

*Saint Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield*

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The Baptism of Our Lord  
January 12, 2025

**Color of the Day:** White - the festival color of the Church. It is reserved for celebrations that reflect themes of purity, light, innocence, holiness, and redemption, including special events in Jesus' life as His Birth, Baptism, Transfiguration, and Resurrection.

**Opening Hymn . . . . . #596 – All Christians Who Have Been Baptized**  
**Confession and Absolution . . . . .** Page 167

*Service of the Word*

**Introit. . . . .** Page 168

*Ps. 23:7-11, 12c; antiphon: Is. 42:1a*

Behold my servant, whom | I uphold,\*  
my chosen, in whom my | soul delights.  
I will tell of | the decree:\*  
The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have be- | gotten  
you.  
Ask of me, and I will make the nations your | heritage,\*  
and the ends of the earth your pos- | session.  
You shall break them with a | rod of iron\*  
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s | vessel.”  
Now therefore, O | kings, be wise;\*  
be warned, O rulers | of the earth.  
Serve the | LORD with fear,\*  
and rejoice with | trembling,  
for his wrath is quickly | kindled.\*  
Blessèd are all who take ref- | uge in him.  
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.  
Behold my servant, whom | I uphold,\*  
my chosen, in whom my | soul delights.

**Kyrie . . . . .** Page 168

**Hymn of Praise (This Is The Feast) . . . . .** Page 170

**Salutation & Collect of the Day . . . . .** Page 172

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.

**Old Testament Reading . . . . .** Page 172

*Isaiah 43:1-7*

<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.”

**Gradual. . . . .** Page 172

*Ps. 117:1-2a; 96:8*

Praise the LORD, all | nations!\*  
Extol him, all | peoples!  
For great is his steadfast | love toward us,\*  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.  
Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;\*  
bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

**Epistle Reading . . . . .** Page 172

*Romans 6:1-11*

<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.

**Choral Anthem**

**Alleluia & Verse** ..... Page 173

**Holy Gospel** ..... Page 173  
Luke 3:15-22

<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.”

**Children’s Message**

**Hymn of the Day** ..... #407 - To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord

**The Sermon** ..... **Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ** ~ Romans 6:1-11  
 Miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings), check out Pastor's blog at: <http://rabswritings.blogspot.com/> or Pastor Mendez's blog at: <https://pastormendez.blogspot.com/>

**Introduction**

Last Sunday was \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul words in our text \_\_\_\_\_.

**God’s Grace, A License to Sin?**

Human thinking and logic \_\_\_\_\_.

The fallacy \_\_\_\_\_.

As Paul puts it, \_\_\_\_\_.

**Being Planted with Jesus**

Paul reminds us of the importance of \_\_\_\_\_.

In this uniting with Christ, \_\_\_\_\_.

Not only has Jesus’ life \_\_\_\_\_.

**No Fear**

We just celebrated \_\_\_\_\_.

The reason Jesus was born \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus’ defeat of death \_\_\_\_\_.

**What Does This Mean?**

Paul’s words remind us \_\_\_\_\_.

Temptations do abound \_\_\_\_\_.

This morning \_\_\_\_\_.

And Jesus gives \_\_\_\_\_.

Unfortunately, \_\_\_\_\_.

**Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:**

**Creed** ..... Page 174/175

**Prayer of the Church & Offering** ..... Page 175

*Our First Fruits & Tithes are our regular, top priority, proportionate, grateful gifts to the Lord for the work of the Gospel. Our Offerings are special gifts for special causes over and above our tithes. This is an act of worship for members and friends of St. Matthew who are moved by God's love to respond to the Gospel. Guests should not feel obligated to participate.*

**Offertory** ..... Page 176

*Service of the Sacrament*

**Preface** ..... Page 177

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus & Prayer of Thanksgiving** ..... Page 178

**Lord’s Prayer and The Words of Our Lord** ..... Page 179

**Pax Domini & Agnus Dei** ..... Page 180

**Distribution** ..... Page 181

*Before partaking of the Lord’s Supper, we ask that you read our communion statement on the pew insert behind the Bible. Thank you.*

**Distribution Hymns** ..... #594 – God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It

#601 – All Who Believe and are Baptized

#598 - Once in the Blest Baptismal Waters

**Post-Communion Canticle (Thank the Lord)** ..... Page 181

**Post-Communion Collect and Benediction** ..... Page 183

**Closing Hymn** ..... #603 - We Know that Christ Is Raised