

Welcome to  
**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

# **The Baptism of Our Lord**

**January 10 & 11, 2026**



## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PRELUDE**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P: Holy God, fountain of living water, source of mercy, tender and mighty, you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

C: **Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

A: Your love flows through water, satisfying the thirst of all living things, sustaining life in this community, nourishing and delighting us. We bless you for these gifts of water especially Lake Erie and the Sandusky River.

C: **Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

P: Your love flows through water, a sign of your saving power: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.

C: **Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

A: Your love flows through the waters of baptism joined to your life-giving Word: your well of mercy and cleansing flood, your sea of deliverance from death into life, your healing river washing sin away, your living water springing up to eternal life.

**C: Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

P: Shower us with your Holy Spirit. Fill us with your love. Clothe us and all your people with grace. Embolden us to do justice. Bless us to love mercy. Guide us to walk humbly with you, whom we thank and praise, through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **GATHERING SONG**

ELW # 423

***SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER***

## **THE 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!**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING****ISAIAH 42:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> Here is 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.

<sup>2</sup> He will not cry out or lift up his voice  
or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth,  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

<sup>5</sup> Thus 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 upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup> I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,

<sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup> I am the LORD; that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup> See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

Acts 10:34-43

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*On Sunday.*

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

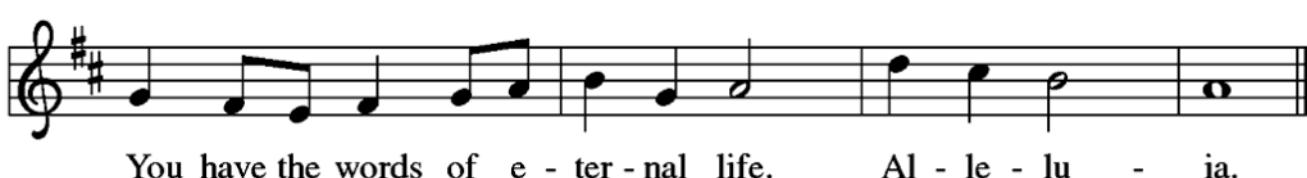
*Following the Children's moment, children in pre-k through 5th grade are invited to gather in the Sunday School rooms for an activity. They will return to worship before communion.*

*Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia.      Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life.      Al - le - lu - ia.

**READING OF THE GOSPEL****MATTHEW 3:13-17**

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 3rd chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**TODAY'S REFLECTION**

*REV. CLAYTON J. BAILEY*

*On Sunday.*

**THE AFTERWORD**

*Middle & High School Youth are invited following the reflection to meet in the Dining Room. They will connect with the message for the day and spend time in prayer. The youth will return following the offering hymn.*

*Please stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

ELW # 445

**WASH, O GOD, OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS**

## THE CREED

A: Living together in trust and hope let us confess our faith as expressed through the words of the Nicene Creed.

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

*At this time you are welcome to share the Peace of Christ with those around you. Following the Sharing of the Peace you may be seated.*

## THE OFFERING AND OFFERING MUSIC

*Please stand as you are able.*

### OFFERING SONG

ELW # 815

#### ***I WANT To WALK As A CHILD OF THE LIGHT***

### OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### THE PROPER PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Bright shining God, inner light of all the faithful!  
We celebrate your gifts of light, love, and all of creation.  
We rejoice that you have made us in your image.  
We rejoice that you have called us to live in your limitless love.  
We rejoice in the gift of your only child, Jesus, our bright morning star,  
who shines forever bright to light the way through our darkness and  
into the ways of justice and peace.

Your Holy Spirit shines your Good News into our lives.  
With each new day, you call us to feed the hungry, bring recovery of  
sight to the blind, liberate the oppressed, heal the broken hearted and  
bind up their wounds, and keep watch for the dawn of your reign on  
this earth.

For all of this, we give you thanks and we praise you, joining our  
voices with all life on earth and the company of heaven, who forever  
sing their hymns of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

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.

By your Spirit bless this bread and this wine that they may become for us the presence of Christ among us. Shine your light and your love on the offering of our lives. Enlighten us that we may be your people, the body of the risen Christ, the light of the world, set apart to serve the world that you have made.

Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we praise you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

A: As our Savior Christ has taught us, together we are bold to pray.

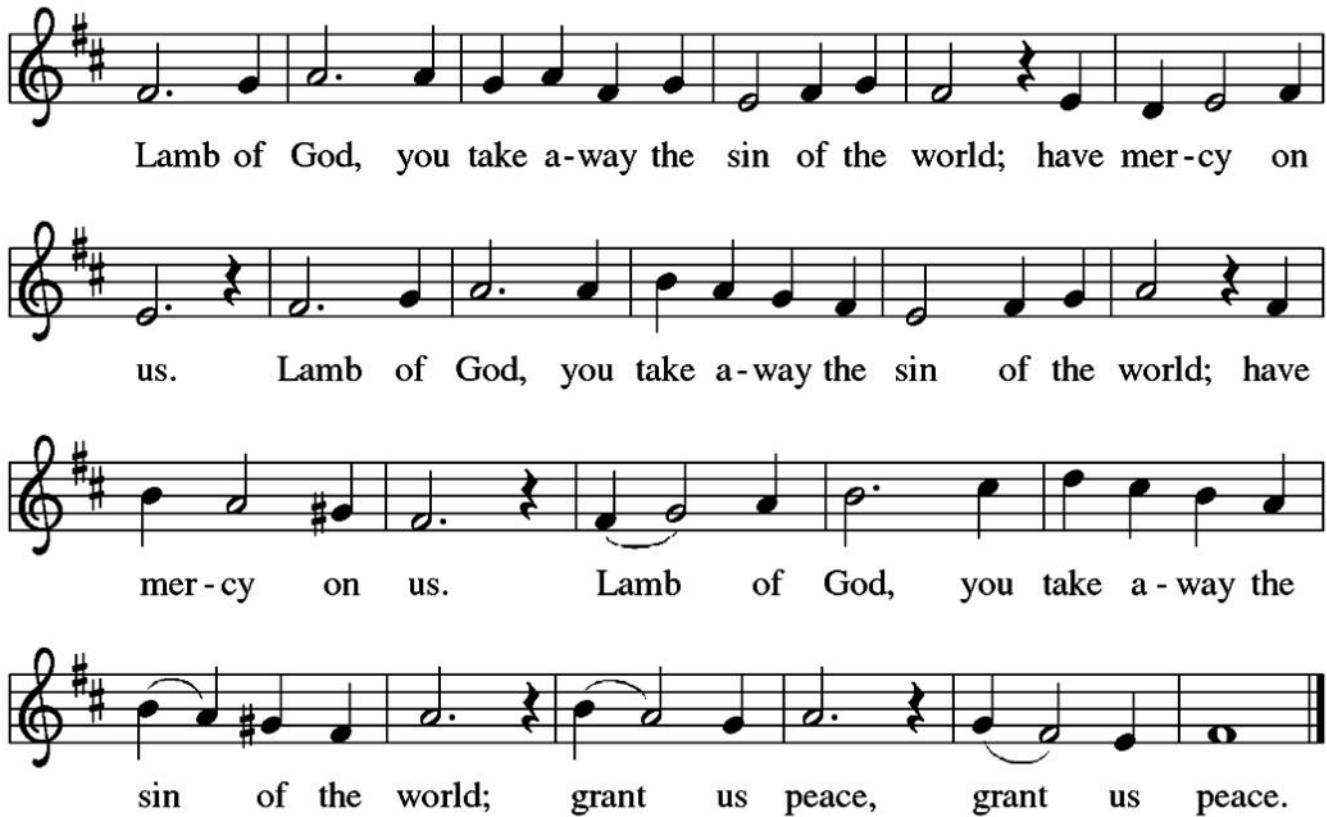
**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*At Grace, all are welcome to the Table of the Lord. At the ushers invitation, you are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine. Grape juice is offered as an additional substitute. As you return to your seat using the side aisle, there is a basket to dispose of your individual communion cup. Those who would like a blessing are also welcome to come forward. Simply ask Pastor for a blessing instead of taking communion.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

ELW # 396

### ***SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS***

*After all have communed, you will be invited to stand.*

## TABLE BLESSING

P: The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray. Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

P: Now may the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

ELW # 310

### ***SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE***

## **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace!

A: Let your light shine forever!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!** You are God's gift to us today. Please introduce yourself to the pastor and come worship with us again.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Our Sunday worship is live streamed on Facebook.

**DRIVE-IN CHURCH** - If you are joining us on Sunday in the parking lot please tune your radio to 90.3 FM.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Amy Rohloff, Melva & Wilbert Lohr, and Teddi & Dud Serwin, by Dave & Jan Serwin.

**RADIO BROADCAST** is given as a gift to the congregation. (**Radio Broadcasts can be heard each Sunday morning at 9:30 am on Eagle 99.1. Anyone wishing to sponsor a radio broadcast [cost is \$72.50], should contact the church office.**)

**THIS WEEK AS YOU PRAY** please remember: Larry Beck, Diane Berryman, Tim Dabrunz, Donna Garner, Roger Otermat, Duane Pump, Julie Stawowy, Connie Wasserman, Bob Wickert, and the family & friends of Donna Thatcher.

**HOSPITAL VISITS!** If you, or a member of your family, are in the hospital, please call the church office and let us know.

**HEARING DEVICES** are available at the Usher's station at the back of the Sanctuary. Please return after worship so that they can be charged and ready for the next service.

**PRAYER LIST REQUESTS** - If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer and would like to be added to our prayer list, please write their name on the back of our *Welcome Cards*. You are welcome to indicate what prayers are needed, i.e. "has an upcoming surgery" etc. Names submitted for our prayer list will remain on the list for four (4) weeks. Our goal is to keep the prayer list ever flowing and as up to date as possible.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday - Thursday from 9 am to 4 pm and Friday from 9 am - 1 pm.

**SUBMISSIONS FOR OUR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWSLETTER** should be sent to Tricia in the office at [dabrunztricia@yahoo.com](mailto:dabrunztricia@yahoo.com)

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**IT'S TIME TO BEGIN ASSEMBLING OUR 2025 ANNUAL REAPORT!** Reports from each committee and group at Grace are due in the church office by **noon on January 15**. Please submit your report as a Word document attached to an email and sent to [dabrunztricia@yahoo.com](mailto:dabrunztricia@yahoo.com) Thank you for your help with this important work.

**A BUDGET MEETING HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 13 AT 5:30 PM** in the lounge. This meeting will also be available via Zoom. If you would like to attend this meeting virtually please email the church office at [dabrunztricia@yahoo.com](mailto:dabrunztricia@yahoo.com) and we will send you the link to the meeting.

**END-OF-YEAR GIVING STATEMENTS** - Thank you for your faithful support of Grace throughout 2025! Please note that giving statements will be available ***By Request Only*** this year. If you would like a copy of your 2025 giving statement please reach out to the church office and we will gladly prepare one for you.

**LISTENING WITH A SECOND EAR WITH PR. BAILEY** - In the new year we will continue our opportunity to listen to one another. All are invited to a time of sharing, dreaming, and conversation following Sunday morning worship. We will gather in the pews at the front of the sanctuary.

**GRACE GATHERS** is a fellowship group that meets monthly. The next get together will be on **January 15 at 6 pm** at the Chateau Vineyard and Winery in Helena. Please RSVP by calling the church office by noon on Wednesday, January 14.

**BOOKWORMS** will meet on January 26 at 2 pm in the lounge to discuss the book *Killers of a Certain Age* by Deanna Raybourn.

**THE PROJECT DAY GROUP** will once again make quilts for the Let's Build Beds Project and for Lutheran World Relief. They are in need of FLAT bed sheets to use as the back of the quilts. These may be new or gently used (no holes or stains). Please drop off the sheets to the church office or place them in the shopping carts. Thank you for supporting the our local and Lutheran World Relief projects.

### WE'RE HIRING

**OUR CUSTODIAL TEAM** is looking for an extra set of hands to assist with mopping, vacuuming and other custodial needs. The position offers 6 - 8 hours per week. If you are interested please call the church office.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

**DO YOU HAVE A SMARTPHONE? Can you navigate a tablet?** Chances are we all can, which means you are qualified to be our next "organist". As we continue the search for our next organist we will be relying on the digital organ which is operated with our iPad. We could use your help! Please let the office know if you would like to know more about how to help during this time of transition.

### FOR OUR YOUTH

**KIDS ZONE** - Toddlers - 5th graders are invited to join Penny Russell and Cornelia Star following the Children's Message for a short lesson and activity. They will return to worship before communion. If your child does not wish to participate they return to their seat following the Children's Message.

**AFTERWORD** for our Middle & High School youth it's not the last word, just the next step. Students are invited following the sermon to connect with message of the day and pray. They will return to worship during the offering hymn.

<b>SERVING IN WORSHIP</b>	<b>SATURDAY - 4 PM</b>	<b>SUNDAY - 9 AM</b>
<b>ACOLYTE</b>		Olivia Michles
<b>GREETERS: NARTHEX</b>	Thomas O'Brien	Kathy Burmeister, Jan Guthrie
<b>GREETER: BAKER STREET</b>		Larry & Judy Overmyer
<b>WORSHIP ASSISTANT</b>		Tanya Schardt
<b>READERS</b>	Carole Miller	Helen Biddinger
<b>COMMUNION ASSISTANT</b>	Wendy Bailey	Becky Prasuhn
<b>DEACONS/CLOSERS</b>		Peggy Kiser, Cecilia Boucher

**THIS WEEK AT GRACE****January 11 - 18, 2026**

Today	9:00 - Worship/Communion/Kids Zone 10:15 - Confirmation 10:15 - Listening with a Second Ear with Pr. Bailey 12:30 - LIFT Board Meeting, St. John's
Monday	1:00 - Bible Study with Maureen 5:30 - Budget Hearing 6:00 - Pack 302 Den Meeting 6:00 - Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 - Church Council 7:00 - Dartball, Away
Tuesday	11:30 - 1:00 - Office Closed for Staff Development
Wednesday	<b>NOON - DEADLINE FOR EMAIL AND BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> 5:00 - S.L.A.M. with Maureen 6:00 - Youth Activities
Thursday	11:30 - Soup Kitchen 6:00 - Grace Gathers at The Chateau Vineyard and Winery, Helena
Friday	-----
Saturday	4:00 - Worship/Communion/Food Pantry Challenge
Sunday	<b>SANDUSKY COUNTY FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE</b> (canned soup or fruit & crackers) 9:00 - Worship/Communion/Kids Zone

**WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 103**

Saturday: 24; Sunday: 79

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# Grace Lutheran Church

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**Minister of Youth & Family:**

*Heather Hawn*  
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*Called to Present the Light of Christ!*