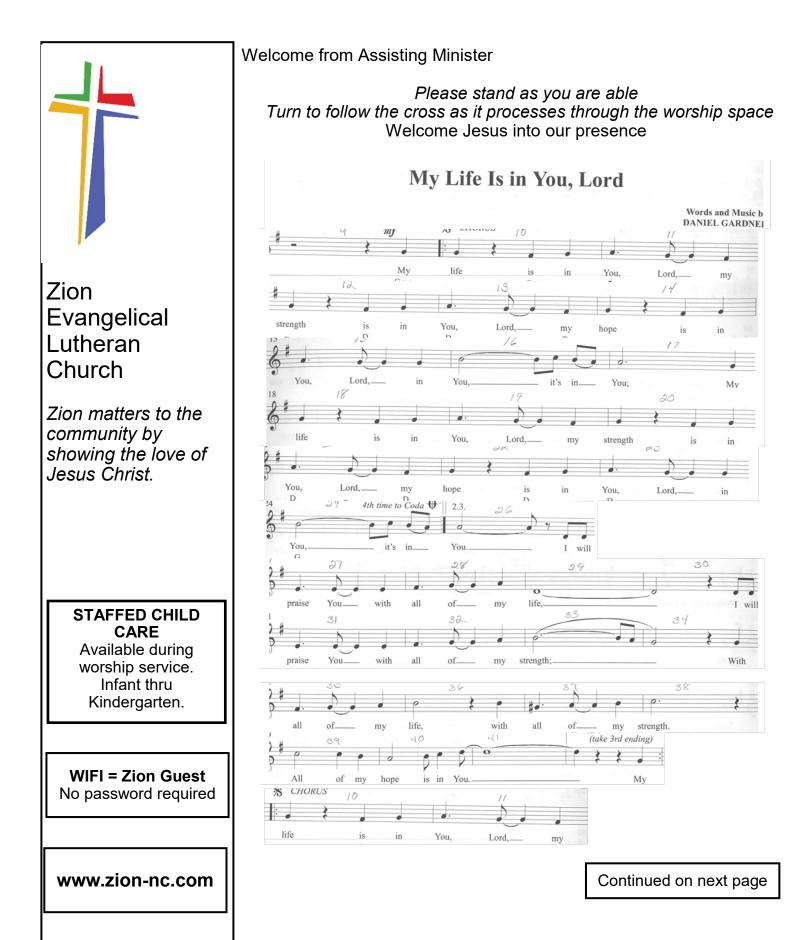


January 7, 2024 - Baptism of Our Lord Blended Worship Service



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Congregation responses are in bold print

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds, and the joy and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

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

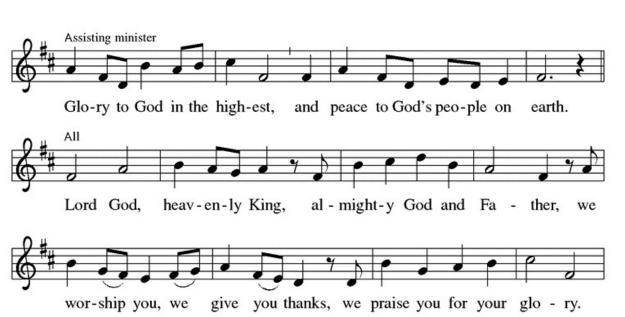
Silence is kept for reflection

Gracious God,

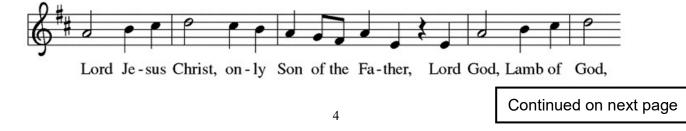
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

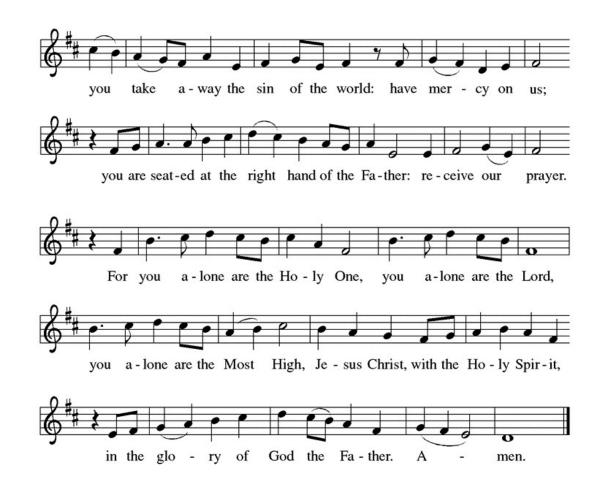
God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

Amen. Come Holy God.



The Assisting Minister may speak the opening line.





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.

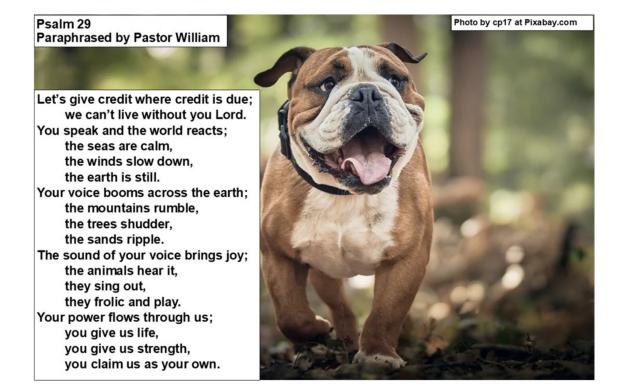
Please be seated

A reading from Genesis:

(Genesis 1:1-5, Pew Bible, Old Testament, page 1)

The reading concludes with: Word of God, Word of Life **Thanks be to God**

Psalm Paraphrase (Read responsively the indented lines)





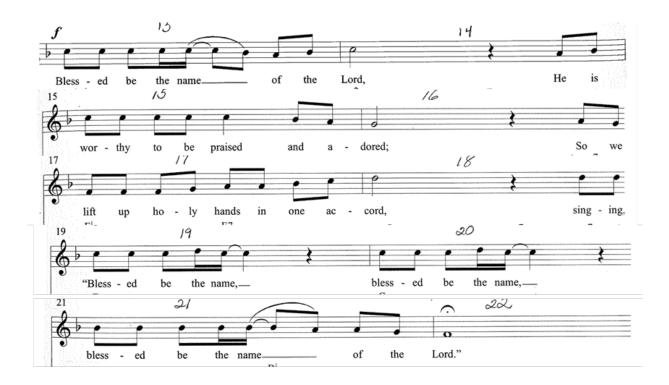


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A reading from Acts:

(Acts 19:1-7 Pew Bible, New Testament, page 106)

The reading concludes with: Word of God, Word of Life **Thanks be to God**



Please note, we do not stand for the Gospel when there is no communion

The holy gospel according to St. Mark Glory to you, O Lord (Mark 1:4-11, Pew Bible, New Testament, page 27)

The reading concludes with: The gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, O Christ**

Video Sermon

Please stand as you are able







Let us confess our faith in the words of the 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.



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

A brief silence for personal prayer

Inspire wisdom and a spirit of proclamation in your church, God of forgiveness. Uplift leaders 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.

Renew your creation, God of thunder and mighty waters. 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.

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

receive our prayer.

Protect and cherish the most vulnerable among us, God of strength. 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.

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

receive our prayer.

We thank you for giving Kay Davis to us to know and to love. Give her family and loved ones comforting peace,

and confidence in your promise of eternal life.

Bless this week's marriage and help us support their life together. Johanna and Robert Henderson

Thank you for the life of our birthday sibling, **Bobbi Wilson**

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.



Mark 1:4-11

Stewardship Moment from Pastor William Description of the second second

Stewardship in the Gospel

reated with fore and entrusted to our care Jesus is baptized and a voice from heaven claims his as Son, and not just any old son, but Beloved Son. God claims Jesus as God's own, God expresses pride and joy in God's kin.

Stewardship in our Community

God created all humanity in God's image, so we are all kin to God. Whether they believe it or not, our whole community is kin to God. It will make a difference in how people behave once they are treated and showed they are kin.

Stewardship in practice

Let's be deliberate in seeing everyone as kin – God's kin, and our kin. Let's look past that which divides us. Let's look closely to see the image of God in everyone we encounter. After-all, we are all related; we are all siblings in, and with, Christ.

The Offering of our tithes, gifts and sacrifices is gathered for the mission of Christ's church, including the care of those in need.

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Smartphone = https://abundant.com/ZionLutheranChurch/MobileGiving

Let us enthusiastically pray our prayer of stewardship, Holy Lord,

I gladly return, for your work, a portion of your abundant provision to me. All that I have is yours alone, entrusted Lord, to my care. Amen.

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

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.

Announcements

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

Amen.

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

Amon

Amen.

The God of all grace bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

Turn to follow the cross as it processes through the Worship Space. Then follow it out to join in God's work.



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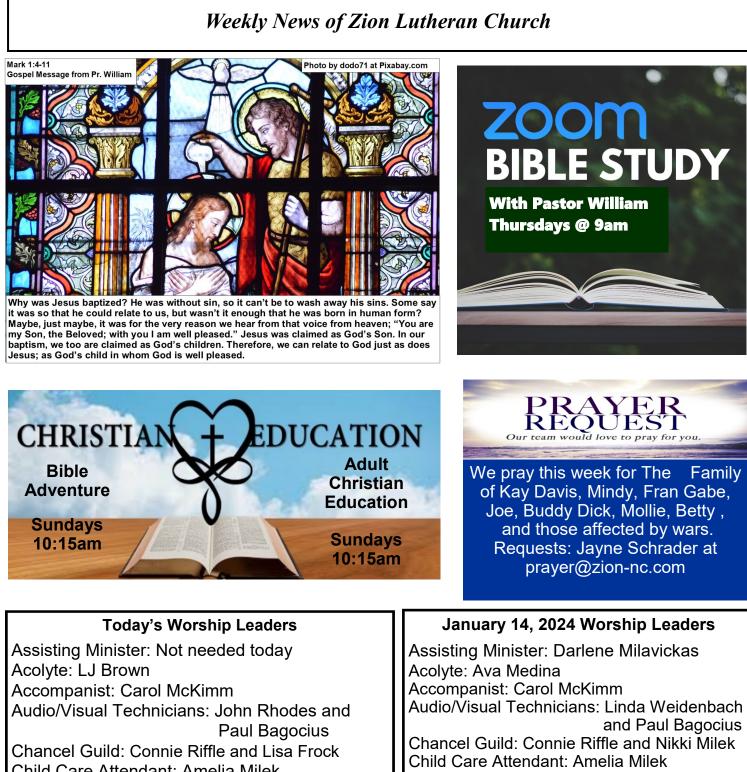
Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We will, with God's help. Amen!

Please join in fellowship with a Coffee & Donut Social immediately following!

Postlude: *He is Exalted*

By: Twila Paris



Child Care Attendant: Amelia Milek Reader: Laura Thompson Trustees: Darlene Milavickas & Randy Elsass Worship Leader: Jim Fidler Flowers by: Moe Alters in loving memory of Joseph Alters Child Care Attendant: Amelia Milek Presiding Minister: Rev. William C. Weidenbach Jr.

Reader: Randy Cizek Trustees: Rob Frock and Scott Gross Flowers by: Carol Rossbach in loving memory of Barbara Kribbs

