

# THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 12, 2025 • 9:00 a.m.

**PRELUDE** .....Carla Barrows, Organ

**WELCOME** ..... Pastor Lonnie Gonzales, Associate Pastor of Outreach

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN** .....“How Firm a Foundation” ..... LSB 728, vs. 1, 2, 3

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say than to you He has said  
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

“Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,  
For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose  
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no never, no never, forsake!

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## INVOCATION

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

**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION

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

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

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **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.**

## ABSOLUTION

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**HYMN OF PRAISE** ..... “Spirit of the Living God” ..... (2 times)

Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me,  
Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.

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**SALUTATION**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** .....Isaiah 43:1-7

- R** The Old Testament Reading is from the 43<sup>rd</sup> Chapter of Isaiah.
- R** <sup>1</sup>But now thus says the Lord, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine. <sup>2</sup>When 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. <sup>3</sup>For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. <sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in My eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup>Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring My sons from afar and My daughters from the end of the earth, <sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by My name, whom I created for My glory, whom I formed and made.” (ESV)
- R** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE READING** .....Romans 6:1-11

- R** The Epistle Reading is from the 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Romans.
- R** <sup>1</sup>What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup>We 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.  
  
<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. <sup>6</sup>We 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. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. <sup>10</sup>For the death He died He died to sin, once for all, but the life He lives He lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. (ESV)

- R** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

**ALLELUIA AND VERSE** ..... LSB 173

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

**GOSPEL READING** ..... Luke 3:15-22

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

**P** <sup>15</sup>As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but He who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in His hand, to clear His threshing floor and to gather the wheat into His barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>18</sup>So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup>But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup>added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

<sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**CONFESSION OF FAITH** ..... Apostles’ Creed

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** ..... Haley Zimmerman, Director of Youth and Children’s Ministries

**MESSAGE HYMN** . . . . . “This Is the Spirit’s Entry Now” . . . . . LSB 591, vs. 1, 2

Ensemble: *This is the Spirit’s entry now:  
The water and the Word,  
The cross of Jesus on your brow,  
The seal both felt and heard.*

All: This miracle of life reborn  
Comes from the Lord of breath;  
The perfect Man from life was torn;  
Our life comes through Christ’s death.

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**MESSAGE** . . . . . Pastor Lonnie Gonzales

**MESSAGE RESPONSE** . . . . . “This is the Spirit’s Entry Now” . . . . . LSB 591, vs. 3, 4

Ensemble: *Let water be the sacred sign  
That we must die each day  
To rise again by His design  
As foll’wers of His way.*

All: Renewing Spirit, hear our praise  
For Your baptismal pow’r  
That washes us through all our days;  
Lord, cleanse again this hour.

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**OFFERING**

*(Offerings may be submitted online to [www.trinitydt.org](http://www.trinitydt.org), by mail to Trinity Downtown,  
800 Houston Ave., Houston, TX 77007 or dropped off at the office, M-F, 8:30 - 5:00.)*

**MUSICAL OFFERING** . . . . . “Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)” . . . . . SATB Ensemble  
arr. Larson

*Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost, but now I’m found was blind but now I see.*

*‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.*

*My chains are gone, I’ve been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.*

*The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.*

*My chains are gone, I’ve been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.*

*My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.*

*The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine.  
But God who called me here below will be forever mine, will be forever mine.  
You are forever mine.*

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## PRAYERS

### LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

### BENEDICTION

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

### RECESSIONAL HYMN . . . . . "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" . . . . . LSB 395, vs. 1, 4, 6

O Morning Star, how fair and bright!  
You shine with God's own truth and light,  
Aglow with grace and mercy!  
Of Jacob's race, King David's son,  
Our Lord and master, You have won  
Our hearts to serve You only!  
Lowly, holy! Great and glorious,  
All victorious, Rich in blessing!  
Rule and might o'er all possessing!

Almighty Father, in Your Son  
You loved us when not yet begun  
Was this old earth's foundation!  
Your Son has ransomed us in love  
To live in Him here and above:  
This is Your great salvation.  
Alleluia! Christ the living,  
To us giving Life forever,  
Keeps us Yours and fails us never!

What joy to know, when life is past,  
The Lord we love is first and last,  
The end and the beginning!  
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,  
Transport us to that happy place  
Beyond all tears and sinning!  
Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!  
Crown of gladness! We are yearning  
For the day of Your returning!

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**POSTLUDE** .....Carla Barrows, Organ

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Divine Service, Setting 2 from Lutheran Service Book

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