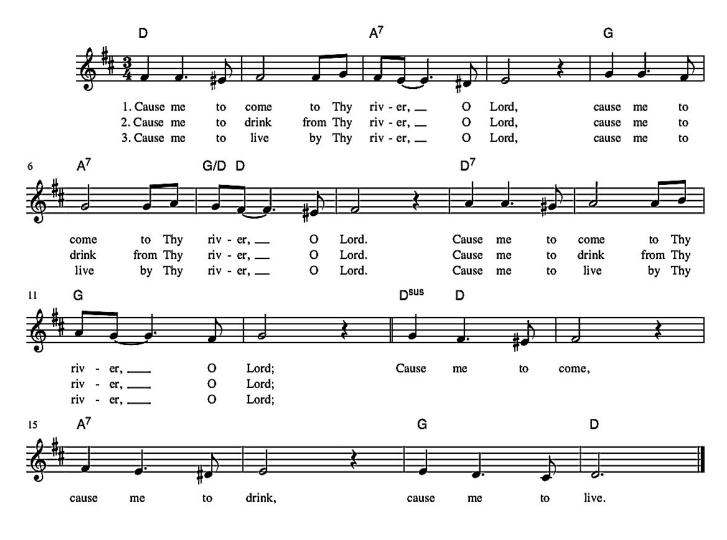
Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. Amen.



#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Cause Me to Come to Thy River, O Lord





#### GREETING

Pastor: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you.

#### THE KYRIE





#### THE GLORIA





### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

<sup>1</sup> But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

<sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

<sup>3</sup> For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

<sup>4</sup> Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

<sup>5</sup> Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;

<sup>6</sup> I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—

<sup>7</sup> everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life **People: Thanks Be to God** 



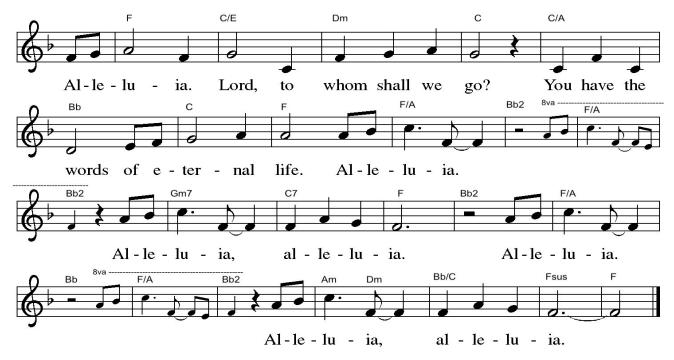
FAITH STORY: Dave Johnsrud

## SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

<sup>14</sup> Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup> The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup> (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). <sup>17</sup> Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life People: Thanks Be to God

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



### THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 People: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

People: Praise to you, O Christ.



**HOMILY:** Pastor Paul

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH - APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come 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.

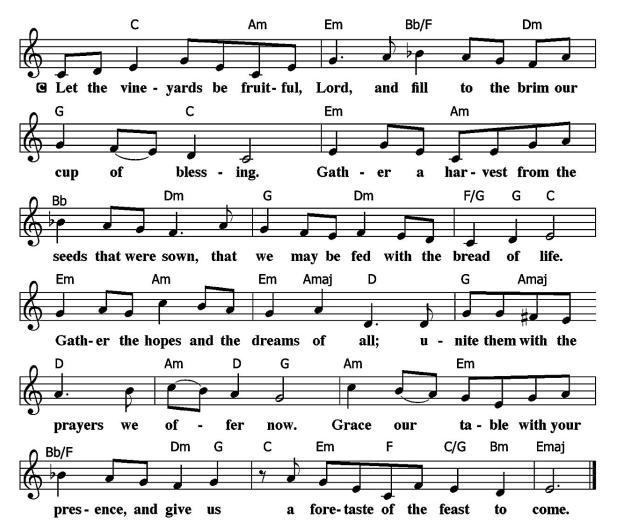
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Response: Hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

SPECIAL MUSIC: Bill Vollinger: The Three Kings (Köphel & Nicolai, Cornelius)

Please mail your offering to: Church of the Savior 643 Forest Avenue - Paramus, NJ 07652 OR Use the QR code on right for your offertory giving.





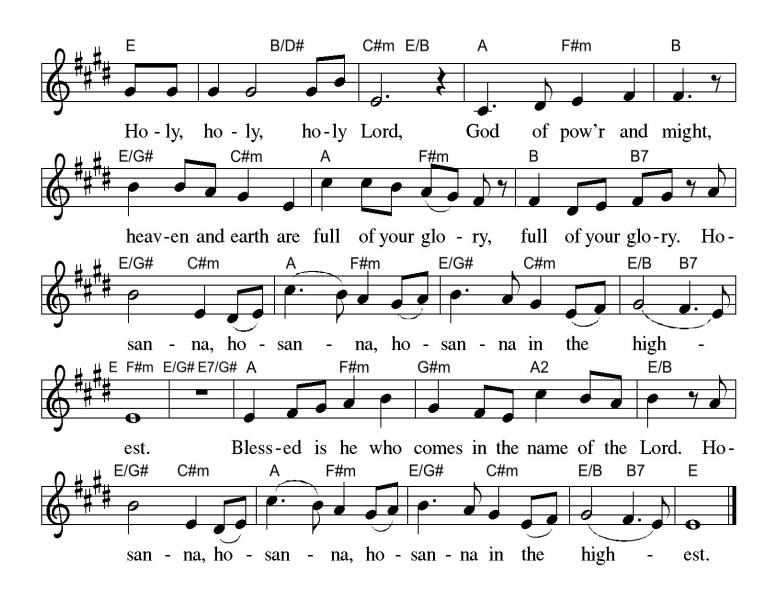
ALL: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

- Pastor: The Lord be with you.
- People: And also with you.
- Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
- People: We lift them to the Lord.
- Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE FOR THE SEASON

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

....proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

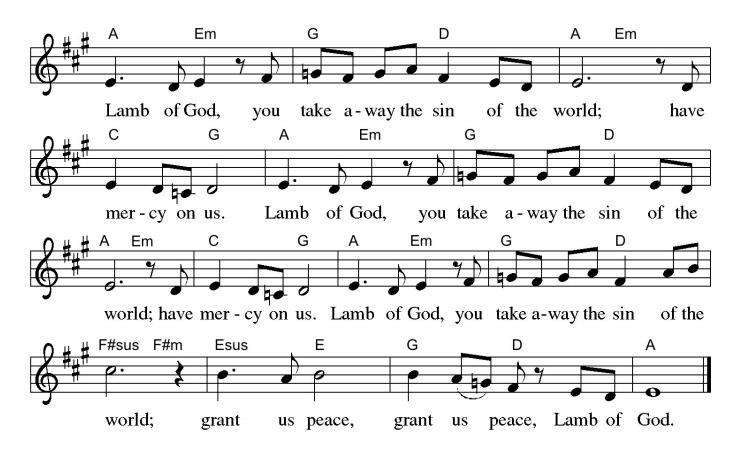
## People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

At conclusion of Eucharistic Prayer ....

### People: Amen



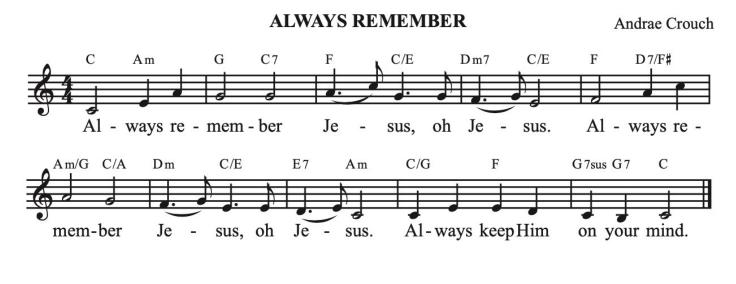
## THE LORD'S PRAYER



## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION



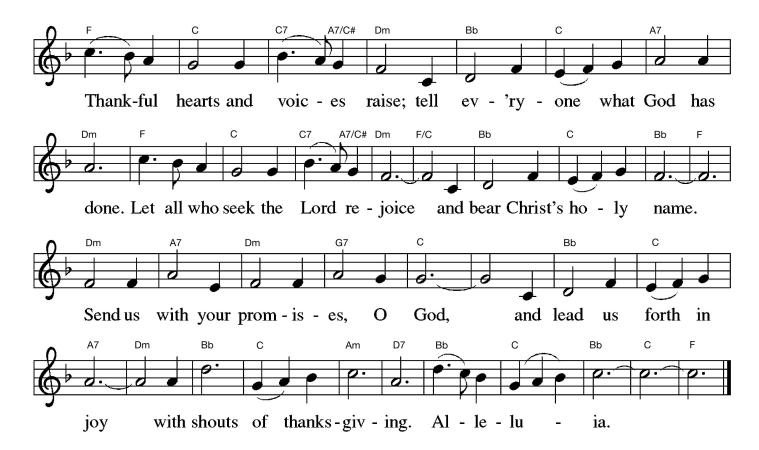
#### COMMUNION HYMN: Always Remember (Andrae Crouch)





#### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

**Pastor:** May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His Grace! **Amen.** 



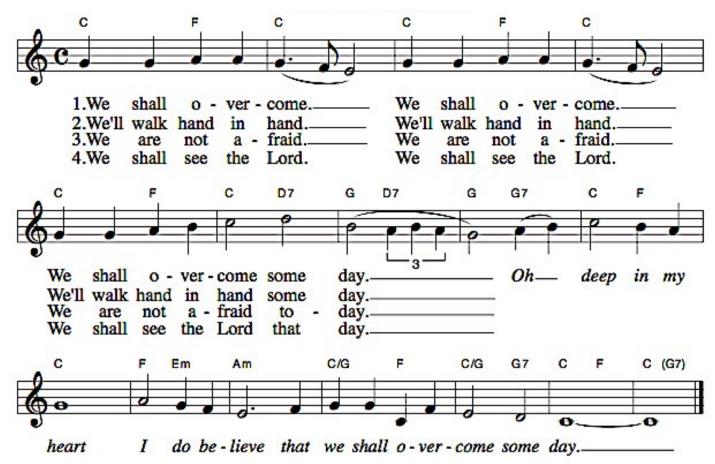
### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### BENEDICTION

The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.** 



**RECESSIONAL HYMN: We Shall Overcome** 

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Live in hope.. Thanks be to God.



## **SERVING TODAY**

DATE	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASST.	USHER
Jan 19	Maggie Harrer	Rick Henly	Antoinette Walder
Jan 26	Michael Chomin	Sally Leara	John Leara
Feb 2	Vicki Coyle	Susan Conrad	Ed Moderacki

## **FLOWERS**

- Jan 19 For: Love for the Conrad Grandchildren From: Susan Conrad
- Jan 26 For: From:
- Feb 2 For: From:

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Jan 19 Sunday School
- Congregational Meeting
- Jan 20 Martin Luther King Day—Church & School Closed
- Jan 21 Council Meeting: 6pm
- Jan 27-31 Theme Week and Art Show
- Feb 1 Music at Savior: 7pm
- Feb 2 Sunday School

## **MAILING LIST**



Not on our mailing list? Subscribe to it via this QR Code.