

# ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Our mission is to celebrate and share God's love in Jesus Christ*



<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."

## Baptism of Our Lord

January 11, 2026 at 8:15 & 11:00 AM

*ELW Setting Three*

## **WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL'S!**

If you are visiting with us for the first time, please share in all that is ours in Christ! We invite you to consider making St. Michael's your church home. Please ask us about our participation in God's mission in the world. By God's grace we celebrate and share Christ. *Our 11:00 worship service this morning is streamed live to St. Michael's Facebook and YouTube pages. Please keep conversation to a minimum in the sanctuary, you may be picked up by our sound system. If you prefer not to be seen on camera please speak to an usher and they will seat you outside of the video frame. Thank you for your understanding.*

### **DIGITAL SIGN IN**

You are welcome to sign in with our digital sign in. Please use the QR Code that can be found here in the bulletin or the iPad in the Narthex.



Ministers: The People of St. Michael's  
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### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## INTRODUCTION

*In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*"From God the Father"*

### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*The assembly is invited to stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

### CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\text{\textt{T}}$  one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,

**you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in  $\text{\textt{T}}$  Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN :***“Crashing Waters at Creation”*

ELW 455

1 Crashing waters at creation,  
ordered by the Spirit's breath,  
first to witness day's beginning  
from the brightness of night's death:

2 Parting water stood and trembled  
as the captives passed on through,  
washing off the chains of bondage—  
channel to a life made new.

3 Cleansing water once at Jordan  
closed around the one foretold,  
opened to reveal the glory  
ever new and ever old.

4 Living water, never ending,  
quench the thirst and flood the soul.  
Wellspring, source of life eternal,  
drench our dryness, make us whole.

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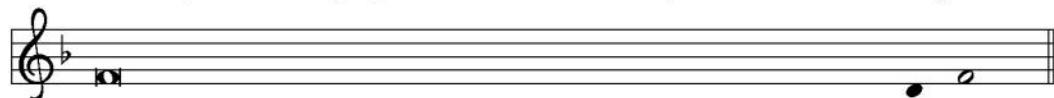
**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

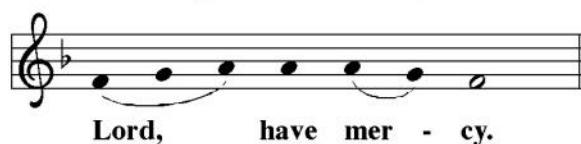
**And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

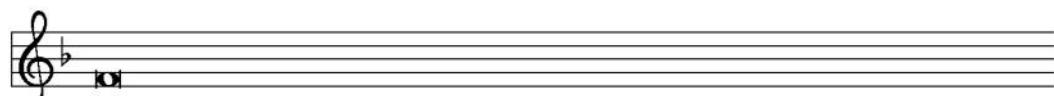
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.    Lord, have mercy.



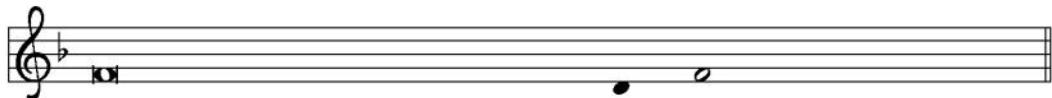
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mercy.



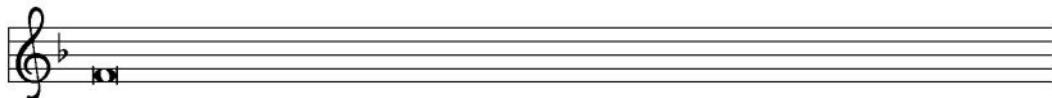
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



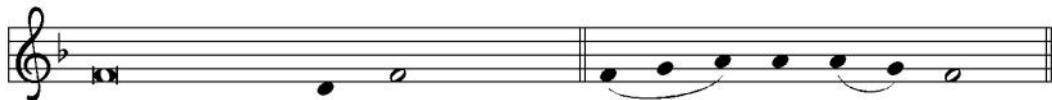
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



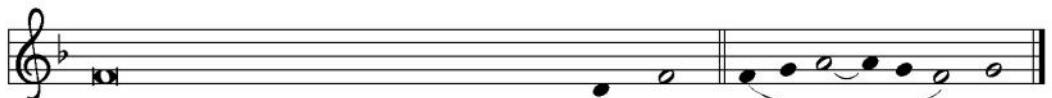
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.

## GLORIA

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo- ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **FIRST READING**

**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.

A reading from Isaiah.

<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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING**

**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.*

A reading from Acts.

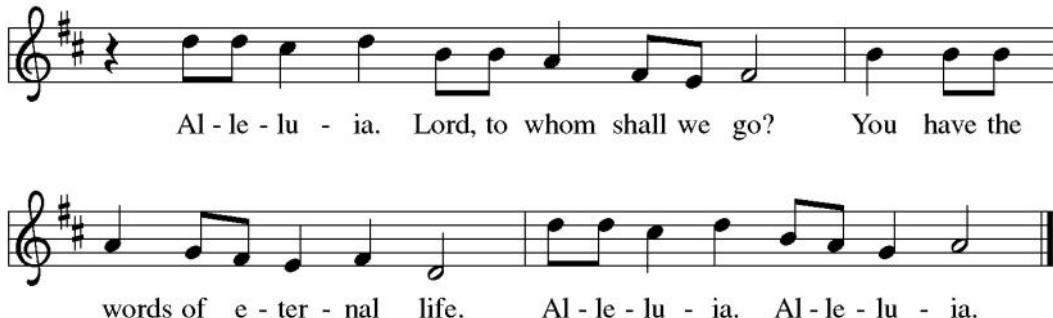
<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality,<sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him.<sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace 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.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly is invited to stand.*

## **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. Al - le - lu - ia.

## **GOSPEL:**

**Matthew 3:13-17**

*Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY****“When Jesus Came to Jordan”**

ELW 305

1 When Jesus came to Jordan  
to be baptized by John,  
he did not come for pardon  
but as the Sinless One.  
He came to share repentance  
with all who mourn their sins,  
to speak the vital sentence  
with which good news begins.

2 He came to share temptation,  
our utmost woe and loss,  
for us and our salvation  
to die upon the cross.  
So when the dove descended

3 on him, the Son of Man,  
the hidden years had ended,  
the age of grace began.  
Come, Holy Spirit, aid us  
to keep the vows we make;  
this very day invade us,  
and ev'ry bondage break.  
Come, give our lives direction,  
the gift we covet most:  
to share the resurrection  
that leads to Pentecost.

*Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000. Text © 1980 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission from OneLicense.net #A-711336*

**NICENE CREED**

*2025 marks the 1700th anniversary of the first ecumenical council of Nicaea. This commemoration is an opportunity to reflect on the importance of this church's ecumenical self-understanding and vocation. Recent developments in Lutheran-Orthodox relations present the possibility of continuing the journey toward reconciliation between Eastern and Western Christianity after nearly a millennium of church division over the addition of the filioque clause ("and the Son") to the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed. The Joint International Commission on Theological Dialogue between the Lutheran World Federation and the Orthodox Church's 2024 Common Statement on the Filioque is an important ecumenical breakthrough, concluding that the filioque is no longer church-dividing and inviting further dialogue and renewed theological reflection on the Trinity and the role of the Holy Spirit. In faithful response to this invitation, today we will profess the Creed without the filioque clause.*

**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*, 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 OF INTERCESSION**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, responding with "receive our prayer".

*A brief silence.*

Steadfast God, give courage to your servant church. Heal our divisions and unite us in mission. Uphold our lay leaders, missionaries, pastors, and bishops, and all who proclaim hope in a broken world. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Restoring God, cleanse the life-giving waters of rivers, seas, and springs, such as the Delaware River and Atlantic Ocean. Create in us an urgent desire to preserve the beauty and bounty of your good creation. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Righteous God, you guide the nations. Reconcile warring enemies and end cycles of violent retribution. Defend the rights of prisoners, detainees, and all who flee from persecution. Sustain international aid workers and peacemakers. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, you care for all in distress. Provide safety and support for those seeking asylum or in need of shelter. Be near to the dying, and comfort all who are grieving or ill, especially...those we name aloud...and those we hold in our hearts. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Loving God, awaken the gifts of the Spirit in this congregation, that we may serve Christ by loving one another, our neighbors, and our enemies. We pray for travelers and those who

are homebound. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

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. **Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## OFFERING

## **MUSICAL OFFERING:**

### 8:15: “I Bind Unto Myself Today”

## 11:00: “*The Grace Divine*”

## Vocal Choir

*Offering is being gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. You are invited to place your offering in one of the offering plates located in the rear of the Sanctuary or send your offering to the church office through the mail or by having your bank mail a check directly. You can also contribute using any of the electronic giving options found on our church website or app.*

*The assembly is invited to stand.*

## OFFERATORY

## **“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”**

A musical score for 'The Star-Spangled Banner' in G major, 2/4 time. The melody is in soprano voice, accompanied by a basso continuo part. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 2/4 time signature. The melody begins with a half note, followed by a quarter note, a eighth note, and a quarter note. The basso continuo part consists of eighth notes. The second system starts with a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 2/4 time signature. The melody continues with a eighth note, a quarter note, a eighth note, and a quarter note. The basso continuo part consists of eighth notes.

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

bless-ing. Gath - er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your  
 pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

*Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission from OneLicense.net #A-711336*

## OFFERING PRAYER

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.

**Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

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 our thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

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:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. 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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **THE 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.**

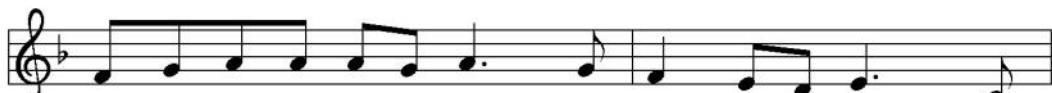
### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

*We give thanks as we receive the real presence of our resurrected Lord in, with, and under the bread and the wine. Communion will be distributed continuously under the direction of the ushers. Take an empty cup to receive from a pouring chalice (let the communion assistant know if you prefer grape juice). Please let the pastor know if you require a gluten free host. When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say “The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.” and each person may respond, “Amen”. Worshippers who are not yet communing are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

### **LAMB OF GOD**



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.

*The assembly is seated.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

*“Baptized and Set Free”*

ELW 453

<p>1 We are people created, chosen by God. Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love. Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door to a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.</p>	<p>3 We are nourished by water, all living things, and by life that the Spirit abundantly brings. As we journey toward home, may your presence be known: precious river, ever-flowing, now carry us home.</p>
<p>2 We are fed and we're nourished, filled and refreshed. Then our hunger returns and again we are blessed. For whatever the need, God is greater indeed: endless ocean, always deeper than all of our need.</p>	<p>4 Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song. All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong. Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be one in Jesus, one in water, baptized and set free!</p>

*Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956. Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission from OneLicense.net #A-711336*

*“Baptized in Water”*

ELW 456

1 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:  
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,  
faithfully now God's praise we sing.

3 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
marked with the sign of Christ our king:  
born of the Spirit, we are God's children;  
joyfully now God's praise we sing.

2 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
dead in the tomb with Christ our king:  
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,  
thankfully now God's praise we sing.

*Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932. Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. from OneLicense.net #A-711336*

*After all have communed the assembly is invited to stand.*

**TABLE BLESSING**

The Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in Christ's Grace. **Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION HYMN**

*“Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise”*

ELW 204

Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev'-ry-one what God has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.

Send us with your prom-is - es and lead your peo-ple forth in joy with

shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise  
☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*“Christ, When For Us You Were Baptized”*

ELW 304

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.	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.
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.	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.

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*“God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens”*

*The Eternal Candle is given by Mary Beth Neilson with thanks to God for another year and  
in honor of all January birthdays.*

## **UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS**

### **Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, martyr, died 1968**

*Thursday, January 15, 2026*

An American prophet of justice among races and nations, King was an eloquent preacher, a leader of the nonviolent resistance to race-segregated society, and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Born on this date, he was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

### **Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356**

*Saturday, January 17, 2026*

One of the earliest of the Egyptian desert fathers, Antony gave away his sizeable inheritance and became a hermit. Later he became leader of a group of monks who devoted themselves to prayer, worship, and labor.

### **Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346**

*Saturday, January 17, 2026*

Born in Egypt, Pachomius became a Christian while a soldier. He became a hermit (a solitary monk) and organized others into a religious community. His rule for monasteries influenced later ones in both the Eastern and Western churches.

## **COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY**

Join us today after both services for coffee, goodies, and fellowship! Catch up after the holidays with friends and make some new ones. All are welcome to join us in the Narthex.

## **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

Confirmation class will meet on an irregular schedule. The class schedule for the next few weeks is as follows:

- Sunday, January 11, 25

All classes start at 7:00 PM. If you have any questions about confirmation or are interested in being a presenter for this years program please contact Pastor Chris.

## **CHRISTIAN ED**

Check out our bulletin board for full details and schedules for our groups. The schedule for the next few weeks is as follows:

- **Michaelights** (6-12th grade) meets in Youth Room on 1/11
- **Pray & Grow** (K-5th grade) meets in Lower Sunday School Room on 1/18
- **Faith in Conversation** will meet in the Choir Room on 2/1

All groups meet at 9:30 AM. Please see Pastor Chris, or Kim Billet with questions.

## **RENTING SPACE AT ST. MICHAEL'S**

We welcome opportunities to share our space with St Michael's family members and friends in our community. There are a variety of rooms available for social gatherings, such as bridal or baby showers, birthday and retirement celebrations and memorial events. We have hosted music lessons, recitals, auditions and rehearsals. Our social hall stage is well-suited to support students or performers at all levels. Civic groups or social / hobby clubs are also invited. Flexible office space is available for those who work from home but occasionally need a site for meetings or interviews. Honorariums for the use of church spaces vary based on event details. Please note that the church building and grounds are smoke and alcohol free. Help us spread the word and contact the church office for more information.

## **BOOK CLUB MEETING 2/2/26**

Our next meeting of the SMLC Book Club will be Monday, February 2 at 7:00 PM. Join us for our discussion of our next selection, *Chenneville* by Paulette Jiles. All are welcome!

## **STITCHING SISTERS**

A new year—a new chance to start knitting! Join the Stitching Sisters on the second and third Thursday of each month at 11:00 AM as they work on various projects for charity. Bring your needles, yarn, and your lunch. See Allyson Zinman with questions.

## **BUDGET FORUM & ANNUAL MEETING**

Members, mark your calendars for the upcoming meetings:

- Sunday, January 18 at 9:30 AM: Budget Forum Meeting
- Sunday, January 25: 2025 Annual Meeting (directly following the 10:00 AM worship service)

While all are welcome to attend, please note that only full members will be welcome to vote. If you are unsure of your status, please reach out to Pastor Chris prior to the meeting.

## **2026 ENVELOPES ARE HERE**

If you ordered giving envelopes for 2026, they are on the table in the Narthex. Please pick them up; if you do not wish to take your envelopes, please contact the office.

## **ROOTS CLASS WITH KAREN ROORDA**

WARRIOR Rhythm ROOTS™ is the perfect blend of rhythmic yoga flows, mindful movements, and invigorating, low impact exercises tailored for active agers and adaptive athletes. Enhance your balance, flexibility, and strength with the full or partial support of a chair. Classes will be held in the Social Hall at 1pm on Sundays 1/18 through 2/22 and will be led by instructor Ann Allen with support from member Karen Roorda. Register for the 6-week series with a signup sheet in the Narthex at the introductory rate of \$50 for 6 classes. Feel free to tell a friend!

## **JOSEPH'S HOUSE DINNER CASSEROLES**

The next opportunity to provide dinner casseroles is TODAY, SUNDAY, JANUARY 11. Volunteers are needed to serve dinner at Joseph's House on the second Tuesday of each month. We will meet at church at 4:45pm (Dinner is served at 6:00pm) and return around 8:00pm. You can also drive yourself and meet at Joseph's House at 5:15pm. If you would like to serve, please contact Ray Kratz by phone (609-923-5718) or email (raykratz@gmail.com).

## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Worship Assistants can now update their availability through the end of March using the Church Connect app. This helps the office know who is available and who is not during this time period. *Please update your availability by Sunday, January 25th.*

## **MARTHA CIRCLE MEETING**

The next meeting of Martha Circle will be Tuesday, January 20 at 12:00 PM in the Social Hall. Dottie Leonard's group is responsible for drinks and desserts. Bring your lunch and your ideas for the new year. As always, new members are always welcome.

## PARISH CALENDAR

### **Sunday, January 11**

*Fellowship & Coffee Sunday*  
8:00 AM JH Casserole drop-off  
8:15 AM Worship In-Person  
9:30 AM MichaelLights  
11:00 AM Worship In-Person, Facebook,  
YouTube  
12:00 PM Vocal Choir Rehearsal  
12:30 PM Reconciling Works  
6:00 PM NA Meeting  
7:00 PM Confirmation Class

### **Monday, January 12**

**Tuesday, January 13**  
7:30 PM Council Meeting

**Wednesday, January 14**

9:30 AM Weight Watchers Meeting  
11:00 AM & 6:00 PM Bible Study

### **Thursday, January 15**

11:00 AM Stitching Sisters  
7:30 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

### **Friday, January 16**

**Saturday, January 17**  
4:00 PM Youth Group D& D Campaign

### **Sunday, January 18**

8:15 AM Worship In-Person  
9:30 AM Pray & Grow  
9:30 AM Budget Forum  
11:00 AM Worship In-Person, Facebook,  
YouTube  
12:00 PM Vocal Choir Rehearsal  
12:30 PM ROOTS class  
6:00 PM NA Meeting



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.