

## **Baptism of Our Lord**

January 11, 2026



**Holy Cross Lutheran Church, ELCA**

**[holycrossmtnhome.com](http://holycrossmtnhome.com)**

**48 Carnation Drive**

**Mountain Home, AR 72653**

**870-492-6636**

**[holycrosssecretary.1@gmail.com](mailto:holycrosssecretary.1@gmail.com)**

**Dan Schmidt, Music Director**



We're glad you're here!

Visitors are invited to fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate. Join us for fellowship after worship!

Thank you to Phyllis Hamilton for hosting today!

*As we enter the sanctuary, let us quietly prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

*Prelude*

*Welcome & Announcements*

## **Gathering**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

L: The Peace of Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you!**

L: Let us offer this gift of God's peace to one another.

### **Confession & Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\dagger$  one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**C: Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L: Mighty God, lover of justice,

**C: 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.**

L: 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  $\dagger$  Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

**C: Amen.**

## Opening Hymn ELW#454

“Remember and Rejoice”



1 Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by floods of grace.  
2 In life, in death, we trust in God's most ho - ly name,  
3 We pledge our - selves a - new to flee the lures of hell,  
4 God, bless us by your grace; re - mind us of your care.  
5 Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by floods of grace.



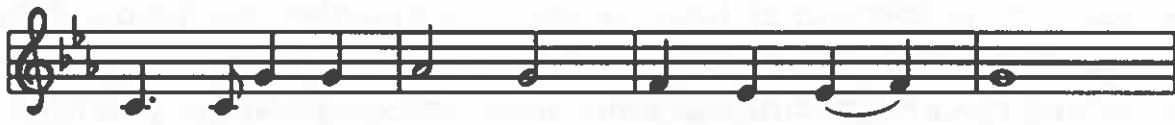
We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.  
for - ev - er traced by wa - ter sign, and sealed by Spir - it flame.  
to cling to Christ's com - mu - ni - ty, in jus - tice, peace to dwell.  
Re - new-ing Spir - it, fill us now, in - spire our work, our prayer.  
We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.

## Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

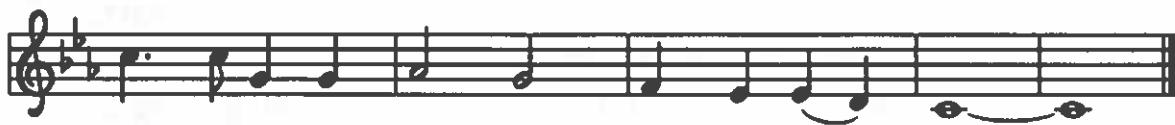
## Kyrie



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.



Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

## Hymn of Praise

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

## Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray the prayer of the day together;

C: 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 Word

### First Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

<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: 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.

**L:** Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalmody

Psalm 29

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,

    asccribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;**  
**worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
    the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup> **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;**  
**the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
    the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup> **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,**  
**and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup> The voice of the LORD  
    bursts forth in lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup> **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;**  
**the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup> The 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!"

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;**  
**the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup> O LORD, give strength to your people;  
    give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

### Second Reading

Acts 10:34-43

<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.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

## Gospel Reading

### Matthew 3:13-17

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter;

**C: 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.”

L: Word of God, word of life.

### **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon



1 Down Gal - i - lee's slow road - ways a strang - er trav - elcd on  
 2 A - ris - ing from the riv - er he saw the heav - ens torn;  
 3 We too have found a road - way; it led us to this place.



from Naz - a - reth to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John.  
 it seemed the sky so o - pen re - vealed the Spir - it's form.  
 We all have had to trav - el in search of hope and grace.



He went down to the wa - ters like sol - dier, scribe, and slave,  
 The ho - ly dove de - scend - ed a - mid a glo - rious voice:  
 But now be - side this wa - ter a - gain a voice is heard.



but there with - in the riv - er the sign was birth and grave.  
 "You are my own be - lov - ed, my child, my heart, my choice."  
 "You are my own, my cho - sen, be - lov - ed of your Lord."

### *Affirmation of Baptism*

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

*The presiding minister may note briefly the occasion for this affirmation.*

P: Let us pray,

**C: Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.**

### **Profession of Faith**

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism. The assembly may stand and join in the responses.*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**Response:** I renounce them.

*The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.*

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

*When the assembly is making affirmation of baptism, the presiding minister addresses them.*

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*The assembly makes affirmation:*

**C: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

*The minister addresses the assembly.*

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

**C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

*The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.*

P: Let us pray.

**C: We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit, you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence both now and forever. Amen.**

### ***Installation of Council Members***

The following person has been elected by the congregation to a position of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that this brother will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

*The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read by a representative of the congregation: Dan Jones*

*The presiding minister addresses those being installed.*

P: *A reading from First Corinthians:* There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

*The presiding minister continues.*

P: You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation. You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church. You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world. You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified. You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

*The presiding minister addresses those being installed.*

P: On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

**Response:** I will, and I ask God to help me.

*The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

P: People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

**C: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

*Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.*

P: I now declare you installed as a council member of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

**C: Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

After each petition of the prayers:

**L: Merciful God; C: Receive our prayer.**

## Prayer Concerns

*Family & Friends of Steve Kampen, Call Committee, Gloria Fenter (Friend of Judy Hoover), Pam Guth, Wayne Heinz (Close Friend of the Hamilton's), Chris Holm (Cleo Holm's Daughter), Dorothy Meyer, Kathy Owen, Dan & Donna Schmidt, Dion Stanford (Marita's Husband), Justin Wheeler, Curt West (Barb Kampen's Brother), Matt Zipperer (Former member), and for all our homebound members and friends. Those serving in uniform, for our enemies and those we find hard to love, and for all who travel.*

## Offering & Offertory- Love Offering for Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Change my heart, O God; make it ev-er true.  
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.  
You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

## Offering Prayer

### The Great Thanksgiving

**L:**The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**L:** Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

**L:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**L:** 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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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  
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Words of Institution

L: 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

L: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

**C: Amen.**

L: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

**C: Amen.**

L: Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and

honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### 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.**

### Holy Communion

*All who are repentant of their sins and believe in the Real Presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Sacrament are welcome to receive the elements. As usual, the wine is the dark liquid and the grape juice is the light liquid. Please be cautious and only touch the cup you choose to commune with. Those who are not communing may come forward, with arms crossed upon the chest, to receive a blessing.*

**Communion Hymn ELW#396 (Bulletin Page 13)**

**“Spirit of Gentleness”**

### Prayer After Communion

### Sending

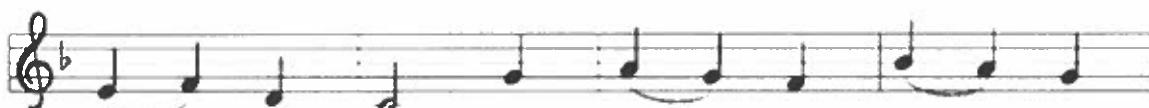
### Benediction

**Hymn ELW#551**

**“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”**



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in  
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the  
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to seat - ter  
4 Then let us go to serve in peace. the gos - pel



Je sus' name to bring glad tid - ings to  
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, days, to  
joy like seed and, all Spir - it has to  
to pro - claim. God's



to share the poor, God's fa vor to pro - claim.  
cher - ish dream and help the to ing see.  
pow - ered us; we do go in Je sus' deed.  
name.

## Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.



## Communion Hymn ELW#396

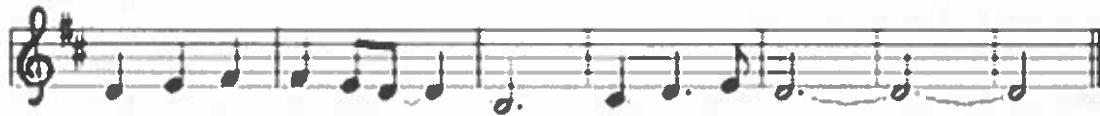
“Spirit of Gentleness”



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



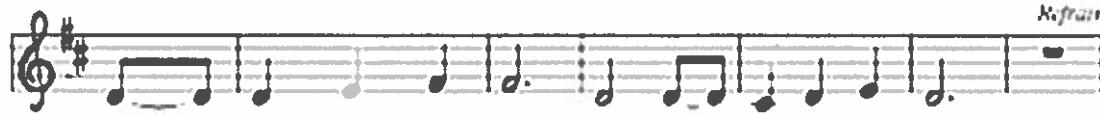
1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,  
2 You swept through the des - er, you stung with the sand,  
3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,  
4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;  
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;  
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;  
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing;  
and when they were blind - ed with i - dots and lies,  
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,  
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”  
then you spoke through your proph - ects to o - pen their eyes,  
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.  
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo-ple a - rise.

## ~FAITH & FELLOWSHIP~

**WELCA's Monday Morning Workshop:** The ladies gather every Monday morning at 9:00am to sew and share in fellowship.

**Senior Exercise Class:** A gentle exercise class that accommodates senior aches and pains. Join us Tuesdays at 1:00pm for some good stretching, moving and fellowship.

**Hope Circle** is on the **Fourth** Tuesday of each month at 10:00am. Study lessons are from *Gather* magazine, a publication of WELCA.

**Bible Study** on Wednesdays at 10:00am. We study the Bible readings for the upcoming Sunday along with good fellowship. Join us for some interesting discussions.

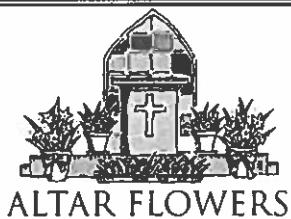
**\*Bible Study Attendance 1/7: 10\***



WELCA will host its monthly birthday gathering at Pizza Hut tomorrow at 11:30 a.m.



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS NEXT SUNDAY!!**



*Altar Flowers are given today by Barb Kampen in memory of Son, Rob's, birthday and by Phyllis & Bob Hamilton in celebration of Phyllis' birthday.*

**Those Serving This Week:**

**Worship Leader & ALM:** Pastor Mike Clark & Jan Clark  
**Music:** Dan Schmidt  
**Ushers:** Kathy Owen & David Deterding  
**Altar Guild:** Carol Wheeler  
**Counters:** Judy Hoover & Pat Jones  
**Ministers:** All the members of HCLC  
**Church Attendance 1/4: 41**

**This Week at Holy Cross**

Mon. 1/12	8:30am-12:30pm 9:00am 11:30am	Church Office Open WELCA Workshop WELCA Monthly Birthday Celebration @ Pizza Hut
Tue. 1/13	8:30am-12:30pm 1:00pm	Church Office Open Senior Exercise Class
Wed. 1/14	8:30am-12:30pm 9-11am;1-3pm 10:00am	Church Office Open Food Pantry Bible Study
Thur. 1/15	8:30am-12:30pm	Church Office Open
Fri. 1/16	8:30am-12:30pm	Church Office Open
Sat. 1/17	9:00am	Men's Group Meeting
Sun. 1/18	9:00am 10:00am	Worship Fellowship

**Those Serving Next Week:**

**Worship Leader & ALM:** Sue Hahn & Kathy Scott  
**Music:** Dan Schmidt  
**Ushers:** Dean & Jane Smith  
**Altar Guild:** Jane Smith  
**Counters:** Judy Hoover & Lenora Walejko  
**Ministers:** All the members of HCLC

