




St. Paul Lutheran  
Church Smithville



Baptism of Our Lord  
January 12, 2025



*Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.*

*Please stand, as able, where marked with an asterisk\*. Congregational responses are in bold.*

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## ***Prelude***

## ***Welcome and Announcements***

*Rev. Kristy Buyok, Pastor; 803-673-1727  
www.stplcsmithville.org; stpsmithville@gmail.com*

*\*Confession and Forgiveness*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
our creator and  
our protector,

**C: Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

**C: 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.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

*\*Gathering Hymn: # 423 "Shall We Gather at the River"*



- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?  
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.  
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

*Refrain*



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

***\*Greeting & Call to Worship:***

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.**

A: God is with us always and calls us each by name.

P: When we pass through difficulties and stress,

A: God is with us and calls us by name.

P: When we are discouraged and feel lost and alone,

A: God is with us, calls us by name, and heals us.

P: Blessed be God who knows us and calls us by name.

A: God has called us into relationship and offered us forgiveness and healing.

P: Through the waters of baptism, Christ has offered us life and restoration.

**C: We come now, filled with the Spirit, ready to hear you and praise you, Lord.**

***\*Prayer of the Day:***

A: Let us pray. 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.

**C: 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;  
<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."

**R:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

*Responsive Reading:* Psalm 29

R: Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**C: Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;  
worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

R: The voice of the LORD is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the LORD, over mighty waters.

**C: The voice of the LORD is powerful;  
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

R: The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**C: He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

R: The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

**C: The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

R: The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,  
and strips the forest bare;  
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

**C: The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**

R: May the LORD give strength to his people!  
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

***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.

R: The word of the Lord.      **C: Thanks be to God.**

R: Please rise for the reading of the Gospel.

***\*Gospel Acclamation:***

**Alleluia. A voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” Alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to the book of Luke the third chapter.

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

***\*Gospel Reading:*** Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

<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 he will eliminate the chaff.

<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."

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

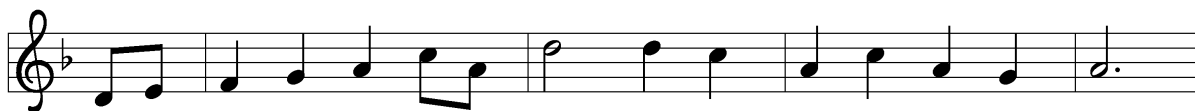
### *Children's Sermon*

*Sermon:* Pastor Kristy Buyok

*Hymn of the Day: # 305* "When Jesus Came to Jordan"



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John,  
2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,  
3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.  
for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.  
this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond - age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,  
So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,  
Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.  
the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.  
to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune

Text © 1980 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

## *The Apostle's Creed*

A: Together, let us confess our shared faith.

**C: 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 (*universal*) church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## *The Prayers*

A: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

A: You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news, especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans. Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city and county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery. Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. We pray especially for: Bob, Dave, Lorinda, Pat, Rochelle, Marilyn, Ron, Harold, JoEtta, and Karen. We also pray for the St. Paul families of the week: Jody, Jaylyn, Clotilde, Bob, and Annette. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is alive and true.

**C: Amen.**

### *Sharing of the Peace*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*Offering:* Thank you to everyone who shares in the work of God. You may place your offering in the plates as they pass. You may also sign up for automatic giving or make an offering by clicking the donate button on our website: [www.stplcsmithville.org](http://www.stplcsmithville.org)

*Offertory:* "Down Galilee's Slow Roadways" Choir

*Sylvia G. Dunstan*  
© 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

### *\*Offertory Prayer*

P: Let us pray. God of heaven and earth,

**C: from the beginning, you have called forth life,  
in which you take delight.**

**The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.**

**Bless now these gifts, brought in faith  
that we may join the chorus of creation  
to tell of your salvation from day to day.**

**Amen.**

***\*The Great Thanksgiving:***

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is right, our duty and joy to praise you this day and always.  
The waters of the Red Sea parted so that our ancestors could walk through the water safely to the land of freedom.

In the waters of the Jordan, you showed us a new vision for freedom and peace. Then you invite us into our own baptismal promises

That filled with the Spirit we would live lives of hope and love. Now you meet us in this place in simple bread and wine and renew your

Relationship of love and forgiveness, offering yourself to us for forgiveness and strength.

Here we will join the multitudes in heaven

Who praise your name and sing of your unending love.

**C: Holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

***\*Words of Institution***

*\*The Lord's Prayer*

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

*Invitation to Communion*

P: Our Savior Comes to feed us with mercy.  
Come to the table.

*Holy Communion*

*(All baptized Christians are welcomed at God's holy meal.)*

P: This is the body of Christ given for you.

*(You may eat your wafer)*

P: This is the blood of Christ shed for you.

*(You may drink the wine from your cup)*

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**Special Music:** “Song Over the Waters” sung by Kailyn Buyok

*Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950*  
*Music: SONG OVER THE WATERS, Marty Haugen*  
*Text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.*

**Communion Hymn:** #581 “You Are Mine”

- 1. I will come to you in the silence,  
I will lift you from all your fear  
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice.  
Be still and know I am here**

**Refrain**

**Do not be afraid, I am with you.  
I have called you each by name.  
Come and follow me, I will bring you home;  
I love you and you are mine.**

- 2. I am hope for all who are hopeless,  
I am eyes for all who long to see.  
In the shadows of the night, I will be your light.  
Come and rest in me. Refrain**
- 3. I am strength for all the despairing,  
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.  
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free,  
and all will know my name. Refrain**
- 4. I am the Word that leads all to freedom,  
I am the peace the world cannot give.  
I will call your name, embracing all your pain.  
Stand up, now walk and live! Refrain**

*Text: David Hass, b. 1957*  
*Music: David Haas*  
*Text and music copyright 1991 GIA PUBLICATIONS, Inc.*



## *\*Post Communion Blessing*

### *\*Benediction*

### *\*Sending Hymn: # 453 "Baptized and Set Free"*



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.  
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.  
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,  
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.  
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.  
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.  
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door  
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:  
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:  
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.  
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.  
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.  
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

*\*Dismissal (with enthusiasm)*

A: Go in peace. Live in hope.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## *Postlude*

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***Your Prayers Are Requested For:***

***Dave, Lorinda, Harold, JoEtta, Bob, Karen Fisher, Marilyn, Rochelle, and Ron***

***St. Paul Families of the week:***

***Jody Cutter, Jaylyn Howell, and Clotilde Doyle, and Bob & Annette Duffy***

***Thank you to those serving this morning***

Pastor: Rev. Kristy Buyok

Cantor: Lesley Mast

Assisting Minister: Hans Kwee

Lector: Mark Miller

Pianist: Joe Hennell

Communion Assistant: Duane Eggeman

Altar Care: Steve & Nancy Carr

Ushers/Greeters: Steve & Nancy Carr

Bread Baker: Tim Preston

Special Music: Kailyn Brown



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Worship Services are streamed each Sunday at:

[www.stplcsmithville.org/services](http://www.stplcsmithville.org/services)

If you are unable to access via the internet,  
DVD copies are available for delivery to your home.

Please contact Pastor Kristy: (803) 673-1727.

[stplcsmithville.org](http://stplcsmithville.org)

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### **This Week**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Sanctuary Worship Sunday School	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.
<b>Monday:</b>	<i>Pastor's Day Off</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Church Council	6:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Wednesday Meal Choir Bell Choir	5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m.
<b>Saturday:</b>	Empty Nesters	5:30 p.m.
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Sanctuary Worship Sunday School	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

### **Upcoming & Announcements**

**Empty Nesters:** We will host game night on Saturday, January 18 at 5:30 p.m. Pizza and pop will be provided. Bring a side to share as well as a favorite game. Sign-up in the Narthex, please, so pizza can be ordered. We will also be planning for 2025, so come with ideas on when you want to host, and what we'll be doing.

**Bell Choir Openings:** One opening is still available for the Handbell Choir, Contact Jane Ross at 330-730-5822 (cell/text) or ross.jane612@gmail.com

**People to People:** Thank you for the support for People to People ministries in 2024. Starting needs for 2025: ready to serve soups, 16 oz. peanut butter, spaghetti sauce and noodles, rice and pasta sides, canned fruit, pork and beans, men and women’s deodorant, paper towels, toilet paper, and razors. Watch sale ads to help supply these needs. Thanks!



Scan the QR code to view our website or to donate thru Paypal.

**Wednesday Night Meals – January Menu**

January 15 – Stuffed pepper casserole, bread sticks, coleslaw and dessert

January 22 – Kitchen Committee casserole, salad and dessert

January 29 – Beef-n-noodles, rolls with butter, green bean casserole and dessert

<b>Serving in January In-Person</b>	<b>1/5</b>	<b>1/12</b>	<b>1/19</b>	<b>1/26</b>
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Lynn Moomaw	Mark Miller	Kailyn Brown	Hans Kwee
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Lynn Moomaw	Hans Kwee	Adrienne Karlen	Pam Root
<b>Greeters/ Ushers</b>	Bruce Blough David Svegel	Steve & Nancy Carr	Bob Race & Par Badger	Nancy Percy Ernie Buyok
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Lynn Moomaw	Duane Eggeman	Lyn Miller	Tim Preston
<b>Altar Care</b>	Larry & Sandy Allen	Steve & Nancy Carr	Tim Preston	Jerry & Kathy Meitzler
<b>Bread Baker</b>	Tim Preston	Tim Preston	Tim Preston	Tim Preston