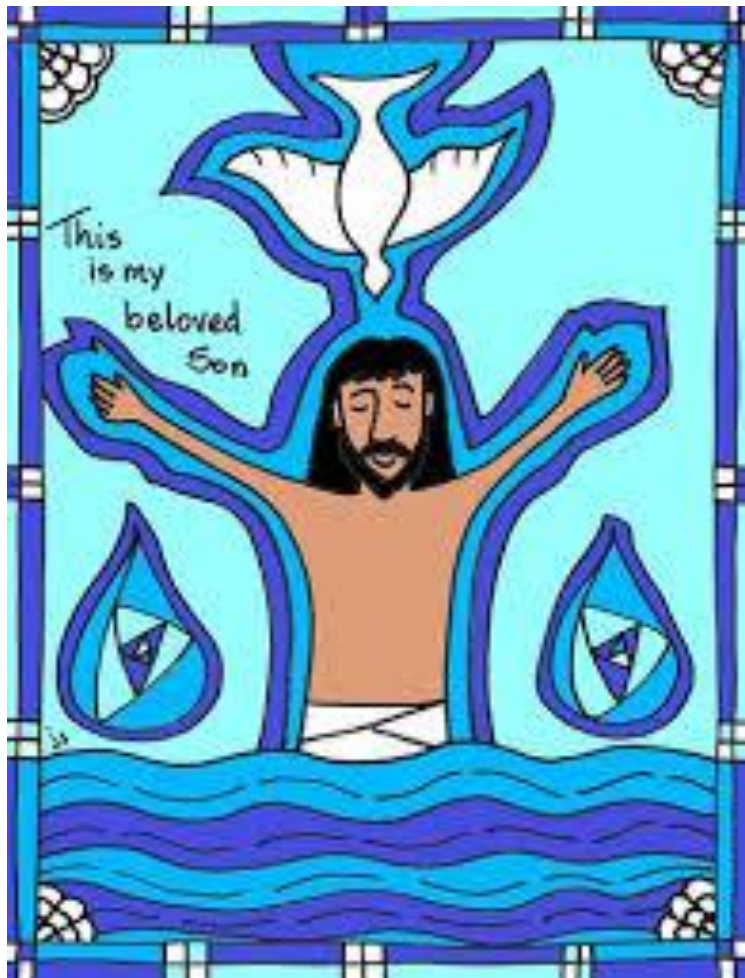


# The Baptism of Our Lord



**Saint John Lutheran Church**

Hattiesburg, Mississippi

**January 7, 2024**

# Welcome!

*"How great is the Love the Father has lavished on us!" (1 John 3:1).*

We are thankful that you are joining in the worship with the people of God this day. We are glad to assist you at any time.

To better your experience while at St. John:

- Please check that cell phones are silenced.
- Restrooms are located on the right in the lobby and down the bell tower hallway to the right towards the fellowship hall.
- Prayer requests may be written on the white cards in the pew rack and given to an usher or the Pastor before worship begins, or as you leave.
- A self-staffed nursery is available to parents as needed, past the double wooden doors on the left.
- Activity bags to help keep young children occupied during the message are provided in the back right corner of the sanctuary.
- If this is your first visit, please sign our Guest Book located in the lobby near the Sanctuary.

**Notice to Worshipers:** Today's service is livestreamed and recorded. It is available for public viewing and playback at [www.SaintJohnHattiesburg.com](http://www.SaintJohnHattiesburg.com) by clicking on the 'Watch Live' button.

## About the Offering

An offering is gathered at the entrance of the Sanctuary. Here the people of God bring their tithes and sacrificial offerings as an expression of their discipleship, and for the continuation of Jesus' mission work, both in this community and to the ends of the earth. Guests are not expected to bring financial gifts but are welcome to join the congregation in offering their prayers and praises.

## About Holy Communion

Today we celebrate Holy Communion. In this, we remember that the Divine is united with the created as one in the person of Jesus.

This altar is the Lord's table. Here all are welcome who acknowledge their need for a Savior and look to Jesus. We believe what he simply says about the bread – "This is my body, given for you." – and about the wine – "This is my blood, shed for you." Thus, the Lord Jesus is truly present for his redeemed people in this holy meal. In this we retain the divine mystery in the midst of his ordinary creation. From the many seeds of wheat come one loaf. From the many grapes are pressed one cup. His many diverse people constitute one body and community of faith.

Young children are welcome to this altar to receive a blessing, as are those who have not been instructed in the Christian faith. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest or by simply asking for a blessing.

The individual communion cups in the center of the tray have white grape juice for those who desire it. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.

*We are imperfect people and we live in an imperfect world. We are all in this together. So when we believe or act wrongly towards someone, or when we feel that another has wronged us, we commit ourselves to the humble teaching and forgiving pattern of Jesus in Matthew 18.*

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# The Baptism of Our Lord

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## + GATHERING +

**Prayer As We Begin** — *Please stand.*

**C** Heavenly Father, as we come before you this morning in Jesus' name, we pray all that we say and do in our worship will give you glory. Help us, Lord, to focus our thoughts on you, so your Word will find fertile ground in our minds and hearts. May the worship service today accomplish in us the purpose you desire. Amen.

## The Invocation, Confession, and Absolution

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! 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.

*Silence for reflection on God's word and for self-examination. Then the confession.*

**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.

*The minister pronounces the 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 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.

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 170

The musical notation is for the Gloria in Excelsis, featuring two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: **A** Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values. Below it, the lyrics are: **C** 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.

## Peace and Collect Prayer

**P** The LORD be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** We pray together...

**C** 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. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## + WORD +

### Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

**L** *The Old Testament Reading for the Baptism of our Lord is from Genesis, Chapter One, Verses 1-5. God orchestrates good origins. Word, light, water, matter, Spirit, order, purpose, promise, morning, evening, the first day.*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

<sup>3</sup>And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

**L** This is the Word of the LORD.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Choir Anthem ~ Baptized in Water

### Epistle Reading

Romans 6:1-11

**L** *The Epistle is from Romans, Chapter Six, Verses 1-11. Death and birth are intimately, eternally connected in the baptismal waters inhabited by Jesus and his followers.*

<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.

**L** This is the Word of the LORD.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia Verse — *Please stand.*

LSB 173



## Holy Gospel

Mark 1:4-11

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the First Chapter.



- <sup>4</sup>John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
- <sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup>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.



*Please be seated.*

## Children's Message

# To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord

LSB 407



1 To Jor - dan came the Christ, our Lord, To do His Fa - ther's  
3 These truths on Jor - dan's banks were shown By might - y word and  
5 To His dis - ci - ples spoke the Lord, "Go out to ev - 'ry  
7 All that the mor - tal eye be - holds Is wa - ter as we



plea - sure; Bap - tized by John, the Fa - ther's Word  
won - der. The Fa - ther's voice from heav'n came down,  
na - tion, And bring to them the liv - ing Word  
pour it. Be - fore the eye of faith un - folds



Was giv - en us to trea - sure. This heav'n - ly wash - ing  
Which we do well to pon - der: "This man is My be -  
And this My in - vi - ta - tion: Let ev - 'ry - one a -  
The pow'r of Je - sus' mer - it. For here it sees the



now shall be A cleans - ing from trans - gres - sion  
lov - ed Son, In whom My heart has plea - sure.  
ban - don sin And come in true con - tri - tion;  
crim - son flood To all our ills bring heal - ing;



And by His blood and ag - o - ny Re - lease from death's op -  
Him you must hear, and Him a - lone, And trust in full - est  
To be bap - tized and there - by win Full par - don and re -  
The won - ders of His pre - cious blood The love of God re -



pres - sion. A new life now a - waits us.  
mea - sure The word that He has spo - ken."  
mis - sion And heav'n - ly bliss in - her - it."  
veal - ing, As - sur - ing His own par - don.

**The Message** — Rev. Chet Scherbarth ~ *on Romans 6:1-11*

**Prayers of the Church** — *Please stand.*

## Nicene Creed

**P** The holy Church throughout the world confesses this faith:

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

## + MEAL +

*This is Christ's table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast which he has prepared. In this meal we truly receive the body and blood of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ. This is a great and divine mystery! Here we are joined with God and all the saints, and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Young children and those who would prefer to receive a blessing are welcome to come forward.*

*The individual communion cups in the center of the tray have white grape juice for those who desire it. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.*

## The Preface and Hymn of Praise

**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 Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 178

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. 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.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Our Father

**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.

## The Words of Institution and Agnus Dei

LSB 180

**C** 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, grant us peace.

*Please be seated.*

## Distribution Hymns

### O Christ, Our True and Only Light

LSB 839

1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en  
3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may  
5 That they with us may ev - er - more Such grace with  
those who sit in night; Let those a - far now  
find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science  
won - d'ring thanks a - dore And end - less praise to  
hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - joice.  
sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.  
You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

### Once in the Blest Baptismal Waters

LSB 598

1 Once in the blest bap - tis - mal wa - ters I put on  
2 His bod - y and His blood I've tak - en In His blest  
3 And thus I live in God con - tent - ed And die with -





Christ and made Him mine; Now num - bered with God's sons and  
Sup - per, feast di - vine; Now I shall nev - er be for -  
out a thought of fear; My soul has to God's plans con -



daugh - ters, I share His peace and love di - vine.  
sak - en, For I am His, and He is mine.  
sent - ed, For through His Son my faith is clear.



*Refrain*  
O God, for Je-sus' sake I pray Your peace may bless my dy-ing day.

## + SENDING +

### Dismissal, Concluding Prayer, Benedicamus, and Blessing

**P** Let us bless the LORD.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** We speak the Romans 15 blessing to one another:

**May the God of HOPE  
fill you with all JOY and PEACE  
as you TRUST in him,  
so that YOU may overflow with HOPE  
by the POWER of the Holy Spirit.**

**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

### Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

LSB 394



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
4 Sun and moon shall dark-ened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;  
5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—





Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,  
 Christ will then like light - ning shine, All will see His glo - rious sign;  
 Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
 All will then the trum - pet hear, All will see the Judge ap - pear;  
 That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 Thou by all wilt be con - fessed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

## THIS WEEK

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THU</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
10:30 Worship						9am Men's Breakfast
LWML MITES/ Breadbasket						Fellowship Hall in Use all Day



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## Take Home Announcements — Sunday, January 7, 2024

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### Serving the Lord Today

**Pastor** Rev. Chet Scherbarth  
619.385.2094  
pastorscherbarth@gmail.com  
**Pastor's hours:** Tue-Thu 9-1, Fri-Sun by appt.,  
Mon-off  
**Altar Guild** Debbie Frederick &  
Christina Keiper  
**Pianist** Lewei He  
**Acolyte** Paul Scherbarth  
**Lector** Elaina Potesta

### Today's Theme

*In the aftermath of Christ's Baptism, the Father's voice from heaven speaks to Jesus: "You are My Beloved Son; with You I am well pleased." All goodness proceeds from God's Word. It creates, separating light from darkness; it redeems, burying us in Baptism and raising us to new life; it sanctifies us that we may be alive to God in Christ. Through God's Word in Baptism, we, too, are claimed to be His own, clothed with the righteousness of Christ.*

**Altar Flowers:** by Debbie Frederick  
celebrating Jerry's birthday

**Eternal Candle:** By Patricia Davenport  
celebrating first birthday of Great-granddaughter, Emersyn Rae

### Scriptures for Next Sunday

1 Samuel 3:1-10  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51

### Birthdays

Jerry Frederick	1/11
Don Shields	1/11
Gracie Scherbarth	1/13

### Baptismal Anniversaries

Jane O'Connor	1/10
Isaac Jimenez	1/13
Michael Jimenez	1/13
Naomi Jimenez	1/13

**LWML** — MITES collected today! If you are unable to attend worship service, you may make your check out to Saint John Lutheran LWML and mail it directly to Christina Noffke at 108 Ramblewood Drive, Hattiesburg, MS 39402. Thank you for your support of the Mission Grants of the Gulf States District and National LWML. There will be no LWML meeting in January.

**Breadbasket** — Non-perishable items are collected the first Sunday of each month to help feed those in need in our community.

**Men's Breakfast** — **9am** at Chesterfield's Restaurant located at 4646 Hardy Street. Bring a friend, bring an appetite, and enjoy food and fellowship.

**Prayer List** — Please look through the prayer and let the office know if there are any updates you'd like to make. Thank you!



<b>Prayers Needed</b>			
Chris Thiel	Serving Stateside (FL)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	10/1/16
Kelly Thiel	Serving Stateside (NC)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	11/20/16
Cory Thiel	Serving Overseas (Germany)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	11/20/22
Matt Geroux	Serving Stateside (TX)	Son of Kerry and Debbie Geroux	04.09.2022
Scott Chaney	Serving Stateside	Member	5/6/18
Bill Lowry	Serving Overseas	Member	4/15/19
John Krahling	Recurring Cancer	Son of Joyce Coll	7/15/18
Eric Martin	Health & Strength	Member	9/17/23
Kenneth Johnson	Prostate Cancer	Brother of Wayland Johnson	10/18/20
Lisa Case	Health & strength	Member	3/22/23
DuWayne Lemke	Lung Cancer	Brother of Shirley Thone	3/24/21
Doug Taylor, Bo Cleveland, Judy Lacey	Seriously ill	Friends of Don Shields	1/26/22
Yvonne Lee	Health and Strength	Mother of Patrice Lovdahl	6/29/22
Josephine Nwachuku	Prayers for Health and Strength	Member	9/11/22
Ian VanWinkle	Started infusions/Crohn's Disease	Nephew of Terry & Patrice Lovdahl	10/9/22
Geraldine Wheeler	Health and strength	Member	2/12/23
Doris Schneider	Prayers for Health & Strength	Member	2/22/23
Cheyenne Thiel	Prayers for Health & Strength	Member	3/3/23
Julie Radavich	Prayers for Health & Strength	Member	3/13/23
Cindy Landry	Health & Strength	Member	4/23/23
Shelly Pardue	Strength & Healing	Doris Schneider's son	6/11/23
Ricky Myers	Now at home recovering from liver transplant	Friend of Jane & Wayland Johnson	9/10/23
Ron Werner	Health & strength undergoing radiation Treatment	Brother of Patricia Davenport	8/9/23
Vanessa Ajayi	Breast cancer	Friend of Lillian Smith	9/10/23
Lisa Boswell	Colon cancer	Friend of Lillian Smith	9/10/23
Vic Miller	Cancer	Friend of the Lovdahl's	9/17/23
Joye McNelis	Cancer	Cousin of Patrice Lovdahl	9/17/23
Sandy Barnett	Heart concerns	Member	10/18/23
Trenia Thiel	Health & strength during recovery	Member	11/19.23
Robert Schmalz	In hospital in New Orleans	Brother of Elaine Kersh	11/19/23
Trace Fisher	Health, Strength & Recovery/ Prayers for Tom & Erica Fisher as they care for Trace	Nephew of Pastor Scherbarth	11/21/23
Family of Demsey Lee	Died in the Lord 11/24	Cousin of Patrice & Terry Lovdahl	11/25/23
Laura Kick	Terminal cancer	Friend of Lisa Case	12/24/23
Warner Boortz	Had surgery 1/4- prayers for successful recovery	Member	12/30/23
Grace & Ivy	Grace-health & strength Ivy-Born 12/30/23 2lbs, 5oz-many needs for this newborn.	Granddaughter & Great Granddaughter of Susan & W.F. Perkins	12/30823



### **Saint John Lutheran Church**

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Like Us on Facebook: Saint John Church Hattiesburg



**Church Office Hours:** 8:00am – 12:00pm, Monday – Thursday

**Pastor's Hours:** Tue-Thu: 9:00am – 1:00pm; Fri – Sun: by appt; Mon: off