

Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

612 N. Water Street, Sparta, Wisconsin, Tel. (608) 269-5081

Office Email: office@tlcsparta.org Website: www.tlcsparta.org

Baptism of Our Lord

January 7, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

Live streaming on Facebook and YouTube (Trinity LutheranSparta)

**Our worship service will also be recorded
and will be available on our website www.tlcsparta.org**



Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Ring of the Bell

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***Opening Hymn: 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime**

ELW 284

***Greeting**

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

KYRIE:



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



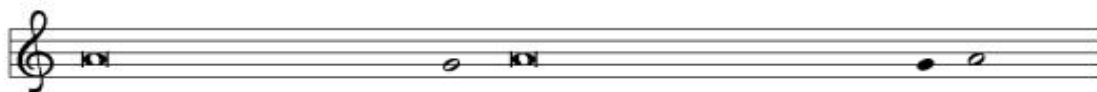
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

*Hymn of Praise



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

***Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

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.

Alleluia Choir: Christmas Angel

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

A reading from Genesis.

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the 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. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 29

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

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

⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The 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!”

**¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for-evermore.**

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7

A reading from Acts.

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He 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.” ³Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴Paul 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.” ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel: Mark 1:4-11**

***Gospel Acclamation**



This is the Holy Gospel according to Mark the 1st chapter
 4John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5And 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. 6Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7He 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. 8I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

9In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10And 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. 11And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: *Baptized and Set Free*

ELW 453

***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.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

God of forgiveness, inspire wisdom and a spirit of proclamation in your church. Uplift leaders including Michelle, Pastor Josh, Bishop Felix and Elizabeth, to share the truth of your word in community. Encourage us to live into the promises of baptism, working for justice and peace in all the world. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of thunder and mighty waters, renew your creation. Restore the rivers in which your children are baptized. May fields flourish and grow. Summon the stewards and caretakers of the land to cherish your good works. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God who is present in every country and community, Give strength to your leaders. Raise up leaders committed to equity and healing. Grant them discernment and compassion as they lead in love. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of strength, protect and cherish the most vulnerable among us. Accompany those separated from family or hurting from broken relationships. Shelter our unhoused neighbors and any experiencing poverty. Protect those incarcerated in prisons and detention centers. Care for the sick and suffering. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God who calls and sends disciples, encourage this congregation. Guide us in accompanying, learning from, and serving our neighbors on the margins, following the example of Jesus. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Trusting the assurance of the Holy Spirit, we remember all who have died and rest in God's care. Give hope to those who grieve even as we rest in your eternal promise of resurrection. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***Sharing of the Peace**

L: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you

Offering – *“Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows.”* (Luke 12:7)

***Offertory:** *We Are an Offering*

ELW #692

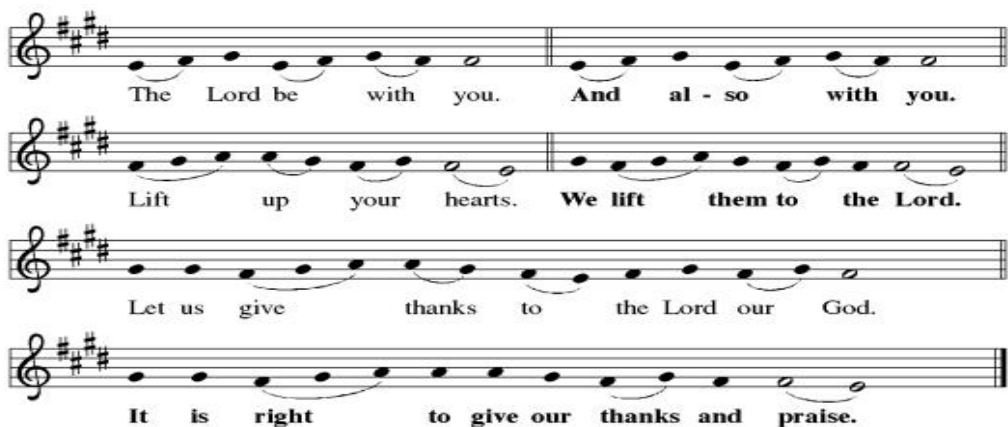
***Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

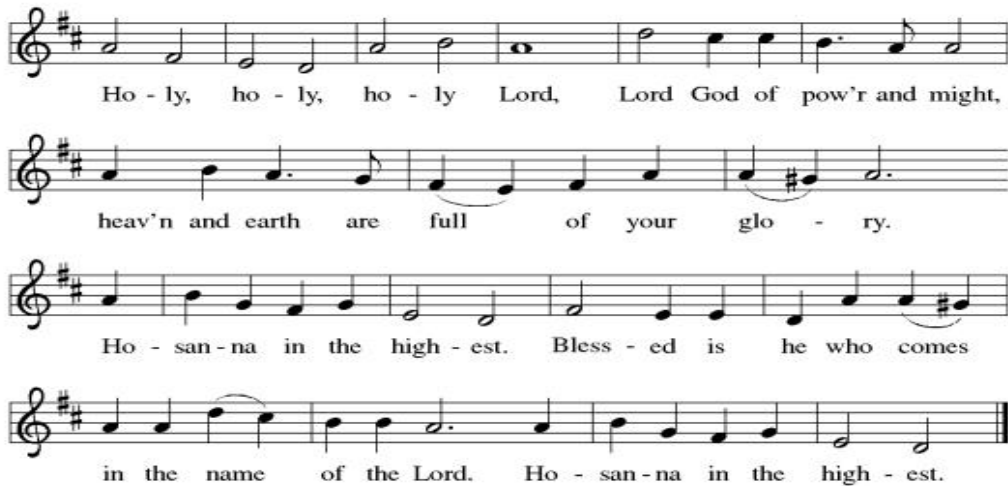
***Great Thanksgiving Page 152**



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

***Preface**

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord Page 153**



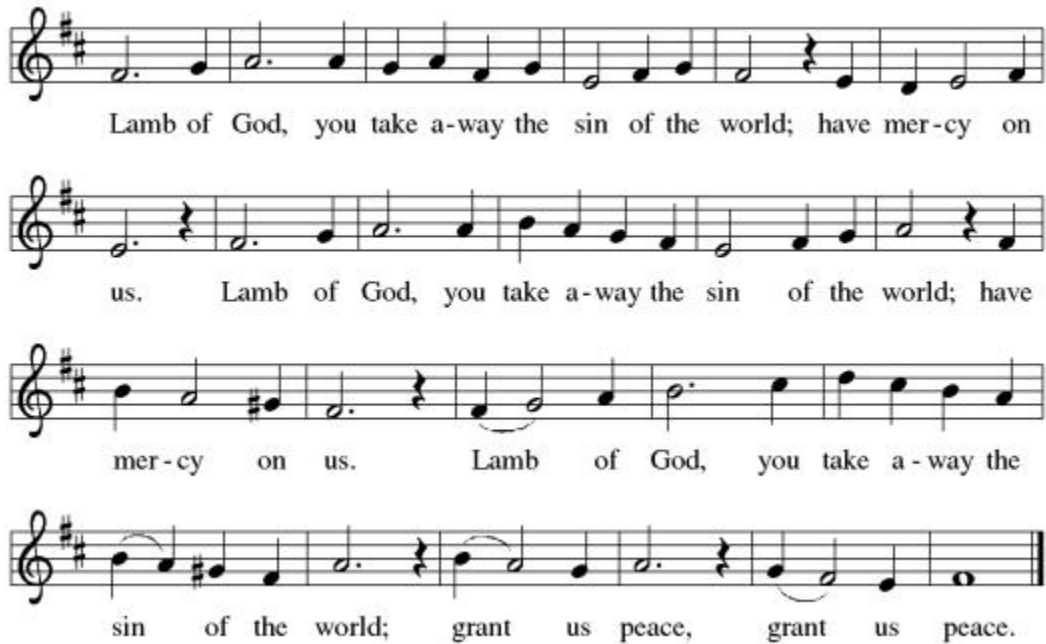
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***Words of Institution**

***The 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.

Distribution of Communion:



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution Hymn: Wade in the Water

ELW 459

* Symbol indicates a time when the congregation stands

***Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***Blessing**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace † bless you now and forever.

Amen.

***Sending Hymn: God, Whose Almighty Word**

ELW 673

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

Attendance for Sunday, December 31, 2023 – 54

For Sunday, December 24th:

General fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$4872.30

Designated fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$150.00

January 7, 2024	January 14, 2024
Greeter: Rita Bernette	Greeters: Maryann Bolstad
Reader: Nancy Sikorsky	Reader: PJ Sikorsky
Communion: Mary Herrman – Gary Haskins – Chuck Hogan	No communion
Music: Virginia Bolin Special Music: Alleluia Choir	Music: Virginia Bolin
Coffee Fellowship: Opportunity to serve	Coffee Fellowship: Opportunity to serve
Flower Pick Up – Friday, Jan. 12 Gary & Carol Haskins	Flower Pick Up – Friday, Jan. 19 Gary & Carol Haskins
Pew Restocking – Month of Jan: Steve & Judy Bernett	Pew Restocking – Month of Jan: Steve & Judy Bernett
Money Counting – January 8: Carol Thorsen-PJ Sikorsky-Brenda Degenhardt	Money Counting – January 15: Jo Ellen Siver-Alice Olson-Pete Perkins
Altar Team – Month of Jan.: Siri Donskey & Carol Glaman	Altar Team – Month of Jan.: Siri Donskey & Carol Glaman
Food Pantry: Jan. 10: Karen Hernandez and Julie Erickson	Food Pantry: Jan. 17: Dennis & Carol Glaman
Nursing Home Bulletin Delivery January 12: Morrow Home: Ron & Pauline Haug Rolling Hills: Doug Dengel	Nursing Home Bulletin Delivery January 19: Morrow Home: Cynthia Lockington Rolling Hills: Karen Wall

