



Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

January 12, 2025

Baptism of Our Lord

Welcome

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

LSB 386

- 1 **Now sing we, now rejoice,
Now raise to heav’n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth
Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth
The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art!
Thou my Savior art!**
- 2 **Come from on high to me;
I cannot rise to thee.
Cheer my wearied spirit,
O pure and holy Child;
Through thy grace and merit,
Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto thee!
Draw me unto thee!**
- 3 **Now through his Son doth shine
The Father’s grace divine.
Death was reigning o’er us
Through sin and vanity
Till he opened for us
A bright eternity.**

May we praise him there!
May we praise him there!

Stand

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution

- P** In Romans 6, St. Paul asks, "Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?" Then he answers, "By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?" (*Romans 6:1, 2*)
- C** **We confess that although we believe that we have received the grace of God, we have repeatedly sinned in thought, word, and deed.**
- P** Paul continues, "We were buried . . . with him by baptism into death, in order that . . . we too might walk in newness of life." (*Romans 6:4*)
- C** **We confess that we have not loved God with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**
- P** Paul concludes that, "one who has died has been set free from sin." (*Romans 6:7*)
- C** **Heavenly Father, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.

- P** "So, you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus." (*Romans 6:11*) 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.

Kyrie (*spoken*)

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

P 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.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

This is the Feast

LSB 155

C This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.

Alleluia.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P 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.

C **Make all who are baptized in his name faithful in their calling as your children and inheritors with him of everlasting life;**

P through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

But now, this is what the LORD says—

he who created you, Jacob,

he who formed you, Israel:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters,

I will be with you;

and when you pass through the rivers,

they will not sweep over you.

When you walk through the fire,

you will not be burned;

the flames will not set you ablaze.

³ For I am the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;

I give Egypt for your ransom,

Cush and Seba in your stead.

⁴ Since you are precious and honored in my sight,

and because I love you,

I will give people in exchange for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

⁵ Do not be afraid, for I am with you;

I will bring your children from the east
and gather you from the west.

⁶ I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’
and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’

Bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the ends of the earth—

⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 5:20-6:7

²⁰ The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, ²¹ so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

¹ What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷ because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 3:15-18, 21-22

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

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

¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶ John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸ And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered

LSB 404

- 1 Jesus, once with sinners numbered,
Had no blemish of his own;
In the waters of the Jordan
His true worth and work were shown:
Heaven opened and the Spirit
There descended like a dove,
As the Father’s voice resounded,
“Hear My Son, the One I love.”**
- 2 John confessed him as the Savior—
“Look, the sinless Lamb of God!”
Yet he dared not loose the sandals
Of the One God’s love had shod.
Oh, how fair the feet of Jesus,
Bringing news of peace to us,**

**Christ, the herald of salvation,
Preaching mercy from the cross:**

- 3 This the baptism that our Savior
Greatly longed to undergo;
This the crimson cleansing needed
So the world God's love might know;
This the mission of Messiah
As he stepped from Jordan's stream,
He, the chosen and anointed
Son of God, sent to redeem.**
- 4 Jesus, once with sinners numbered,
Full obedience was your path;
You, by death, have consecrated
Water in this saving bath:
Dying to the sin of Adam,
Rising to a life of grace;
We are counted with the righteous,
Over us the cross you trace.**

Homily

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 catholic 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.

Prayers of the Church

Preface

spoken

- 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

Sanctus

LSB 161

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

☐ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution

We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith.

If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit.

We are Baptized in Christ Jesus

Choir

O Sing of Christ

LSB 362

1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known

The kindness of the Lord,

Eternal Word made flesh and bone

So we could be restored.

Upon our frail humanity

God's finger chose to trace

The fullness of his deity,

The icon of his grace.

2 What Adam lost, none could reclaim,

And Paradise was barred

Until the second Adam came
To mend what sin had marred.
For when the time was full and right
God sent his only Son;
He came to us as life and light
And our redemption won.

3 He came to that which was his own,
But he was not received;
Yet still through him God's glory shone,
And some his name believed.
To these he gave the right to be
The heirs of heav'n above,
Born not of human ancestry
But born of God in love.

4 Lord Jesus Christ, you deigned to dwell
Among us here on earth
As God with us, Emmanuel,
To bring this holy birth.
Though rich, you willingly became
One with our poverty,
That we might share your wealth and name
For all eternity!

Once in the Blest Baptismal Waters LSB 598 (tune of 566)

1 Once in the blest baptismal waters
I put on Christ and made him mine;
Now numbered with God's sons and daughters,
I share his peace and love divine.

ref O God, for Jesus' sake I pray
Your peace may bless my dying day.

2 His body and his blood I've taken
In his blest Supper, feast divine;
Now I shall never be forsaken,
For I am his, and he is mine. *Refrain*

3 And thus I live in God contented

And die without a thought of fear;
My soul has to God's plans consented,
For through his Son my faith is clear. *Refrain*

To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

LSB 405

- 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.
- 3 As Jesus in the Jordan stood
And John baptized the Lamb of God,
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,
Descended on him from above.
- 4 Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound
Came God's own voice with words profound:
"This is my Son," was his decree,
"The one I love, who pleases me."
- 5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight
Anointed Christ in glorious sight
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall
To save the world and free us all.
- 6 Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;
This man is Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

Dismissal

Benediction

LSB 166

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 Amen.

Baptized in Water

ELW 456

- 1 **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:
Heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
Faithfully now God's praise we sing.**
- 2 **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our king:
One with his rising, freed and forgiven
Thankfully now God's praise we sing.**
- 3 **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our king:
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children;
Joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

Announcements

Sending

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Serving in worship today

January 12, 2025

Pastor

Jason Neel

Acolyte

Ryan Weinhold

Usher

Jan Fuerst

Elders

Kevin Zimmerman

Wayne Chambard

Reader

Peggy Peterson

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Autumn Parson 1/16

Celebrating Baptisms: Jeff Parson 1/16

Praying for: Sandy Elhardt and family, Lee Bouley, Dave Martti.

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Elder Meeting
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
	7:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	4:00 p.m.	Visitation for Terry Elhardt
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Friday	10:00 a.m.	Visitation for Terry Elhardt
	11:00 a.m.	Funeral for Terry Elhardt
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour

Notes of Information

Funeral Service for Terry Elhardt: Our brother in Christ passed away on Monday. Visitation will be held Thursday, January 16 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and one hour prior to the funeral service. The funeral service will be held on Friday, January 17 at 11 am with a luncheon to follow.

Upcoming Book Study: In February, Pastor Jason will be hosting a 3-week study of C.S. Lewis' *The Great Divorce*, a fictional account of Lewis finding himself in Hell boarding a bus bound for Heaven. This is the starting point for an extraordinary meditation upon good and evil, grace and judgement.

Copies of the book are available in the church office. The cost for the book is \$8. You may choose either Monday nights (Feb. 3rd, 10th, and 17th) from 6 pm to 7 pm or Wednesday mornings (Feb. 5th, 12th, and 19th) from 11 am to 12pm. Session 1 will cover chapters 1-6 (pages 1-50), Session 2 will cover chapters 7-10 (pages 51-96), and Session 3 will cover chapters 11-14 (pages 97-146).

Spring Rummage Sale: The youth will be holding a rummage sale along with their plant sale this spring. As you are cleaning items out of your homes, please consider donating items in good condition to this cause. You can bring items to church on the third Sunday of each month and the youth will take care of moving your items from your car. We are not accepting TV's, monitors or furniture pieces. If you have questions, please contact Laura Marquardt or Jeff Fey.

2025 calendars: The 2025 youth calendars are available for purchase in the Narthex or church office. The calendars are \$10.

Evangelism Book Study: Mark your calendars for our upcoming book study of *Meaningful Outreach an Essential Guide for Churches* by Mark A. Wood. Sessions will be held on Saturday, January 25, Saturday, February 8, and Saturday, March 1 at 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Copies are available in the church office.

Stewardship Note: “The measure of a life, after all, is not of its duration, but its donation” Corrie ten Boom

NACE: North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf is currently in need of boxed sides, including stuffing, pasta and potatoes. They are no longer taking summer clothing items but are looking for new socks and underwear in all sizes and gently used fall/winter children’s clothing. Thank you for your donations. For more information, reach out to Toni Peterson.

Average Weekly Offering	\$6689
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$6973



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

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Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another, reaching out to all people, proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

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