



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
Baptism of Our Lord
January 12, 2025

REMEMBER, YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER HIS SANCTURARY, PLEASE SIT QUIETLY, PRAY, AND READ THROUGH THIS WORSHIP FOLDER TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP.



*"Baptism of Christ" by Pietro Perugino c. 1482
Sistine Chapel, Rome*

**Risen Christ Lutheran Church
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ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe that the Lord’s Supper is not symbolic. We believe what Jesus Himself said: that His body and blood are truly present in this, His meal that He instituted for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above and you are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and you have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to the Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Grape Juice is in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world through your here! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Everyone please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. For Guests, Pastor will send you a welcome card and please indicate that you “desire” a call for any further contact.

Large Print Bulletins – Available from an usher.

Listening Assistance Devices – Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby (“Narthex”)

For Children – Children’s Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

As We Gather – The First Sunday after Epiphany takes us down to the Jordan River, flowing from the North, where our Lord Jesus is baptized by His cousin John. We may have not been baptized in the Jordan River, but we share with our Lord the experience of being baptized. For the sinless Son of God, the Baptism was done in fulfillment of the will of His Father. For us, Baptism is a lavish washing away of sin. We are blessed through this Sacrament, which links us personally and intimately with our Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1. Praise to the Lord the Almighty
The King of creation
O my soul praise Him
For He is your health and salvation
Let all who hear now to His temple draw near
Joining in glad adoration

2. Praise to the Lord Who o'er all things
Is wondrously reigning
And as on wings of an eagle
Uplifting sustaining
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
Sent by His gracious ordaining

3. Praise to the Lord
O let all that is in me adore Him
All that has life and breath
Come now with praises before Him
Let the Amen sound from His people again
Gladly forever adore Him

Confession and Absolution

P Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

C **Merciful Lord, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We admit that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; we have done those things which we ought not to have done. We have not always shaped our lives around the Gospel and have not always shared our faith as opportunity was given to us. We have not always been generous in sharing the bounty You have given us. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us to change what is sinful in our lives that each day we may grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.**

P God has gathered His people from north and south, east and west, and to them says, "Fear not!" In His mercy He promises pardon, life, and salvation because of the atoning sacrifice of His beloved Son. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I announce to you the forgiveness of all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

C **Amen.**

Introit

Psalm 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a

P Behold My servant, whom I uphold,
My chosen, in whom My soul delights.

MEN: *I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage, and the ends of the earth Your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."*

WOMEN: *Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.*

Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

for His wrath is quickly kindled.

Blessèd are all who take refuge in Him.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P Behold My servant, whom I uphold,
My chosen, in whom My soul delights.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, in the Baptism of our Lord Jesus in the Jordan River You affirmed Him as Your beloved Son. Help us, Your beloved children, to live out each day in our baptismal grace as we await the joy of life in Your eternal presence. This we ask for the sake of Jesus, our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

¹But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When 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.

³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you,

I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life.

⁵Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east,

and from the west I will gather you.

⁶I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold;

bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth,

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

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29

L Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

II *Women: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name;
worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.*

L **The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over many waters.**

I *Men: The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.
The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.*

L **He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

II *Women: The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.
The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.*

L **The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare,
and in His temple all cry, "Glory!"**

I *Men: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.
May the Lord give strength to His people!
May the Lord bless His people with peace!*

Epistle

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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been
Thou forever wilt be

CHORUS: Great is Thy faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

2. Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness
Mercy and love **CHORUS**

3. Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside **CHORUS**

Gradual and Verse

Psalm 117:1–2a, 96:8, Mark 1:11b

C Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples!

II *Women: For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.*

I *Men: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come into His courts!*

C Alleluia. You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel

Luke 3:15–22

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reprovved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon based on our readings today in Isaiah, Romans, and Christ's Baptism in Luke...

Catechism

The Third Article; The Small Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

G **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

P The Word of God tells us that the Holy Spirit works through the Means of Grace, but we ask: "How can water used in Holy Baptism do such great things?"

G **Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this Word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three, "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying."**

Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at www.RisenChrist.info – Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a **Worship Card** so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

Prayer of the Church

P Almighty God, we give thanks for all Your goodness and bless You for the love that sustains us from day to day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, in whom we have the forgiveness of sins. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, for Your holy Church, for the Means of Grace, for the lives of all believers here and in every place, and for the hope of the life to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Bless all who are gathered in Your name with a full measure of Your grace. Grant us an appreciation of the diverse and worldwide nature of the fellowship that we share in Christ, that we may see in each sister and brother in Christ a reflection of Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – Give Your holy wisdom and heavenly grace to all pastors and all those who hold office in Your Church, that by their devoted service in response to their calling, faith and faithfulness may abound and Your kingdom increase. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Send the light of Your Word and Sacraments into all the earth. Raise up faithful servants of Christ to advance the Gospel both at home and in distant lands. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – While the Church grows according to Your plan, strengthen new and established congregations, supporting them in challenging times. Make them steadfast, abounding in the work of Christ, and let their faith and zeal for the Gospel refresh and renew the witness of Your people everywhere. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Watch over our nation and help us live peaceful lives with security and justice. Grant Your divine favor to all who bear office in our land. Help them to serve all those in their care with Your justice according to Your holy and perfect will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – Remove prejudices, give us a spirit of love, and fill our days in Your peace. Prosper the labor of those who work to bring peace and justice to all nations, that mutual understanding and common endeavor may be increased among all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Bless the schools of the Church and all colleges, universities, and centers of research and those who teach and work in them. Be with those whose work supports and secures our lives, including medical personnel, law enforcement workers, and all civil servants. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – Bless our homes with Your presence, that the gift of family may be experienced everywhere. Help all children grow in the covenant of their Baptism, and enable their parents and their congregations to bring them up in lives of faith and devotion. Unite the members of all families in a spirit of affection and service, that they may show Your praise in our land and in all the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Let Your blessing remain upon the seedtime and harvest, commerce and industry, leisure and rest, and the arts and culture of our people. Take under Your special protection those whose work puts their bodies in harm's way, and strengthen their spirit in times of trouble. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

ALL – Let Your Holy Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Bring consolation to those in sorrow, taking them into Your tender care. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

ALL – We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors, waiting for the resurrection of the body. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lift Up Your Hearts

P The Lord be with you **C** And also with you

P The Lord be with you **C** And also with you

P Lift up your hearts

All Sing

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks

To the Lord our God

It is right to give Him

Thanks and praise

Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

- 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.

The Peace of the Lord

- P** The peace of the ☩ Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Communion

O Come to The Altar (*sung by Miss Esther Kaufmann*)

Are you hurting and broken within
Overwhelmed
by the weight of your sin
Jesus is calling
Have you come
to the end of yourself
Do you thirst
for a drink from the well
Jesus is calling

***CHORUS: O come to the altar
The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ***

Leave behind
your regrets and mistakes
Come today
there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling
Bring your sorrows
and trade them for joy
From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling

BRIDGE: Oh what a Savior
Isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him
For he is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen **CHORUS**

END: Bear your cross
as you wait for the crown
Tell the world
of the treasure you've found

CCLI Song # 7051511
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Be Thou My Vision

1. Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart,
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.
2. Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word,
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord;
Thou my great Fa-ther, I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.
3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou on-ly, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.
4. High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heav'n's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P O Lord God, heavenly Father, Ruler of all things, we receive this foretaste of the feast to come through this blessed meal. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having now received this Holy Sacrament, we may die daily through Baptism and rise restored and new, and joyfully continue our earthly pilgrimage until that time when we are gathered into Your heavenly kingdom to share in Your blessings for all eternity. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

2. In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

3. There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

4. No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

CCU Song #3350395

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Benediction

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.

G Amen.

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