**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Baptism of Our Lord Sunday, January 9, 2022**

**\*If you are listening in your car, please tune your radio to FM 87.7\***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRELUDE**

**Gathering**

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

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who looks upon us in compassion,

forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Have mercy, O God,

**against you, you alone, we have sinned.**

**In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt.**

**Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit.** **Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.**

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God’s compassion for you.

As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God’s love for you.

As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

**Blessed be God forever.**

**Gathering Song“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” ELW 311**

A sheet of music

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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.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray together.

**Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever**. **Amen.**

**First Reading**    **Isaiah 43:1-7**

A reading from Isaiah.

1But now thus says the Lord,  
  he who created you, O Jacob,  
  he who formed you, O Israel:  
 Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
  I have called you by name, you are mine.  
 2When 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.  
 3For I am the Lord your God,  
  the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.  
 I give Egypt as your ransom,  
  Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.  
 4Because you are precious in my sight,  
  and honored, and I love you,  
 I give people in return for you,  
  nations in exchange for your life.  
 5Do not fear, for I am with you;  
  I will bring your offspring from the east,  
  and from the west I will gather you;  
 6I will say to the north, “Give them up,”  
  and to the south, “Do not withhold;  
 bring my sons from far away  
  and my daughters from the end of the earth—  
 7everyone who is called by my name,  
  whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 29**

1Ascribe to the **|** Lord, you gods,  
  ascribe to the Lord glo- **|** ry and strength.  
 2**Ascribe to the Lord the glory | due God’s name;**  
  **worship the Lord in the beau- | ty of holiness.**  
 3The 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 pow- | erful voice;**  
  **the voice of the Lord is a | voice of splendor.**   
 5The voice of the Lord breaks the **|** cedar trees;  
  the Lord breaks the ce- **|** dars of Lebanon;  
 6**the Lord makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,**  
  **and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**  
 7The voice **|** of the Lord  
  bursts forth in **|** lightning flashes.  
 8**The voice of the Lord| shakes the wilderness;**  
  **the Lord shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.**   
 9The 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 a- | bove the flood;**  
  **the Lord sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**  
 11O Lord, give strength **|** to your people;  
  give them, O Lord, the bless- **|** ings of peace.

**Second Reading**   **Acts 8:14-17**

A reading from Acts.

14Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. 15The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit 16(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). 17Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia**

**Gospel** **Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

15As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 16John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”  
  
  21Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 22and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

**Hymn of the Day “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart” ELW 800**

Diagram

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**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.**

\*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

**prayers of Intercession**

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

*A brief silence.*

By the Holy Spirit, you gather your church and send it out in mission to share the good news of Jesus. Inspire your faithful people to be fervent in prayer and service, that all people know they are precious in God’s sight. We pray especially for Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Rev. Matthew Smith, and Rev. John Burow. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

You reveal your love and power through water and the Spirit. Guard rivers, seas, and all bodies of water from destruction and pollution. Secure access to clean water for all, and protect the land from drought and flood. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Establish among the nations the blessings of peace. Raise up leaders who will protect vulnerable people in their care. Strengthen advocates who risk reputation or retaliation for the sake of mercy and justice. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

You protect us through the fires and troubled waters of this life. Assure us that we will not be cut off from you by illness or despair, anxiety or pain, confusion or weakness. Comfort all who are in need. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

We are joined in baptism to Christ and to one another. Bless those who are newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism. Help us to be faithful in fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and justice-seeking. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

You created each of your saints for your glory. We give thanks for those you have called by name into your eternal embrace (especially). Comfort us in grief and release us from fear. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering & Offering song**

Timeline

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**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray. God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

**Amen.**

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

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.

**Lord’s Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

Taste and see that the Lord is good. You may receive your communion elements.

**BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and keep you in His grace.

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**Blessing**

God, the Source of glory, God, the Word of life, God, the Spirit of truth

☩ bless you all, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Sending SonG “Spirit of Gentleness” ELW 396**

Diagram, schematic

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**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SERVED TODAY:**

**Presider: Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Elder: Jolene Griffin**

**Trustee: Dan Zylstra**

**Offering Counters: Mary Makley & Martha Yoder**

**Safety Person: Diane Griffin**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **Annual Meeting Reports due** this Wednesday. Any reports that you would like included in the annual meeting packet, please turn into the secretary (electronically if at all possible) by Wednesday evening.
* **Decorations:** Hopefully everyone had a blessed Christmas, enjoying the true meaning of the season! As you start to take down or think about taking down your Christmas decorations, if there are any you no longer have room for or no longer want, please consider donating to our 2022 Free Christmas Tree Farm that we will host in November. This year the fellowship hall was full of trees, ornaments, decorations, wrapping paper and so much Christmas spirit. The items were free for those in our community who needed Christmas decorations. If you need someone to pick them up from your house, please let Jolene or Martha know, we can make arrangements to get them.
* **Thank you:** Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped deliver the packages for the Lakewood Community Council's annual Christmas Baskets this year.  A special thank you to Claude and Mary Smith.  They each applied for and received $250.00 grants from Thrivent Financial.  Mary's $250.00 action team grant was used to purchase gifts for 7 girls and 6 boys.  She had the Sunday School class help wrap the gifts on December 5th.  With some remaining money, she purchased socks.  Claude's action team $250.00 grant was to purchase a large crate of apples.  He got the apples and met his team of men at Central United Methodist Church.  The Co-0p Elevator used their forklift to get the large crate out of the truck and then the men bagged and put the apples in the boxes for each family.  All the items collected at Zion were taken to Central the week of packing.  Did you know that Claude is now the president of the LCC?  Merry Christmas
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**This week at Zion:**

* Grand Rapids Area Pastor Conference 11 AM Tuesday, January 11
* Council Meeting Tuesday, January 11 at 6:30 PM
* Men’s Coffee Wednesday, January 12 at 8 AM

**Save the Date:**

* Annual meeting: January 16, after service