

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICE
JANUARY 11, 2025
BAPTISM OF THE LORD
ZION LUTHERAN, TAMAQUA, PA

Note: Deb Davies will ask for prayer requests at the start of this evening's service. Worshipers are also invited to add their own prayers during Prayers of the People. We will also be using our cell phones for the Sharing of the Peace. You may wish to select someone ahead of time to send your message of peace and love.

GATHERING

Video: "New Year's Prayer: We Are Not Alone"

Opening song: "Shall We Gather at the River" – Songs & Everlasting Joy

Gathering Words

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it

Come to the waters.

We gather at the river.

Come to the waters.

The waters of grace flow over us.

Come to the waters.

We are washed in God's love.

Come to the waters.

We are God's beloved children.

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

And also with you.

Let us pray together: **God of strength, God of love, surround us with your love. Gather us in as your beloved children. Open our ears to hear your voice. Open our hearts to the power of your transforming love. May your waters of grace pour over us, renewing us for your work in the world. Bless us in this holy time. Amen.**

Greetings

Sharing of Peace

Peace is a gift of God's love. Let the Lord bless us and give us strength, as we share signs of this peace!

May the Peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Sharing by text

We invite you to take out your cell phone now and send a text message of joy and love to someone who isn't in worship this evening.

Godsightings:

Where have you seen God at work in your life?

THE WORD (Luke 3:15-17, 21-22)

The Gospel

Holy God, may we taste and see the good things you are doing in our lives.

May the words we hear inspire us to be your faithful followers.

Amen.

A reading from Luke: ¹⁵The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶John answered them all, "I baptize you with^[a] water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with^[b] the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

²¹When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of Our Lord

Praise to you, O Christ!

Today's message – Deb Davies

Praise & Prayer

The Offering Moment

“Doxology” – The Vagle Brothers

Let us pray together: **Loving God, you bless us with your love. You know each one of us. We live in confidence and trust, knowing your care for us. We bring these gifts to you, our source of life. Use them, we pray, that others may experience your grace and live free from fear. Amen.**

Any responses to tonight’s text greetings?

Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy ...

Hear our prayer

The Lord’s Prayer – Spoken

The sending

Announcements

Benediction

And now as we prepare to leave ... God knows your names. As God’s beloved children, you belong to God. Secure in this love, go forth to live without fear, trusting God’s abundant care, resting in God’s peace.

And all God’s people say

Thanks be to God.

Sending song: “In the Bleak Mid-winter” – WCF Music Team

Postlude

Thank you for worshiping with us this evening.