

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Baptism of Our Lord

January 7, 2023

AS WE GATHER

A new season in the Church Year begins today. Following Advent hope and Christmas joy in the Savior born for us, we enter Epiphany, which can be summed up with words such as revealing, shining forth, and manifestation. The Word we hear today is fitting as epiphanies are things the Lord has done since the beginning of time. The first creation was light shining forth on the first day. From that day of creation to the fall into sin to the first promise of the Savior, God has shone His light and enabled His people to see and know what is needed. As the time was right for Jesus to begin His earthly ministry, it began with His Baptism. With John the Baptist in the Jordan River, the Lord reveals and shines forth the manifestation of the Word made flesh for us when He says: “You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased” (Mark 1:11).

✠ PREPARATION ✠

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 118:24

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

HYMN “Baptized into Your Name Most Holy”

{LSB – 590 - 4 verses}

Baptized into Your name most holy,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
Buried with Christ and dead to sin,

My loving Father, here You take me
My faithful Savior, here You make me
O Holy Spirit, comfort me

My faithful God, You fail me never;
O cast me not away forever
Have mercy when I come defiled;

O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Among Your saints, Your chosen host.
Your Spirit now shall live within.

To be henceforth Your child and heir.
The fruit of all Your sorrows share.
When threat’ning clouds around I see.

Your promise surely will endure.
If words and deeds become impure.
Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.

All that I am and love most dearly -
Let me confess my faith sincerely;
Let nothing that I am or own

Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Help me Your faithful child to be!
Serve any will but Yours alone.

(please stand)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF OUR BAPTISM

Pastor: We remember our Baptism with the trinitarian invocation, recalling and confessing before heaven, earth, and hell all that God has given us in our Baptism: victory over death and the devil, forgiveness of sin, God's grace, the entire Christ, and the Holy Spirit with His gifts. How do we rightly use our Baptism?

People: **We rightly use our Baptism when we live in repentance and faith in the triune God, who has made us His beloved children. (Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation [2017] Question 324).**

Pastor: When Jesus was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan River, the Father declared Jesus as His Son with whom He is well pleased. In our Baptism, Paul wrote, we were joined to our Lord's death and resurrection, enabling us to walk in newness of life. We also learn in the Small Catechism, all centered on God's Word, the lasting gifts received in Baptism including the forgiveness of sins, rescue from death and the devil, and eternal life to all who believe this. Let us reaffirm our faith in what God has done for us through Holy Baptism.

Pastor: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

People: **I do renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

People: **Yes, I believe.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

People: **Yes, I believe.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

People: **Yes, I believe.**

CONFESSION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God, our Father. In today's Epistle from Romans, the apostle Paul asks, "Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? . . . How can we who died to sin still live in it?"

People: 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 God with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Pastor: "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."

People: 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

Pastor: 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.

People: For one who has died has been set free from sin.

Pastor: The death Christ died He died to sin, once for all,

People: but the life He lives He lives to God.

Pastor: So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained 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.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

People: Amen.

✘ WORD ✘

INTROIT: *Psalm 2:7-11, 12c: antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a*

Pastor: Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights. I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you,

People: Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

Pastor: You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

People: Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

Pastor: Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

People: Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy,

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy,

People: Christ, have mercy.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy,

People: Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

(please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 1:1-5

(The beginning of creation.)

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. 3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning - the first day.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING: Romans 6:1-11

(Baptism into Christ gives new life.)

1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin 7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. 10 The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. 11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

(The Baptism of Jesus.)

(please stand)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

4 And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. 6 John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8 I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." 9 At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED

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. *(please be seated)*

HYMN “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

{LSB 411 - 3 – verses}

I want to walk as a child of the light.
God set the stars to give light to the world.

I want to follow Jesus.
The star of my life is Jesus. ***Refrain***

Refrain: *In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.*
 The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,

I want to look at Jesus.
And show me the way to the Father. ***Refrain***

I’m looking for the coming of Christ.
When we have run with patience the race,

I want to be with Jesus.
We shall know the joy of Jesus. ***Refrain.***

MESSAGE: “Living As Children of God”

Mark 4:1-11

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(please stand)

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs . . . Lord, in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer**

Pastor: Into your hands, O Father, we commend all for who we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

(please be seated)

OFFERING

If you are a **visitor** this morning, you are our guest. Please do not feel obligated to give as the offering plate is passed. The offering is an opportunity for **members** to practice faithful stewardship and to support the ministries of Christ’s church. Also, a red booklet, the Friendship Register, will be passed down each row. Please record your presence with us today.

OFFERING SONG: “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

{LSB 781 vv. 1-2}

(Please sing as the offering is presented at the Altar)

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

(please stand)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Through Your means of grace You have claimed us as Your own through water and the Word in Holy Baptism. Through body and blood - in, with, and under bread and wine - You forgive our sins and nourish our faith. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen

AGNUS DEI

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,

You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
You take the sin of the world away;
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(please be seated)

HYMN: “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

{LSB 563 – 6 verses}

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,

My beauty are, my glorious dress;
With joy shall I lift up my head.

Bold shall I stand in that great day,
Fully absolved through these I am

Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,
Pleads for the captives’ liberty,

Which at the mercy seat of God
Was also shed in love for me.

Lord, I believe, were sinners more
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,

Than sands upon the ocean shore,
For all a full atonement made.

When from the dust of death I rise
This then shall be my only plea:

To claim my mansion in the skies,
Jesus hath lived and died for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,

Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
An everlasting ransom paid.

HYMN: “All Christians Who Have Been Baptized”

{LSB 596 – 6 verses}

All Christians who have been baptized,
And in whose daily life is prized
Consider now what God has done,
Baptized into Christ Jesus!

Who know the God of heaven,
The name of Christ once given:
The gifts He gives to ev’ryone

You were before your day of birth,
Condemned and lost with all the earth,
For like your parents’ flesh and blood,
You constantly denied Him.

Indeed, from your conception,
None good, without exception.
Turned inward from the highest good,

But all of that was washed away -
The water of your Baptism day
Old Adam and his sin destroyed
According to our nature.

Immersed and drowned forever.
Restored again whatever
And all our sinful selves employed

In Baptism we now put on Christ -
With all that He once sacrificed
For here the flood of His own blood
Before our heav'nly Father.

Our shame is fully covered
And freely for us suffered.
Now makes us holy, right, and good

O Christian, firmly hold this gift
It gives the power to uplift
When nothing else revives your soul,
And then in death completes you.

And give God thanks forever!
In all that you endeavor.
Your Baptism stands and makes you whole

So use it well! You are made new -
As faithful Christians, live and do
Until that day when you possess
Bestowed on you forever!

In Christ a new creation!
Within your own vocation,
His glorious robe of righteousness

HYMN: "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee"

{LSB 632 – 2 verses}

O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee
Who hast so lovingly bestowed

My heartfelt thanks forever be,
On me Thy body and Thy blood.

Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:
My Savior dwells within my heart:

What wealth is come to me this day!
How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

(please stand)

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

CLOSING SENTENCES

Pastor: The death Christ died He died to sin, once for all,

People: but the life He lives He lives to God.

Pastor: So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen. *(please be seated)*

HYMN “All Who Believe and Are Baptized”

{LSB 601 - 2 verses}

All who believe and are baptized
Baptized into the death of Christ,
Through Christ’s redemption they shall stand
Of ev’ry tribe and nation.

Shall see the Lord’s salvation;
They are a new creation.
Among the glorious, heav’nly band

With one accord, O God, we pray:
Help us in our infirmity
Grant us to grow in grace each day
Eternal life inherit.

Grant us Your Holy Spirit.
Through Jesus’ blood and merit.
That by this sacrament we may

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSIAH PRAYER REQUESTS . . .

For continued healing – Judy Beauford - Linda Fults

For Family and Friends

Karen Brosien requests prayers for her Father for healing after surgery, a brother in Northeast Texas, and the medical teams caring for her family members

Laura Sanders requests prayers for her Father, Jack who has been transferred to a care facility and for Laura and her Granddaughter recovery from the Type A flu

Debra Beard requests prayers for her Brother, Tod Dunlevy in Wisconsin as he recovers from injuries from an accident on Christmas Eve

David Rhoads continued prayers as he recovers from COVID

Anthony Sansone asks for prayers of thanksgiving and continued recovery for his Sister, **Diane Hendrix** following surgery

Prayers for healing for **Ardyne Knappick** as she recovers from a fall

Prayers for healing for **Gloria Bloecher** who is recovering from a fall and heart attack

Leitko Family ask for prayers for **Katie Finny** recovering from complications in birthing a baby

Prayers for continued healing for **Gus Addington** following reconstructive surgery

Rutledge Family requests prayers for Sister-in-Law **Heather Mulledy** battling breast cancer

Mario & Eve Betancourt requests prayers for **Reese Richeson**, undergoing treatment for cancer

Donna Cifers requests prayers for her 89-year-old mother's health issues – **Margaret Chamness**

For Messiah's Call Committee and the Pastor God is preparing for us

Prayers for Justice & Peace in the Middle East

For family discord, reconciliation, and healing

Prayers for rescue for those in abusive relationships

Prayers for all those with physical, emotional, or other needs – your will be done

Prayers for all who are lost to hear and receive Jesus' Gospel message

We pray in Jesus's Holy Name, Amen.

JANUARY ALTAR FLOWERS

Jan 7th -Maurice Doublett – in memory of his wife, Loyce

Jan 7th – Terry Chhabra – in honor of her daughter - Amanda Addington's birthday

Jan 14th - Larry & Pam Risley & Hayli Fernandez – in memory of daughter & mother, Amanda Schwirtlich

Jan. 21st - open

Jan. 28th - Tony & Kathy Giardinelli – thanksgiving for God's many blessings

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

WELCOME . . . *Whoever you are . . . Wherever you have come from . . . we are so glad you are here!* Your presence increases our joy as we praise our loving Savior together. If you are visiting with us today, we'd love to get to know you! Please don't forget to sign your name and fill in your contact information in the red booklets on the inside aisle!

Pastor's Bible Study in the BEGIN Book - Pastor will continue with *The Gospel According to John*.

Elder's Meeting – is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9th in the Church Conference Room at 5:30 pm.

Women's Friday Morning Bible Study – begins January 19th at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Room of the Family Life Center.

Issues, Etc. *Unanswered Bible Questions . . . a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio, will have Pastors Bryan Wolfmueller and Brian Kachelmeier respond to your unanswered Bible questions. You can submit your question via email: talkback@issuesetc.org, Facebook: [facebook.com/issuesetc](https://www.facebook.com/issuesetc), or the Issues, Etc. Comment Line: (618) 223-8382. You can listen to the interview at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.*

Upcoming Events -

January 20th - Adult Game Day in the Fellowship Room - Family Life Center

February 1st - Ladies Time Out - Valentine Brunch - Mae Dunne's Kitchen & Goods

February 10th - Adult Game Day in the Fellowship Room - Family Life Center

February 14th - Ash Wednesday

February 17th - Valentine Lunch for Everyone - Alstadt Brewery

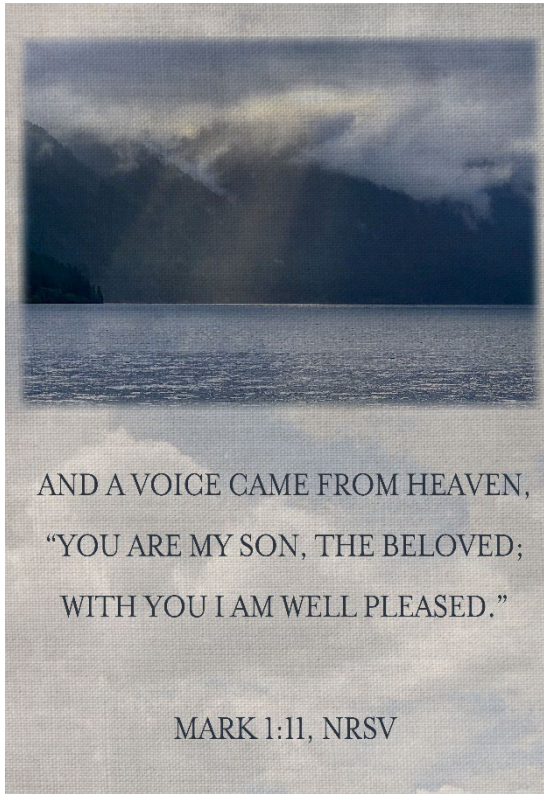
February 21st & 28th - Lent Services

March 6th & 13th & 20th - Lent Services

March 16th - Mission Aviation Fellowship - Texas Event in Granbury, Tx

March 24th - Palm Sunday - March 28th - Maundy Thursday - March 29th - Good Friday

March 31st - Easter Sunday



AND A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN,
"YOU ARE MY SON, THE BELOVED;
WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED."

MARK 1:11, NRSV

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Richard S. Lofgren, Pastor

Gina Husky, Director of Messiah's Kids Preschool

David Rhoads, Facilities Manager

Maurine Maloy, Administrative Assistant



Serving us Today – January 7, 2024

Elders:	Hal Eschenko & Maurice Doublett
Coffee:	Sue Parker
Treats:	Sue Parker & Vonda Petmecky
Tellers:	Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care:	Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid’s Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician:	Bob Shoaf
AV:	David & Lorrie Wendeborn
Reader:	Hal Eschenko
Ushers:	Snookie & Shirley Moore – Joe Sorensen – Tom Bibb
Greeter:	Sue Theis & Lindy Eschenko

Serving us Next Week – January 14, 2024

Elders:	Hal Eschenko & Maurice Doublett
Coffee:	to be determined
Treats:	Vonda Petmecky
Tellers:	Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care:	Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid’s Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician:	Bob Shoaf
AV:	Roger & Kathryn Winkelmann
Reader:	Alana Kemmy
Ushers:	Snookie & Shirley Moore – Joe Sorensen – Tom Bibb
Greeter:	Kathy Giardinelli & Alana Kemmy

Our Response to God Last Year
Worship Attendance: 5,034 | Sunday School: 1,826

2023 Contributions			
General Fund	\$520,172.31	Building Fund	\$80,742.00
Renovation Fund	\$520,154.79	Family Life Center	\$44,383.32