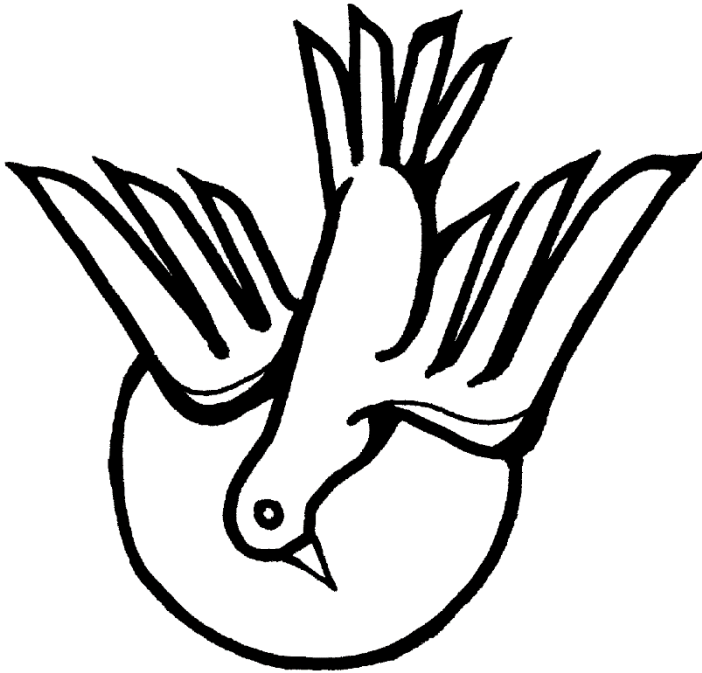


SUNDAY- JANUARY 12, 2025 -9:00 AM



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*

MINISTERS
PASTOR

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
JOHN TWITON

ELC@MHTC.NET - 608-437-5012

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, January 12, 2025 | Baptism of our Lord | 9:00 AM
(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C = Congregation**)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

*You are encouraged to use the time during the Prelude
for quiet reflection and preparing for worship.*

WELCOMING WORD *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.*

OPENING HYMN #456 Baptized in Water

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P - Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

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)

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

GREETING

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.

+ KYRIE pg. 138

+ HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 139 *“Glory to God in the Highest...”*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God,

C: 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.

CONGREGATIONAL SONGS: *“The River is Here”*
“Wade in the Water”

FIRST READING - Isaiah 43:1-7

¹ 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. ² 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. ³ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ 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—⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

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

+ACCLAMATION (pg. 142)

(sing) Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

L: The Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 3,

C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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." ²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² 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."

+L: The Gospel of the Lord

+C: Praise to you, O Christ

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Come to the Water"

piano - Barb Underwood

percussion - Chris Underwood & Amy Kellesvig

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE Pastor John Twiton

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:

304 - Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized

+APOSTLES' CREED pg. 105

SHARING OF THE PEACE

BENEVOLENCE PRESENTATION

- Iglesia Luterana Divino Salvador, Cataño, Puerto Rico

OFFERING - Music by Praise Team: "One"

OFFERTORY #186 "Create in me..."

THE PRAYERS (pg. 143)

(As the leader concludes each petition with the words:

"Lord in your mercy..." The people respond: **Hear our prayer.**")

+THE LORD'S PRAYER (pg. 145) (right hand column)

SENDING

COMMUNITY WORD

+BLESSING

L: May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again.

C: Amen.

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:

793 - Be Thou My Vision

+DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 12, 2025

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Psalm 106:1-12, A Confession of Israel's Sins

Tuesday, 1 John 5:13-21, Closing Instructions

Wednesday, Numbers 27:1-11, Inheritance from a Father

Thursday, Psalm 36:5-10, Our Wickedness and God's Goodness

Friday, 1 Corinthians 7:1-7, Directions concerning Marriage

Saturday, Matthew 16:13-19, Peter's Declaration about Jesus

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

**“And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved;
with you I am well pleased.”– Luke 3:22**

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

- This is Jesus' launch into ministry (Luke 3:22). When did you get a call or affirmation to service?
- Can you recall a time you felt God's presence when seemingly in deep waters or fire? (Isaiah 43:2)
- How is the Holy Spirit at work in your congregation? In your community? (Acts 8:14, 17)

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. Amen.

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