Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

Welcome to the Family!

"You are my beloved Son; with You I am well pleased."

First Sunday of the Epiphany of Our Lord

January 10, 2021

Pastor's Greeting

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b

(*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism*.)

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may love You and magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Exhortation

1 John 6-10

P: 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.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

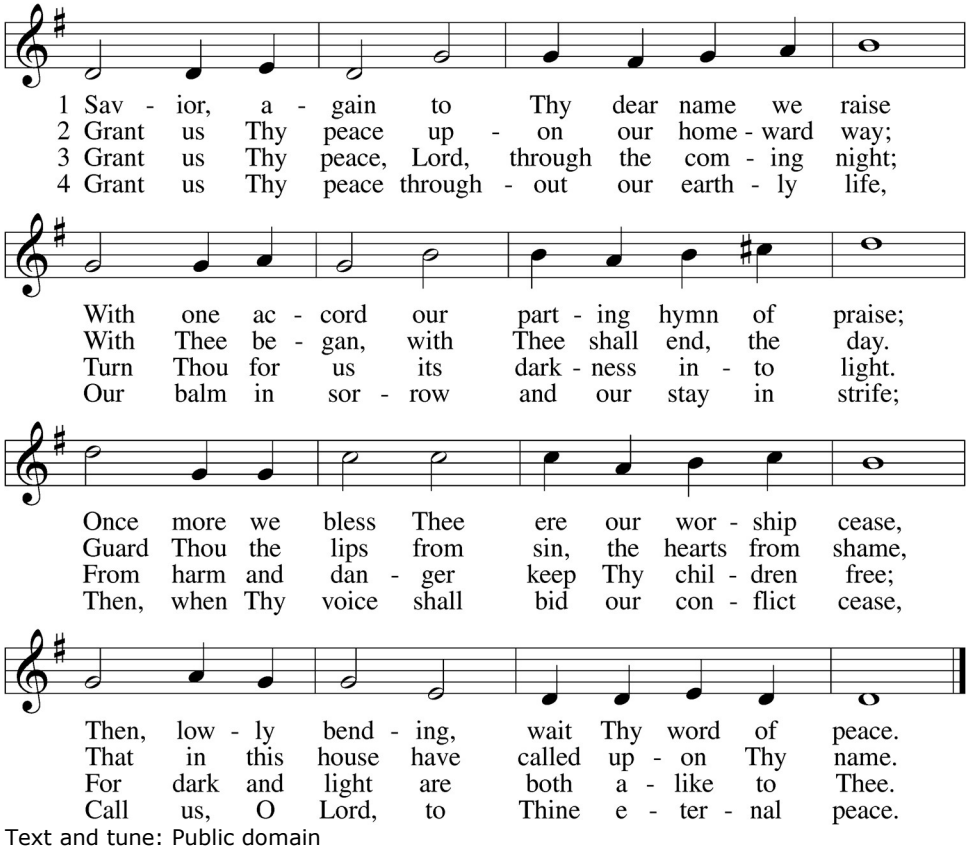
P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

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.

ABSOLUTION *John 20:21*

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN SAVIOR, AGAIN TO THY DEAR NAME WE RAISE *LSB 917 STS.1-4*

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CATECHISM REVIEW THE FIRST ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLES' CREED– CREATION

P: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

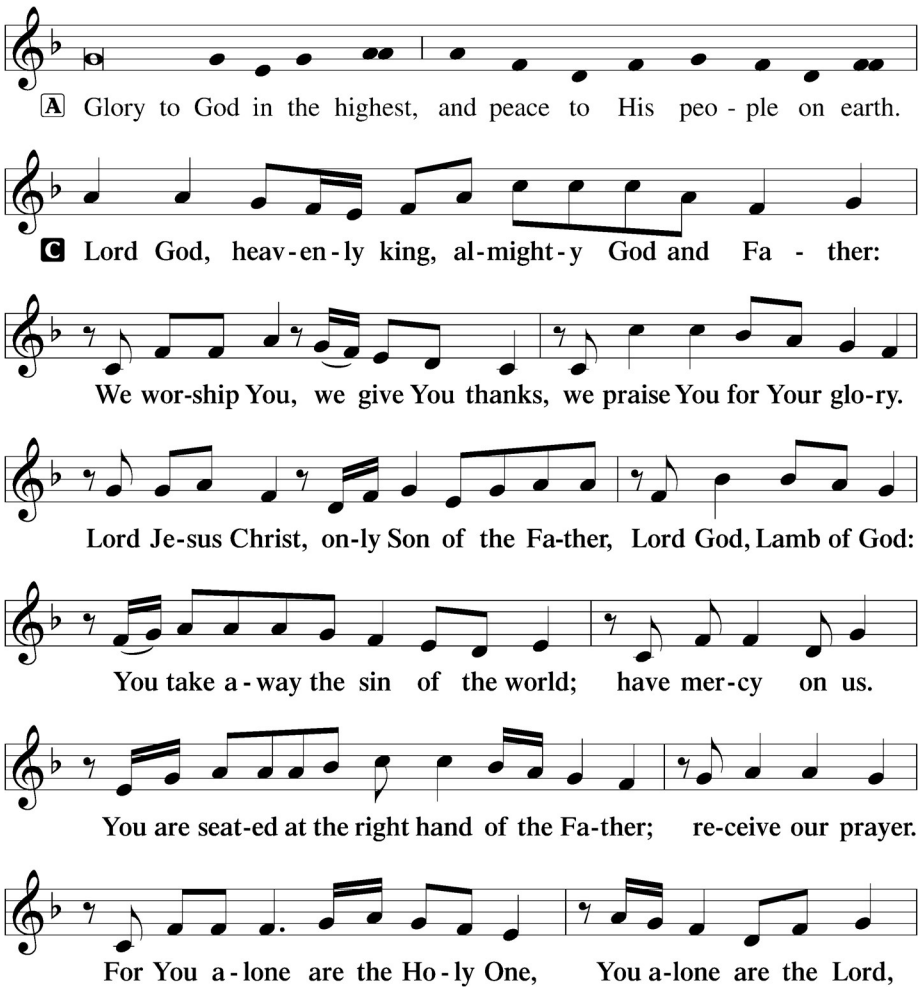
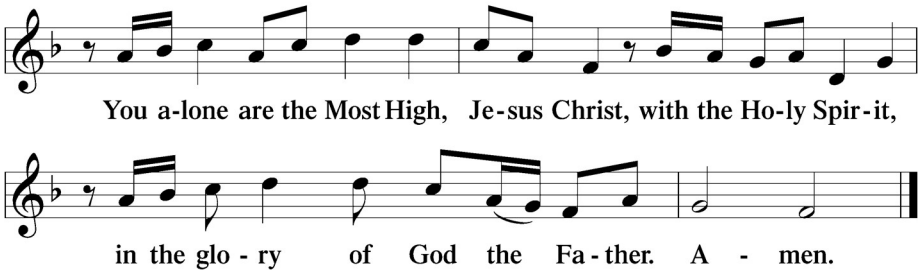
What does this mean?

C: I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *LSB 154* *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: *Let us pray*: 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.

C: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

P: A Reading of The Old Testament from the Book of Genesis 1:1–5

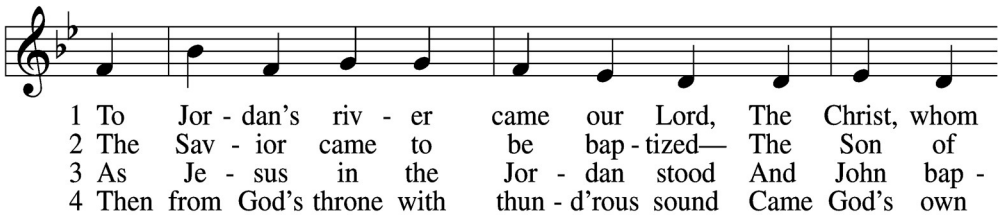
P: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

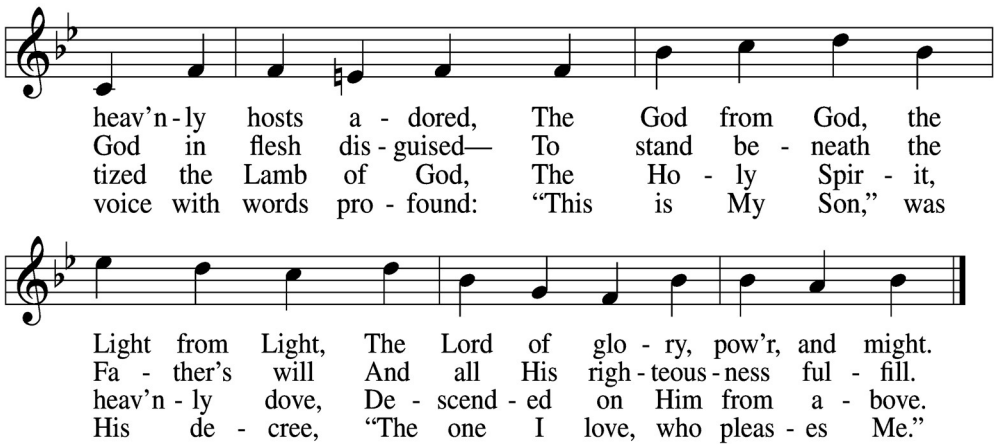
And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF THE DAY TO JORDAN'S RIVER CAME OUR LORD *LSB 405 STS.1-4*





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THE GRADUAL

Psalm 117; 1 Chronicles 16:29

P: Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples!

C: For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; bring an offering and come into His courts!

THE EPISTLE READING

R: The Epistle reading is from Romans 6:1-11

R: What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? *By no means!* How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 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.

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. 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. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

ALLELUIA VERSE

LSB 156

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

P: A Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St Mark1:1-11

C: Glory to You O Lord!

P: The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

> "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: "'Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight,'"

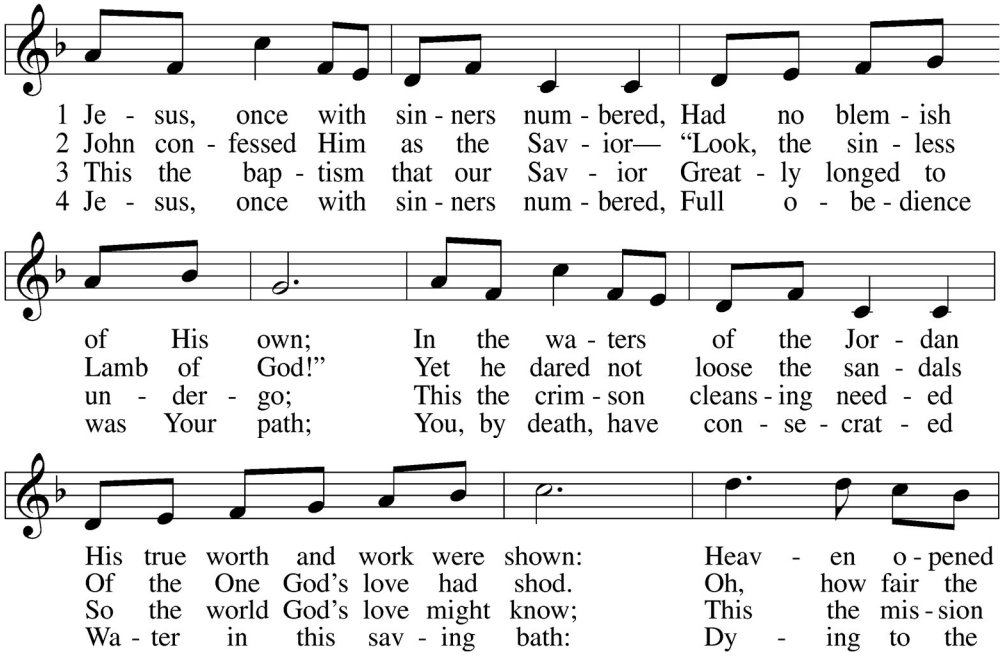
John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness, and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. 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. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

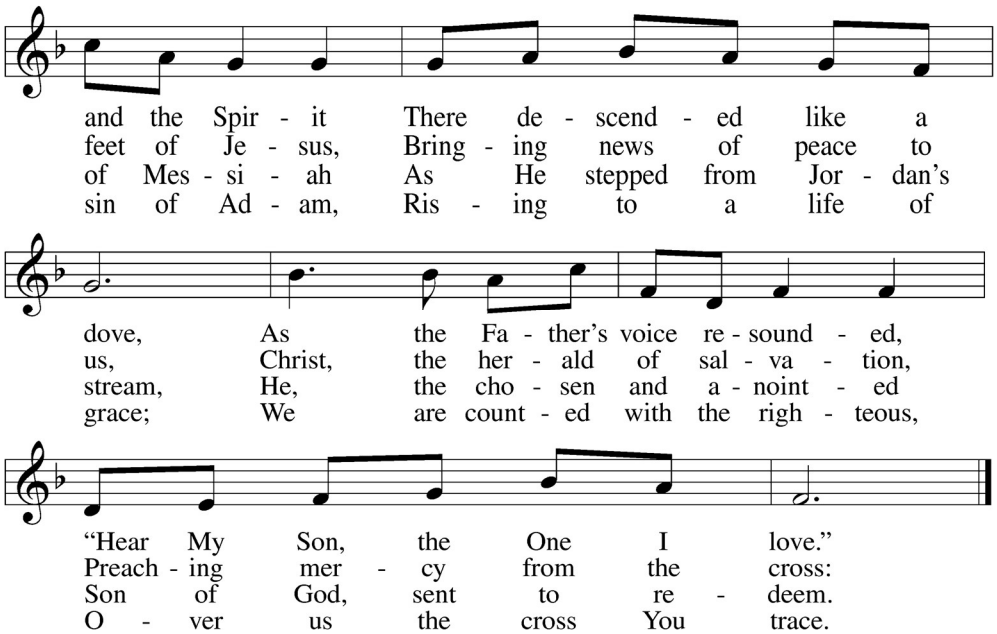
In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when He came up out of the water, immediately He saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You O Christ!

SERMON HYMN JESUS, ONCE WITH SINNERS NUMBERED *LSB 404 STS.1-4*





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SERMON ***"BAPTISM – A GIFT THAT WALKS WITH US ALL OUR LIFE"***

THE NICENE CREED

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.

OFFERTORY

As we celebrate the holy gifts and blessings God has given to us, please pray concerning your first fruits offering of thanksgiving to our Lord for all His benefits to us.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Prayer requests may be submitted online at www.FamilyofChristLutheranAZ.org or emailed to Pastor@familyofchristlutheranaz.org or Prayer@familyofchristlutheranaz.org)

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P: Heavenly Father, You have revealed Your Son to us this morning in the wondrous Epiphany in the Jordan. You through Baptism You have bestowed Your Holy Name on us and giving us Your Holy name declaring us Your beloved heirs. Grant that we may daily die to sin and rise to newness of life, living with joy as Your baptized children. *Lord, in Your mercy,*

C: hear our prayer.

P: Preserve Your Holy Church here and scattered throughout the world. Give steadfast faith to all Christians by the preaching of Your Word and through the Holy Sacraments and send laborers into Your harvest. Enliven the love of Your saints to bear one another's burdens and to show mercy toward those outside of the Church. Quicken us in the hope of eternal life in Christ Jesus. *Lord,* in *Your mercy,*

C: hear our prayer.

P: Preserve the family, especially all Christian homes. Turn husband and wife toward one another in love, equip fathers and mothers for their holy duty as teachers of the faith, and preserve all children in the saving faith and certain promises of their Baptism unto life everlasting. We give praise and thanksgiving for the goodness You have shown to Tim and Kam Pebler in this their 40th anniversary of marriage. *Lord, in Your mercy*,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Preserve our nation, its leaders and those who serve for the good of our people and for their protection. We are a nation divided and hurting. In so many ways we as a nation have turned from the instruction of Your Holy Word. Forgive us for the sin of abortion, injustice, and self-interest. Grant us Your Peace O Lord, for You alone fight for us. *Lord, in Your mercy*,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Give comfort and relief to those who are sick, depressed, tired, confused or in any need; we especial pray for **Gerri, Inge, The Bakers, Karen, Carrie, my sister Theresa, Jane and her family**, my niece Lisa, _____. Remember all your promises given to us in the life-giving waters of Holy Baptism and Your name. *Lord, in Your mercy*,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, You manifested Yourself, with the Holy Spirit, in the fullness of grace at the baptism of Your dear Son and, with Your voice, directed us to Him who has borne our sins, that we might receive grace and the remission of sins. Keep us, we beseech You, in the true faith. Since we have been baptized in accordance with Your command and the example of Your dear Son, we pray You to strengthen our faith by Your Holy Spirit and lead us to everlasting life and salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

All: 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.

CLOSING COLLECT

P: *Let us pray*: Through the mystery of the Word made flesh, we thank You for the Epiphany of Your Beloved Son Jesus at the Jordan. Keep each of us in Your baptismal grace that daily we would walk in the light of Your Love. Guide us by Your most Holy Spirit. Ready our hearts to receive Your Son when He comes again to Shepherd us into Your kingdom. Keep our eyes on the Salvation You have prepared for us through Your beloved Son Jesus who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

All: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS *LSB 218*

P: Let us bless the Lord.

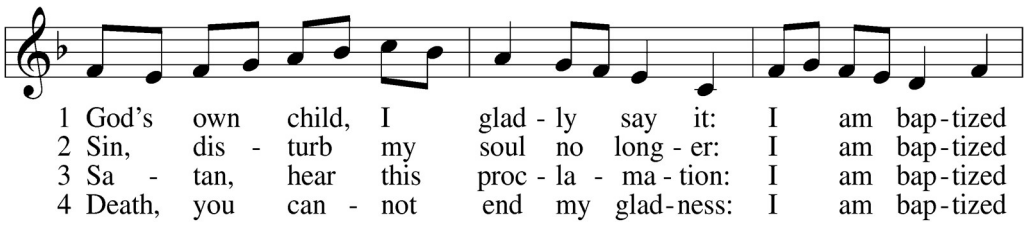
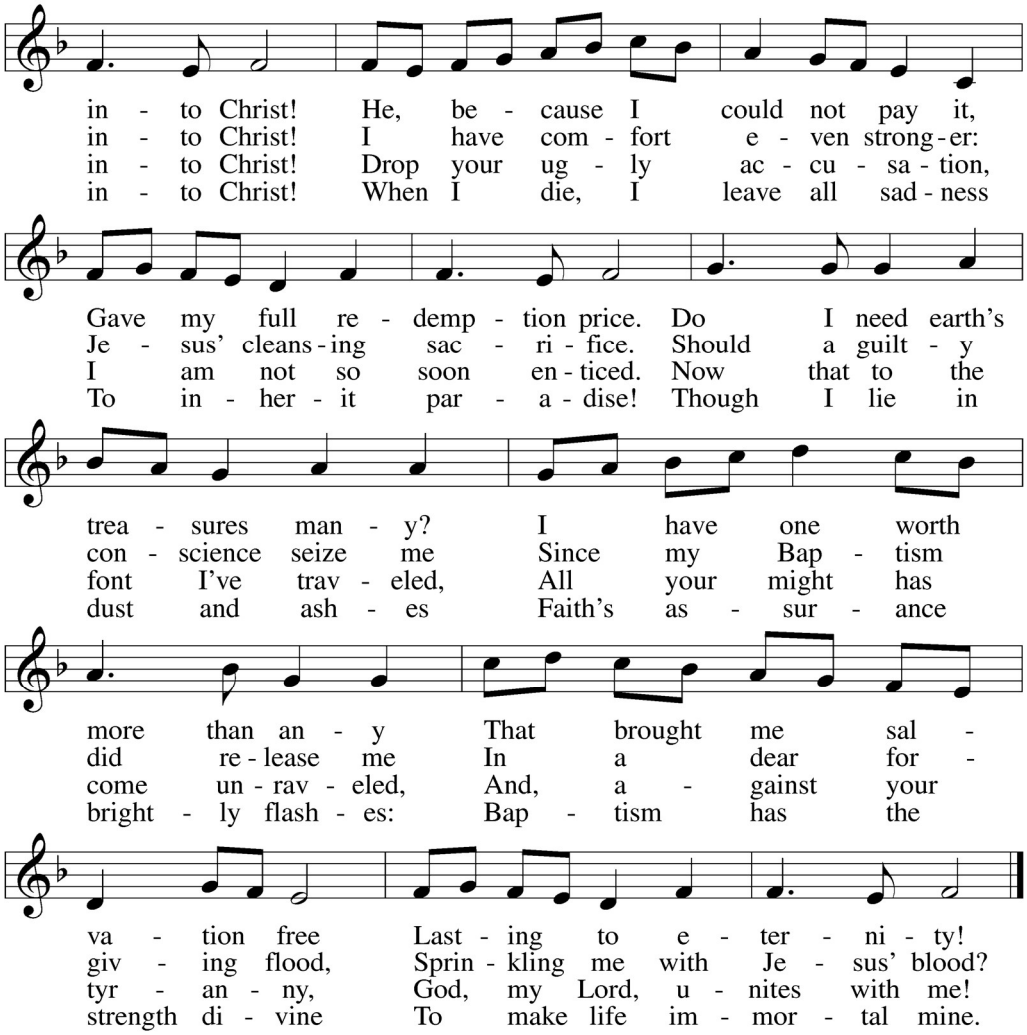
C: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *LSB 228*

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

DEPARTING HYMN GOD'S OWN CHILD, I GLADLY SAY IT *LSB 594 STS1-4*



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Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

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Serving at Family of Christ

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Reverend Fred H Gerlach

Pastor@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Cell: 609-751-2546

Music Director

Inessa Leip

Music@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Church Office Administrator

Admin@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Prayer Requests

Prayer@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Offerings can be mailed to the church or sent via Zelle® directly from your bank to:

familyofchristaz@gmail.com

This Week at Family of Christ

1/10– 1/17

Sunday

9:30AM Divine Worship *(with communion)*

Wednesday

5:00PM Church Board Meeting (via Zoom)

Thursday

5:30PM Confirmation Class at the Church

Friday

6:30AM Men's Bible Study in Leviticus

Next Sunday

9:30AM Divine Worship *(with communion)*; Installation of Officers

11:00AM Bible Study on Large Catechism

PLEASE NOTE*: Church Services and Bible Studies are currently offered in person and via Zoom. In-person meetings follow all CDC-recommended protocols.*

Pastor is available upon request for: *(call the Church office or Pastor's cell to schedule)*

- ✝ Individual Confession and Absolution
- ✝ Home, hospital or nursing home visits
- ✝ Communion
- ✝ Prayer

Please see the Bulletin Insert (attachment) for information on the LCMS Foundation's ***Lifetime Plan for Giving™*** training sessions on January 19-20.