



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Anchored in His Word
Baptism of Our Lord

Order of Worship

January 12, 2025

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy, **we confess that we have sinned against you and offended one another. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. We store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

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. **Amen**

Opening Hymn

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

ELW 249

Greeting

The grace of Jesus Christ, the mercy of the Holy One, and the Spirit of the living God be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

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**

Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father: we worship you and we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One; you alone are the Lord;
you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. 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**

[Sit]

Youth Message

"You Are My Son, the Beloved..."

Choral Anthem

Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized

Herman

The Luther Singers

First Lesson

Isaiah 43:1-7

¹But 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.

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, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because 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.

⁵Do not fear, 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 them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away 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."

Response: Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms

Psalm 29

(Congregation speaks together.)

¹**Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³**The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.**

⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵**The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**

⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Second Lesson

Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The 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). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Response: Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Verse

[Stand]

Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia!

Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**



Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John 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. ¹⁷His 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."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and 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."

Response: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ**

[Sit]

Sermon

"And When Jesus was Praying..."

[Stand]

Hymn of the Day

Come, Thou Almighty King

ELW 408

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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, and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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**

Prayers

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

A brief silence.

[After each petition, the congregation responds with: **Hear our prayer.**]

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

(The congregation is asked to greet one another with the words of Christ: "Peace be with you.")

Offering

[Sit]

Offertory

[Stand]

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be filled with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all, unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together. God of grace, **your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen**

Great Thanksgiving

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.**

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy . . . *(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

Lamb of God

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.

[Sit]

Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's table.

We're nourished together by the body and blood of our Lord.

Communion Hymns

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup

ELW 492

Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult

ELW 696

O Jesus, I Have Promised

ELW 810

Post-Communion Canticle

[Stand]

**Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ry one what he has done.
Let ev'ry one 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 Prayer

Let us pray together. Nourishing God, **at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen**

Hymn

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

ELW 451

Benediction

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

“The Peace of God”

**Whatsoever things are honest,
 whatsoever things are true,
Whatsoever things are pure and lovely,
 think on these things.
Whatsoever things are wholesome,
 whatsoever things are good,
If there be any virtue, be any praise,
 think on these things.
And the peace of God
 that passes all understanding
Shall keep your hearts,
 shall keep your minds
 on Jesus Christ.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Our worship is ended; our service and our witness continue!”

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Prayer List

In addition to those named during worship today, a full prayer list is available in *the anchor*.

Today's Heavenly Helpers

* Assisting Minister	8:15 service	Carol Townsend
	10:45 service	Ellen Hancock
* Church Pianist		Sandy Hunter
* Choir Director		Matt Newton
* Lector	8:15 service	Ann Buehler
	10:45 service	Janice Weber
* Greeters	10:45 service	Art & Wanda Dodge
* Ushers	10:45 service	Jeannine Sieck & Jack O'Donovan
* Communion Assistant	10:45 service	Janice Weber
* Counters		Steven Freese & Barbara Mefford

Last week's attendance, in person and streaming: 123

Calendar of Events for This Week

Monday	- Knitting & Crochet ministry, 2 PM
Tuesday	- Men's Bible Study/Ellijay, 9 AM, Mike's Restaurant - Ladies Bible Study, 12:15
Wednesday	- Food Pantry, 10 AM-12:30 PM - Choir rehearsal, 6 PM
Thursday	- Quilters, 10 AM - Co-ed Bible Study, 2 PM
Friday	- Movie Night, 6:30 PM (rescheduled from last week)

Next Week's Scripture Readings Are...

Old Testament – Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalms – Psalm 36:5-10
Epistle – 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
Gospel – John 2:1-11

Mid-Week Altar Guild – Doris Goplin

Next Week's Worship Assistants Are...

8:15 **Lector** - Charlie Brown
10:45 **Lector** - Barbara Bell
Greeters - Jim & Ann Berman
Ushers - Frank & Suzie Quido
Communion Asst - Barbara Bell
Counters - Eileen Ashley & Karen Baker

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Snacks for Seniors

During the month of January we will be collecting food items for the snack bags our Outreach Team gives to the Gilmer Senior Center for their Meals on Wheels clients. The congregation is asked to donate Easy Mac, Ramen noodles or fruit cups throughout the month. Our team fills 270 snack bags which are delivered to elderly shut-ins every other month. Thank you for your support of this very-appreciated ministry!

Friday Movie Night

Our first Movie Night of the year has been rescheduled to this coming Friday – January 17th – at 6:30 PM in Founders Hall. Hope will provide dinner at that time – followed by the movie. Please bring a snack or dessert to share.

The movie is – ***The Forge*** – a wonderful film that was just recently shown in theaters. You don't want to miss it!

2024 Contribution Statements

Contribution Statements from 2024 are in family mailboxes in the narthex. Any statements not picked up will be mailed at the end of January. Please check your box and save the church the cost of mailing your statement to you.

Also in mailboxes for your reference are the Estimate of Giving forms each family filled out at the beginning of our fiscal year in August.

Hope Lutheran Church

Ministering in His Mountains



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*"Making Christ known through reaching, welcoming,
praising, equipping and sending"*