

St. Johns Lutheran Church



Phone: 314-773-0126

Email: stjohnslcstl@gmail.com

St. Johns Lutheran Church
3738 Morgan Ford Rd. St. Louis, Missouri 63116

The Baptism of Our Lord
Divine Service Setting 2

January 11th, 2026
LSB 167

AS WE GATHER

All people are descendants of the first man, Adam. After the worldwide flood of God’s judgment of sin, Noah and his sons became the progenitors of all mankind. It was of the lineage of Shem (Genesis 11) that the man Abram was born. The descendants of Abram/Abraham were named Hebrews or Jews, after Judah, one of Jacob’s sons; this naming pertained to all of Israel after the Babylonian exile. To this day, they are referred to as God’s “chosen people” after the words of Moses: “For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth” (Deuteronomy 7:6). They were chosen to be the lineage of the Messiah, the deliverer, the Christ. Faithful to His promise, God took on flesh “of the house and lineage of David” (Luke 2:4) as the incarnate Son of God and Son of Mary of Nazareth.

Today we hear that divine promise in Isaiah 42, identifying Jesus as God’s chosen servant. From the beginning, however, we are told He is not only to be King of the Jews alone but a light to lighten the Gentiles also. The great news is that He is the Savior of and for all people, the descendants not only of Abraham but also of Adam and Noah! By repentance of sin and faith in Christ, worked by the same Spirit that marked Jesus as the chosen one at His Baptism, now all who are baptized into Christ—Jew or Gentile—are the chosen people of God. Praising and thanking God for calling and saving us, we echo the Gospel to all people in the words of the Psalm: “Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples!” (Psalm 117:1).

RINGING OF THE BELLS / WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME (Bienvenido, स्वागत छ, Chào mừng, 환영, ようこ,

Bienvenue, Karibu, እንኳን ደህና መጡ, Baga nagaan dhufte) **ALL**

We’re glad you are here! If you are visiting for the first time, please make it a point to introduce yourself to the pastor. Please take time to fill out an attendance card and drop it in the basket during the offering.

Please consider liking us on Facebook (St. Johns Lutheran Church – St.

Louis City) and checking out our website

(<https://stjohnslutheranstlouis.org/>).

If you have a prayer request that you would like offered during the service, please grab one of the blue sheets of paper next to the bulletins and place it in the basket during offering.

Our service today includes the celebration of God’s presence, as He comes in the true body and blood of Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Any who are not yet instructed or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please see the pastor. You may come forward to the communion rail for a blessing. Please cross your hands to indicate you would like to receive a blessing.

PREPARATION

HYMN

“Baptized into Your Name Most Holy”

LSB 590

**Baptized into Your name most holy,
O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
Among Your saints, Your chosen host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin,
Your Spirit now shall live within.**

**My loving Father, here You take me
To be henceforth Your child and heir.
My faithful Savior, here You make me
The fruit of all Your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me
When threat'ning clouds around I see.**

**My faithful God, You fail me never;
Your promise surely will endure.
O cast me not away forever
If words and deeds become impure.
Have mercy when I come defiled;
Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.**

**All that I am and love most dearly--
Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely;
Help me Your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own
Serve any will but Yours alone.**

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES (*Stand as you are able*)

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

Amen.

I will go to the altar of God,

to God my exceeding joy.

Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples!

**For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the
LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive
our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and
unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.**

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 is given to die for us, and for
His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus
Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on
them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in
us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

INTROIT *Psalm 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a* (Spoken)

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

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.”
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.
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.
Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

KYRIE LSB 168

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST

LSB 171

This is the feast of victory for our God

Alleluia

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor

And blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God

Alleluia

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God
For the Lamb who was slain
has begun His reign. Alleluia Alleluia**

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit.

**Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as
Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life;**

through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 42:1–9 (sit)*

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.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8 (Spoken)*

Praise the LORD, all nations!

Extol Him, all peoples!

For great is His steadfast love toward us,

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;

bring an offering, and come into His courts!

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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE *LSB 173 (Stand as you are able)*

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

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 3:13–17*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Then Jesus 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."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (*Sit*)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"To Jordan's River Came Our Lord." *LSB* 405

**To Jordan's river came our Lord,
The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,
The God from God, the Light from Light,
The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.**

**The Savior came to be baptized-
The Son of God in flesh disguised-
To stand beneath the Father's will
And all His righteousness fulfill.**

**As Jesus in the Jordan stood
And John baptized the Lamb of God,
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,
Descended on Him from above.**

**Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound
Came God's own voice with words profound:
"This is My Son," was His decree,
"The one I Love, who pleases Me."**

**The Father's word, the Spirit's flight
Anointed Christ in glorious sight
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall
To save the world and free us all.**

**Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;
This man is Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.**

SERMON

NICENE CREED *(Stand as you are able)*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen



OFFERING *(Sit)*

(Scan this code with your phone if you would like to give online)

OFFERTORY

LSB 176

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Stand as you are able)*

All glory and praise to You, O God, for You have created all mankind in Your image to live in Your love and fellowship forever in Your eternal kingdom. By Your design, You have defeated the devil and the power of sin and death by the sacrifice of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. He became Your chosen one in His Baptism in the waters of the Jordan River and by Your Holy Spirit, in order that all who are baptized in His name and by the same Spirit may be restored to newness of life as Your chosen sons and daughters. Help us to extend the same invitation of Your mercy and grace to all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant that Your church be guided in true faith and worship by faithful pastors and shepherds of Your flock, that we may sing Your praises joyfully now and in eternity. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Help us to live with integrity as people of Your own possession, guarding us from all evil and leading us safely in the ways of Your good and gracious will. Give to all in the authority of government a desire for good order to the promotion of freedom and faithfulness to the ways of peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

To all who are yet enslaved by the darkness of sin and separation from You, cause the light of Your salvation to break forth that many may hear of Your deliverance and the hope of life and love by faith in the Savior and be drawn by the Spirit to Your covenant of Holy Baptism.

Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant healing and relief to all who are sick, homebound, or in any need or distress, [*especially...*], that they may know the power of Your love.

Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Special Petitions....Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS *LSB 178*

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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."

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

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

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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

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.

PAX DOMINI

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

AGNUS DEI LSB 180

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace,
grant us peace.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS (*Sit*)

“Hail, O Source of Every Blessing”

LSB 409

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE “Thank the Lord” LSB 181
(*Stand as you are able*)

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev’ryone what He has done.

Let ev’ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in Joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, who anointed Your only-begotten Son to be the chosen Redeemer of all mankind, we give You thanks for choosing us in Him to share in the fellowship of believers in this Sacrament. Move us to shine the light of His grace in our lives that all people hear Your invitation of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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.

Amen.

**I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.**

Refrain

**In Him there is no darkness at all,
The night and the day are both alike.
The lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. *Refrain***

**I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain***

Preacher	Pastor Ben Wescoatt
Liturgist	Michael Felten
Lector	Sandy Gerber
Elder	Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Children's Message	Pastor Ben Wescoatt
Bible Class	Pastor Ben Wescoatt

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Announcements

Saved to Share Called to Care

Our Response to God's Love last Week:

9:00 Attendance/10:30 Attendance: 51/51

Offering: \$2,181.86

2025 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS & 2026 CALENDARS are available for pickup in the Narthex.

BEAUTIFICATION REQUEST

Thank you for the donations that helped purchase new wreaths and ribbons for the bows. Please consider donating again to the beautification fund to help replace items that are worn out.

SUBSTITUTE GROUP MENTOR POSITION

Compass is looking to hire a part time substitute group mentor. The substitute would fill in for a mentor if he/she is absent. Whenever possible, advance notice will be given when services are needed. Requirements for this position include creating a safe space for children, and implementing the lesson plans that the mentor has created. If you are interested, please email your resume to Jaylynn Mennel atstjcompass.afterschool@gmail.com For more information, contact Compass Director Jaylynn Mennel at (314)-791-5820.

WOL POSITION AVAILABLE FOR 2026-2027

WOL is pleased to announce the launch of a new Summer Camp program within our school ministry. Our goal is to offer a Christ-centered, nurturing day camp experience for both our students and families in the surrounding community.

To support this initiative, WOL is adding a full-time, 12-month Assistant Principal position. This individual will provide leadership for the Summer Camp program and oversee our Early Childhood classrooms.

For a full job description, additional information, or to apply, please contact Principal Melissa Bergholt at 314-832-1244 ext. 111

or mbergholt@wordoflifefschool.net.

GRIEF SHARE GROUPS Do you need help dealing with grief? GriefShare Grief & Loss Support Groups are here for you. To find the in person or online group that is best for you, visit griefshare.org/findagroup where you can register for groups and events.

SANCTUS WINDS UPCOMING CONCERT "Go, My Children"

Sunday, February 1, 2026 \ 4:00pm Zion Lutheran Church (3866 Old Hwy 94 S, St Charles, MO 63304)

Works Include

Children's March – Percy Grainger

Watchmen Tell Us of the Night – Mark Camphouse

Seal Lullaby – Eric Whitacre

Third Suite – Rober Jager

Prayers

Prayers for Health –for President R. Lee Hagan, Richard, Bob, Jessica, Kate, Mary, and Cat; **Sandy Key** who has cancer; **Phuong Do** for healing from a car accident

Area Ministry – Lutheran Development Group

Shut Ins – Bobbie Kepford (Arbor Hills), Debra Frerichs, Carolyn Dickhoener, and Ruth Trauth (Sherbrooke)

Special Prayer Petitions –**For** those displaced from home and church; **Greg** thanks for successful surgery; **Melba** that her walking ability may improve so that she can return to church; **Evangelist** Idonis King; **Compass Director** Jaylynn Mennel; **Our Associate Pastors** Nabin & Ratna; **Momentum Academy and All Schools; The Food Pantry and those who receive food: Compass; Our Field-Workers** Michael and John; **For** those traveling; **Missionaries** Zach Barz (for life & ministry) and Erin Mackenzie;

South City Circuit Prayers Randy Asburry, Josh Hatcher, Seminary Field Workers, Idonis King, Chris Shearman, Synod, LBT, and LHM international missionaries, Paul Gaschler, and Lewi Jerimya

Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week January 11 – January 18

Sunday **9:00am Worship w/ Communion/ 10am Fellowship**
10:30am Bible Study / 10:30am Nepali Worship
NO Sunday School
12:30pm Abundant Grace Chapel Worship
1pm-4pm Tower Grove Soccer Club / 6pm-8pm Nepalese Volleyball

Monday 8am-12pm Office Open / **3pm-6pm Compass**
NO Ladies Exercise

Tuesday **8am-12pm Office Open / 3pm-6pm Compass**

Wednesday **8am-12pm Office Open / 3pm-6pm Compass**

Thursday **8am-12pm Office Open / 3pm-6pm Compass**
3:25pm Compass Chapel

Friday 8am-12pm Office Open / **2pm-6pm Compass**

Saturday **8:30am Food Pantry**
6pm-8pm Abundant Grace Choir Practice
6pm-8pm Nepalese Volleyball

Next Sunday **9:00am Worship / 10am Fellowship**
10:30am Bible Study / 10:30am Nepali Worship
NO Sunday School
12:30pm Abundant Grace Chapel Worship
1pm-4pm Tower Grove Soccer Club / 6pm-8pm Nepalese Volleyball