

***Welcome to Worship
at
Whitnall Park Lutheran Church***



***Sunday, January 11th, 2026
Baptism of Our Lord
8:30 and 10:30 am Worship***

Pastor Michael Fazio is presiding.

We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead. Please sign our Guest Register and introduce yourself as you leave worship today.

If you believe that the Lord is truly present for us in the Sacrament in body and blood for the forgiveness of sin, you are invited to join us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

As the prelude is a time of preparation, please consider quietly meditating.
meditating on these words of the Psalm during this time of reflection
The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)

CALL TO WORSHIP *302 As with Gladness Men of Old Vs 1*

- 1 As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by thee.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the pastor begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose
mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

**C: 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.**

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

C: Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN *303 Brightest and Best of the Stars*

- 1 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness
and lend us your aid. Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant redeemer is laid.
- 2 Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining; low lies his head with
the beasts of the stall; angels adore him in slumber reclining,
maker and monarch and savior of all.
- 3 What shall we give him, in costly devotion? Shall we bring incense
and off'rings divine, gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?
- 4 Vainly we offer each ample oblation, vainly with gifts would his favor
secure; richer by far is the heart's adoration, dearer to God are the
prayers of the poor.
- 5 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness
and lend us your aid. Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant redeemer is laid.

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.

KYRIE *Page 138 Setting 3*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Lord, have mer - cy.

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 mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE 314 *Arise, Your Light Has Come! Vs 1*

- 1 Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

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.

FIRST READING *a reading from Isaiah 42:1-9*

God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.

¹ 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. ² He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street; ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth, and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵ 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: ⁶ 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, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸ I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. ⁹ See, 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.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)

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.**

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

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

⁹ The 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!"

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

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

SECOND READING *a reading from Acts 10:34-43*

Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.

³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ 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. ³⁹ 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, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ 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.

⁴² 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. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *ELW 174 Celtic Alleluia*

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel *according to Matthew 3:13-17*

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.

¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

The is the Holy Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *304 Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized*

- 1 Christ, when for us you were baptized, God's Spirit on you came,
as peaceful as a dove, and yet as urgent as a flame, as urgent as a flame.
- 2 God called you, "My beloved Son"; you are God's servant true,
sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n, God's holy will to do,
God's holy will to do.
- 3 Straightway and steadfast until death you then obeyed the call
to serve with free and willing heart, to give your life for all,
to give your life for all.
- 4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord; your cross on us be signed,
that likewise in God's service we may perfect freedom find,
may perfect freedom find.

APOSTLE'S 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church,
all of humanity, and the well-being of the earth.

a brief silence.

A: Steadfast God, give faith to your servant church. Heal our sins and unite
us in mission. Uphold our lay leaders, missionaries, pastors, and bishops,
and all who proclaim hope in a broken world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Restoring God, cleanse the life-giving waters of rivers, seas, and springs.
Create in us a desire to preserve the beauty and bounty of your good
creation. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Righteous God, you guide the nations. Reconcile the world's divisions.
Defend the rights of all people. Sustain those who work for peace.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Loving God, awaken the gifts of the Spirit in this congregation, that we
may serve Christ by loving one another in faith. We pray for a spirit of
service that we may each contribute to your kingdom expressed through
this church. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Compassionate God, you care for all in distress. Provide safety and support for those suffering with addiction and post traumatic stress. Be near to the dying, and comfort all who are grieving or ill
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Promising God, in baptism we die and rise with Christ. We give thanks for those who have gone before us, and we trust that we will join them in your everlasting peace. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY HYMN 465 *As the Grains of Wheat*

**As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were
gathered into one to become our bread; so may all your people
from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.**

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray

C: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise
your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *ELW Setting One Pg 108*

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might, heaven 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life; Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in His death and resurrection. We look with hope for His coming.

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.**

COMMUNION

*As we accept the Lord's gift of His body and blood, we will receive Him in our
prefilled cups containing the wafer and juice or by intinction in the fullness of
faith that God's love and grace have been poured into these holy elements.*

*We receive the Lord and share in this holy meal; One Body, One Mind,
One Lord Jesus Christ. This is God's precious gift for you.*

COMMUNION SONG 195 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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS 296 What Child is This? 396 Spirit of Gentleness

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep
you in His grace.

C: Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE 207 *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . We give you thanks that you have fed us even now with the banquet that is yet to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us. Send us now to love and serve all those in need and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, ☩ guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN 551 *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

- 1 The Spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name
to bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.
- 2 We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free;
where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.
- 3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed
and, all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.
- 4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Christ is with you!

C: Thanks be to God.

