



Union Lutheran Church

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Baptism of Our Lord

January 8, 2023

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

*(Please stand when indicated by *)*

Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) green hymnal
With One Voice (WOV) blue hymnal

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: Meditation on “*When Jesus Came to Jordan*” (Callahan)

GATHERING

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| * Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness | WOV p.10-11 |
| * HYMN: <i>When Jesus Came to Jordan</i> | WOV# 647 |
| * Greeting | WOV. p. 28 |
| * Kyrie & Hymn of Praise | WOV p.28-30 |
| * Prayer of the Day | |

P Heavenly Father, in Jesus’ baptism you declared him to be your beloved Son and set him apart as your agent of grace for your creation. May we who are baptized into his life also be sent as agents of grace in your world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

WORD

Children’s Message

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 42:1-9

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.”

Reader The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29 *sung responsively (Congregation (bold) and Choir (not bolded))*

Choir ¹Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,*

ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

**C ²Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his Name;*
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**

Choir ³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;*
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.

**C ⁴The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;*
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.**

Choir ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;*
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

**C ⁶He makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,*
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**

Choir ⁷The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire; the voice of the LORD |
shakes the wilderness;* the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.

**C ⁸The voice of the LORD makes the | oak trees writhe*
and strips the | forests bare.**

Choir ⁹And in the temple | of the LORD*
all are | crying, “Glory!”

**C ¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;*
the LORD sits enthroned as | King forevermore.**

Choir ¹¹The LORD shall give strength | to his people;*
the LORD shall give his people the bless- | ing of peace.

Epistle Lesson: Romans 6:1-11

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.

Reader The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

* Gospel Acclamation

WOV p.31

* Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

¹³Jesus 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.”

Sermon: *Dying to Live*

Pastor Heidi Punt

* HYMN: *Wash, O God, Our Sons & Daughters*

WOV# 697

* Apostles' Creed

WOV p. 33

* Prayer of the Church & Sharing of the Peace

WOV p. 34

Offering *The Offering is received as the Lord's Table is prepared. All loose offering will go towards the Gerald Bame Scholarship Fund. During the month of January, the Benevolence Teaching Moment is on Rowan Helping Ministries. Please prayerfully consider giving to the Benevolence Fund.*

Anthem: *Lord, When you Came to Jordan* (Genevan Psalter) Chancel Choir

MEAL

* Offertory (“*Let the Vineyards...*”) & Offertory Prayer

WOV p. 35

* Great Thanksgiving & Sanctus

WOV p. 36

* Words of Institution

WOV p. 37

* Lord's Prayer

WOV p. 39

Lamb of God & Distribution of Communion

WOV p. 39

At Union Lutheran Church the Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday. All baptized Christians who believe in the real presence of Christ in the Lord's Supper are invited to commune. All who do not commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. For those who prefer individually sealed units please indicate. Gluten Free wafers and grape juice are also available upon request. Please fill out a communion card located in the pew and hand to the Usher while following their directions to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

* Post-Communion Canticle (“*Thankful hearts...*”)

WOV p. 40

* Post-Communion Prayer

WOV p. 41

SENDING

* Blessing

WOV p. 41

* HYMN: *Baptized in Water*

WOV# 693

* Sending

P You have been nurtured in Word and Sacrament now go therefore and make disciples of all nations

C **Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and of the Holy Spirit.**

P Union Lutheran Church you are sent!

C **Amen, amen, amen**

Postlude: Baptized in Water (Trapp)

*The **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God from Steve and Mary Hutchens.*

Current Fund Financial Information:

Offering received Sunday, January 1 \$7,170.00

Weekly offering needed to meet our Ministry Support plan \$6,482.37

Those Serving in January

Acolytes: Tyler Goodman and Adam Thompson

Altar Guild: Deena Lanning and Karen Morgan

Communion Assistants: Deena Lanning, Elbert Kluttz, and Karen Morgan

Lay Readers: Deena Lanning, Elbert Kluttz, and Karen Morgan

Ushers: Phil and Linda Cauble, Mike and Brenda Cauble, Frank Merrell

Offering Counters: Tara Davis, Cathy Painter, and Ron Vellines

OUR MISSION:

*Christ Centered ~ Mission Driven~ Traditionally-Grounded~
Congregationally Focused (Matthew 28:18-20)*

OUR VISION:

One Relationship at a Time

BE OUR GUEST

Can't wait to see what God can do!



With One Voice Setting 5 (p. 28-41) ~ WOV Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness (p. 10-11)
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Union News

Sunday's Activities, January 8:

Baptism of Our Lord

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir (5th grade and younger)

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

Children & Youth: A Tent for God ~ Exodus 25:1-19; 40:1-8, 34-38

Adult Sunday School Class: God Promises to Restore ~ Isaiah 43:1-4, 10-12

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Lessons for January 8, 2023: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11;

Matthew 3:13-17 Theme: *Dying to Live*

10:30 a.m. WOV Setting 5

12:30 p.m. Union Women's planning meeting with bag lunch

Calling all **10 year olds and older** to an **Acolyte Training** for new and returning acolytes. Join us today during the **Little Lutherans Gathering** at **4:00 p.m.**

Deadline for committee and organizations minutes and reports for January Council meeting.

This Weeks' Activities:

Tuesday, Jan. 10

5:30 p.m. Executive

6:30 p.m. Bible Study

Lesson 1: Joy...In Every Circumstance

Scripture: Philippians 1:9-11; 1:12-14; 1:18b-21

Wednesday, Jan. 11

10:30 a.m. Bible Study Lesson 1

6:00 p.m. Live Nativity Feedback

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, Jan. 12

10:00 a.m. Good Timers

Program: Robyn Arey's Appalachian Trip

Lunch following at Lakeview

6:00 p.m. Worship & Music

Saturday, Jan. 14

Congregational Snow Tubing

10:30 a.m. Small Fellowship Hall reserved

Next Sunday's Activities, January 15:

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

Children & Youth: The Fall Short Report ~ Numbers 13:1-2, 25:14-24

Adult Sunday School Class: God Promises to Guide ~ Isaiah 48:3-8a, 17

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Lessons for January 15, 2023: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11;

As of January 1, 2023, if you wish to continue to list a loved one on the prayers, please contact the church office since we are refreshing the list.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Nursing Home Residents - Brenda Mahaley, Pat & Wayne Miller, and Ruth Monroe (Autumn Care), and Jean Ray (Brookdale)

Homebound Members – Arnold Cauble, Rachel Earnhardt, Jean Kluttz, Frances Norris, Billy Waller, and Michael Walton

Sick/Surgery/Recovery – Nancy Kesler, John Knight, Doug Peeler, Sylvia Peeler

Continual Prayer – Evonne Batten, Bill Broadway, Glenn Eagle, Tommy and Joan Kerns, Pat Kluttz, Dusty Morgan, Sr. Family (Dusty, Sr., Lisa, Felisaty, and Dusty, Jr.), William Page, Ben Smith (Cathy Painter's brother-in-law), Effie Vellines, Union Fire Department #76, Haiti (gangs), Nigerian Christians, and those affected by natural or political disasters

Confirmation Students: Caylea Cline, Mallory Eagle, Bailey Wilhelm, and Lucas Wilhelm

January's Service Projects

All are invited to create cards for Union's shut-ins and nursing home residents. Please drop off your cards near "Joy" Sunday School classroom.

Everyone is invited to donate knitting yarn for Sarah Bame. Please drop off yarn in the box located on the pew across from the church office.

2023 Offering Envelopes Update

Due to circumstances outside the control of the church office, 2023 Offering Envelopes will not be available until mid-January or early February.

If you received a physical offering envelope in 2022, the same number has been assigned for 2023.

In 2023, please bring an envelope from home (this will save cost of purchasing blank envelopes for close to 200 households for several weeks) or use the small envelope provided in the pew. Place your offering inside, seal, write your name, offering number (if known), and designate amounts to be distributed to current, benevolence, etc. on the outside.

PART SIX: Confession of Sin

What is Confession? *Confession consists of two parts. One is that we confess our sins and the other is that we receive absolution, or forgiveness, from the confessor as from God himself, in no way doubting, but firmly believing that our sins are thereby forgiven before God in heaven.*



(Martin Luther's Small Catechism 2010 Edition Sola Publishing-Pocket Version, page 27)

Next Sunday's Activities, January 15 (continued):

1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42a

Sermon Series focuses on Corinthians: *Gifted in Christ*

2:00 p.m. Church Council

3:00 p.m. Fresh Eyes Summit

5:30 p.m. Youth Worship preparations

Altar Flowers are open for reservations for January 15, 2023.

Blessing of the Doorways

Deadline for Yearbook reports.

2023 Fresh Eyes Summit

Sunday, January 15, at 3:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to attend!

Many congregations struggle with decline in attendance and income, transitioning neighborhood and context, lack of coherent and appropriate vision for mission. At the heart of all, we do as Lutherans are the means of grace, Word, and Sacrament, which communicate to us the real presence of Jesus Christ.

In ongoing reflection and conversation, leadership of the North American Lutheran Church has been seeking an integrative approach to congregational assessment, evaluation, and renewal.

The goal of the Fresh Eyes Summit is to involve appropriate leadership in the NALC, together with congregational pastor and leaders, praying first, "Lord, let our eyes be opened!" We then trust that the Lord will give participants fresh eyes to receive new insight and understanding, all aimed at new or renewed direction for mission and ministry as the congregation seeks to follow Jesus firmly and faithfully!

Epiphany House Blessing

Sunday, January 15, 2023

Using chalk, from church, mark the current year and the initials of the Magi above the outside doorways to your home. Place a cross in between each of the letters. It should look something like this:

20 ✚ C ✚ M ✚ B ✚ 23

After completing the above markings pray the following prayer:

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord of all people forever and ever. Amen.

The legendary names of the three Magi are: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. The initials CMB also stands for the Latin words "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" which means: "May Christ bless this dwelling."

The marking over the doors should be left all year round as a sign that yours is a Christian home.

*All organizations, committees, groups, and individuals who are to turn in reports for the **ANNUAL YEARBOOK REPORT**, please do so by **Sunday, January 15, 2023**. This is a very important document in reflecting the life of Union's for the past year and for planning activities for the coming year. We want to get it out to the members of the congregation as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.*

Bible Study

Lesson 2: Joy...In Unity with Others

Tuesday, January 17, at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 18, at 10:30 a.m.

Scripture: Philippians 2:1-2; 2:3-11

Bottom Line: There is joy when people are unified together in peace and love.

No meal provided.

*Lay Ministers will meet **Wednesday, January 18, at 2:00 p.m.** in Pastor Heidi's office.*

NALC Disaster Preparedness Training

Friday, January 20, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 21,
8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10 per person

Faith Lutheran Church, 311 Judges Rd. Unit 2B, Wilmington, NC

Please contact Union's church office if you are interested in participating or would like more information regarding the NALC Disaster Preparedness Training.

Carolinas Mission Region Event

February 25, at 11:00 a.m.

St. Peter's, Chapin, SC

*Carolinas Mission Region Team is pleased to announce a **Mission Event** on **Saturday, February 25, 2023!***

We will gather at St. Peter in Chapin, SC, at 11:00 a.m. to assemble hygiene kits for NALC Disaster Response. Lunch will be provided.

More information coming soon on what Union will be collecting!