

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

904 Bluff Street Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

A traditional, liturgical, Biblical congregation in the heart of Cedar Falls ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Christ.

Rev. Michael R. Knox, Pastor
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THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 8, 2023



TODAY THE CHURCH OBSERVES THE FESTIVAL OF THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD.

This always occurs on the First Sunday after the Epiphany of our Lord.

Today is a day for each Christian to rejoice and take comfort in the Baptism of Jesus, for it points them to the Baptism which they have received into Jesus. Just as Jesus is revealed as the Son of God by the voice of the Father which declares, ***“You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased,”*** so have you received this same promise. When you were Baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity, you were born again and given the privilege to be called sons of God and heirs of God’s everlasting kingdom. As you contemplate this gracious miracle, perhaps you are led to ask the question, “How can Baptism accomplish this?” Fortunately, you already have the answer to that question in the Small Catechism:

How can water do such great things?

It is not the water indeed that does them, but the word of God, which is in and with the water, and faith, which trusts such word of God in the water. For without the word of God the water is simple water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a gracious water of life and a washing of regeneration in the Holy Ghost, as St. Paul says, Titus chapter third:

[According to His mercy He saved us] By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ, our Savior, that, being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a faithful saying.

THOSE SERVING GOD’S PEOPLE THIS WEEK

Elder: Ryan Thornton **Service Assistant:** Bo Wayson

Organist: Roxann List

Ushers: Dean Fink, Dusty Greiman

Tellers: Sarah Staker, Cheryl Nissen **Shut-Ins:** Dean and Martha Garms

Sunday, January 1, 2023

Attendance:62 Communion: 51

✠ OUR WEEK TOGETHER IN THE BODY OF CHRIST ✠

Mon. 1/09	9:00 a.m. Vicar’s Bible Study at Our Redeemer 6:30 p.m. Church Council
Tue. 1/10	9:00 a.m. Waterloo Circuit Pastors meet at Our Redeemer (Matins at <i>about</i> 9:00 a.m. – congregation welcome) 9:30 a.m. Brunch Bunch (at Gravy’s) 6:00 p.m. Vicar’s Bible Study at Peace-Shell Rock
Wed. 1/11	10:00 a.m. Our Redeemer Book Club 11:00 a.m. Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings) 5:25 p.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings)
Thur. 1/12	4:00 p.m. Midweek Youth Catechesis
Sat. 1/14	6:00 p.m. Bible Class at Peace 7:00 p.m. Divine Service at Peace
Sun. 1/15	9:00 a.m. Divine Service at Our Redeemer 10:30 am. Sunday School and Bible Class

I. THE PREPARATION

The Liturgy of Baptismal Remembrance

P: In the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: In Holy Baptism you have been forgiven your sins and granted a new life in Christ, our Lord. You solemnly renounced the devil, all his works and ways, and all his empty promises. In this gracious water of life and washing of regeneration in the Holy Spirit, the Church confesses the gift of faith in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. On this day, as you recall the Baptism of Our Lord and also your own Baptism, I ask you to confess anew what God has done for you in Holy Baptism.

P: Do you renounce the devil?

C: I do renounce him.

P: Do you renounce all his works and ways?

C: I do renounce them.

P: Do you renounce all his empty promises?

C: I do renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father Almighty?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

C: Yes, I 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.

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C: Yes, I 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. Amen.

P: Is it your earnest purpose to continue steadfast in this faith and in the promise of your Baptism and, as a member of the Church, to be diligent in the use of the means of grace?

C: Yes, with the help of God.

P: Almighty God, the 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.

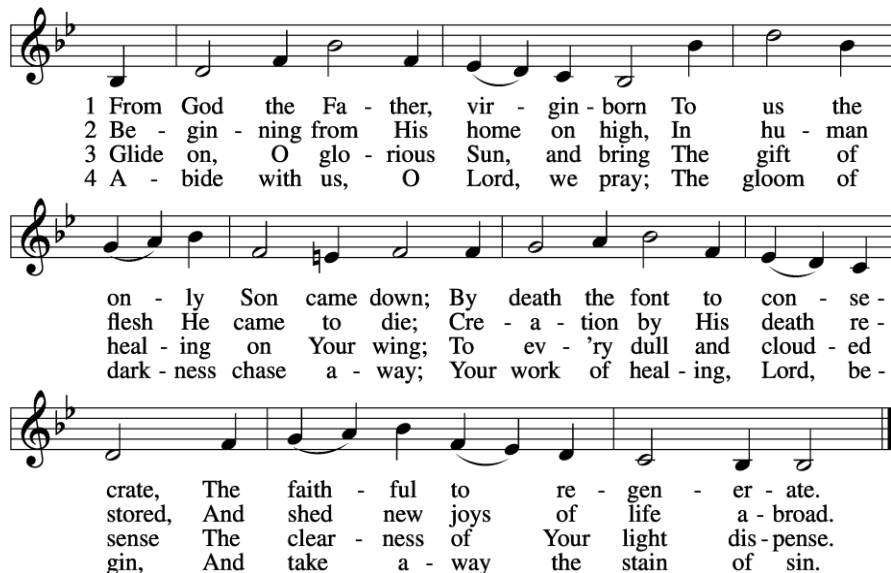
C: Amen.

P: Let us pray: Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin. We pray that You would behold us according to Your boundless mercy and bless us with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in us, which has been inherited from Adam and which we ourselves have committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that we be kept safe and secure in the holy Ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, we would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Entrance Hymn

“From God the Father, Virgin-Born” LSB #401



1 From God the Fa - ther, vir - gin - born To us the
2 Be - gin - ning from His home on high, In hu - man
3 Glide on, O glo - rious Sun, and bring The gift of
4 A - bide with us, O Lord, we pray; The gloom of
on - ly Son came down; By death the font to con - se -
flesh He came to die; Cre - a - tion by His death re -
heal - ing on Your wing; To ev - 'ry dull and cloud - ed
dark - ness chase a - way; Your work of heal - ing, Lord, be -
crate, The faith - ful to re - gen - er - ate.
stored, And shed new joys of life a - broad.
sense The clear - ness of Your light dis - pense.
gin, And take a - way the stain of sin.

5. Lord, once You came to earth's domain
And, we believe, shall come again;
Be with us on the battlefield,
From ev'ry harm Your people shield.

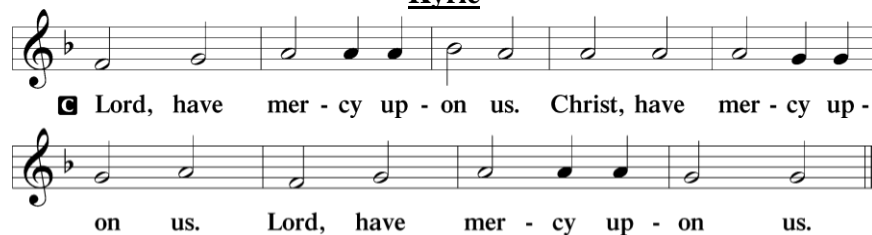
- △ 6. To You, O Lord, all glory be
For this Your blest epiphany;
To God, whom all His hosts adore,
And Holy Spirit evermore.

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II. SERVICE OF THE WORD

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

The Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

II Timothy 4:22

C And with thy spir - it.

The Collect of the Day

P: 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 A - men.

Be seated

The Old Testament

Isaiah 42:1-9

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual

“Mark How the Lamb of God’s Self-Offering” LSB #600



1 Mark how the Lamb of God’s self - of - f’ring Our hu - man
2 From this as - sur - ance of God’s fa - vor Je - sus goes
3 Grant us, O God, the strength and cour - age To live the



sin - ful - ness takes on In the birth - wa - ters of the
to the wil - der - ness, There to en - dure a time of
faith our lips de - clare; Bless us in our bap - tis - mal



Jor - dan As Je - sus is bap - tized by John.
test - ing That read - ied Him to teach and bless.
call - ing; Christ’s roy - al priest - hood help us share.



Hear how the voice from heav - en thun - ders, “Lo,
So we, by wa - ter and the Spir - it Bap -
Turn us from ev - ’ry false al - le - giance, That



this is My be - lov - ed Son.” See how in dove - like
tized in - to Christ’s min - is - try, Are of - ten led to
we may trust in Christ a - lone: Raise up in us a



form the Spir - it De - scends on God’s A - noint - ed One.
paths of ser - vice Through maz - es of ad - ver - si - ty.
cho - sen peo - ple Trans - formed by love to be Your own.

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The Epistle

Romans 6:1–11

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

The Alleluia/Verse



☐ Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

She will bear a son, and you shall call His name | Jesus,*
for He will save His people | from their sins. (Matthew 1:21)



☐ Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:13–17

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed

is omitted because the Apostles' Creed was confessed during the Baptismal Remembrance

Be Seated

The Hymn of The Day

"To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord" LSB# 406

1 To Jor - dan came the Christ, our Lord, To do His
2 O hear and mark the mes - sage well, For God Him -
3 These truths on Jor - dan's banks were shown By might - y
4 There stood the Son of God in love, His grace to

Fa - ther's plea - sure; Bap - tized by John, the Fa - ther's Word
self has spo - ken. Let faith, not doubt, a - mong us dwell
word and won - der. The Fa - ther's voice from heav'n came down,
us ex - tend - ing; The Ho - ly Spir - it like a dove

Was giv - en us to trea - sure. This heav'n - ly wash - ing
And so re - ceive this to - ken. Our Lord here with His
Which we do well to pon - der: "This man is My be -
Up - on the scene de - scend - ing; The tri - une God as -

now shall be A cleans - ing from trans - gres - sion
Word en - dows Pure wa - ter, free - ly flow - ing.
lov - ed Son, In whom My heart has plea - sure.
sur - ing us, With prom - is - es com - pel - ling,

And by His blood and ag - o - ny Re - lease from death's
God's Ho - ly Spir - it here a - vows Our kin - ship while
Him you must hear, and Him a - lone, And trust in full -
That in our Bap - tism He will thus A - mong us find

op - pres - sion. A new life now a - waits us.
be - stow - ing The Bap - tism of His bless - ing,
est mea - sure The word that He has spo - ken."
a dwell - ing To com - fort and sus - tain us.

5. To His disciples spoke the Lord, "Go out to ev'ry nation,
And bring to them the living Word and this My invitation:
Let ev'ryone abandon sin and come in true contrition
To be baptized and thereby win full pardon and remission
And heav'nly bliss inherit."
6. But woe to those who cast aside this grace so freely given;
They shall in sin and shame abide and to despair be driven.
For born in sin, their works must fail, their striving saves them never;
Their pious acts do not avail, And they are lost forever,
Eternal death their portion.
7. All that the mortal eye beholds is water as we pour it.
Before the eye of faith unfolds the pow'r of Jesus' merit.
For here it sees the crimson flood to all our ills bring healing;
The wonders of His precious blood the love of God revealing,
Assuring His own pardon.

The Sermon

Following the Sermon, please rise to sing the Offertory

Stand

The Offertory

Psalm 51:10-12



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

The Installation of Officers

Officers and Board or Committee Members should assemble before the Chancel as the Offertory is being sung.

The Prayers

Various Petitions are prayed. Each petition will conclude with the response:

P: Lord, in Your mercy.

C: **Hear our prayer.**

The Congregation, gathered for worship in person, will now be receiving the Sacrament of the Altar. This most significant portion of the Divine Service, when our Lord Jesus Christ draws near to His people with His flesh and blood, will not be streamed. Members desiring to receive the Sacrament who are unable to be present in the Church will be visited by one of our pastors to bring them the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

*Those who have joined us online for the Service of the Word
are now encouraged to pray 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.**

May the Lord bless and keep you.

Please call Pastor Knox (319/231-9761) if you would like to receive a Pastoral visit.

Readings/Hymns for January 15, 2023 – The 2nd Sunday after The Epiphany

The Readings: Isaiah 49:1–7; I Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42a

Psalmody: Psalm 40:1-11 (*Antiphon v. 3*)

Invocation: O Morning Star, How Fair And Bright	395
Hymn of the Day: When All The World Was Cursed	346
Distribution: The Infant Priest Was Holy Born	624
Distribution: Christ, the Word of God Incarnate	540
Distribution: Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus	531

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. Today we conclude the study of our Lord’s Nativity. We will turn to Matthew and the account of the visit of the Magi. Starting on Sunday, January 15, the Sunday morning class will begin a review of the ACELC document entitled, “Ten Theses on God’s Arrangement of the Sexes.” Our Redeemer is a member congregation of the ACELC. Because the organization has adopted these Theses, we believe that the congregation should review and understand them. Once we have completed this review, we are going to move on to the topic of Cremation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. Today we resume our normal schedule.

WEEKLY READINGS/HYMNS STUDY This class meets on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. to study the weekly readings, hymns, and propers for the upcoming Sunday. It is a way to prepare for the coming week’s Divine Service.

THE VICAR’S BIBLE STUDY This class meets at Our Redeemer on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 9:00 a.m. and at Peace in Shell Rock on the Tuesday of that same week at 6:00 p.m. The class is studying the words of hymns and the Scriptural texts which underlie these hymns. The class will meet this week on the 9th at our Redeemer and on the 10th at Peace.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY The Jr. High/Sr. High Youth meet for Bible Study with Vicar Goodroad on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. and holiness. The class will meet again in January on the 18th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWER CHART: The 2023 Flower Chart is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Please consider placing flowers on the altar to commemorate a special occasion or “just because.” Cost is \$40 – you will be billed directly by Bancroft’s. Please fill out the Altar Flower card; we take care of the rest – please contact Sara Lair for details (319-266-1163; sjlair@cfu.net).

THE BRUNCH BUNCH will meet this Tuesday, January 10 at 9:30 a.m. at Gravy’s. If you haven’t attended before, come join fellow members of Our Redeemer and enjoy food and conversation. We meet in their backroom.

THE UPDATED PHOTO DIRECTORY is available in the Narthex after the Service this morning. We have done our best to make it accurate. If you see a correction which needs to be made, please alert Tammy Knox.

THE EPIPHANY EDITION OF THE REPORTER is available in the Narthex following the Service this morning.

THE JAN.-MARCH POTALS OF PRAYER AND THE DECEMBEER LUTHERAN WITNESS are available in the Narthex and the Parish Hall.

ISSUES, Etc. - EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week’s subjects include: Biblical Archeology’s Top Discoveries of 2022, The Secularization of the West, The Wedding at Cana, Jesus Calls the First Disciples, and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app, and your favorite podcast provider.

THE PASTORS OF THE WATERLOO CIRCUIT will be meeting at Our Redeemer this Tuesday, January 10. They will gather in the church at about 9:00 a.m. for Matins. Members of the congregation are welcome to join them for this time of worship.

THE INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS will take place immediately after the Sermon this morning. All Officers, as well as Board and Committee members, are invited to gather before the Chancel for the Rite of Installation.

2023 OFFICERS

The President Roger Mishler
The Vice-President..... Doug Nefzger
The Secretary Gerry Peterson
The Treasurer..... Tim Koch
The Financial Secretary Stephen Hoffman
The Chair of the Board of Elders Matt Kenitzer
The Chair of the Board of Education Ryan Thornton
The Chair of the Board of Communications & Outreach Jim Niebergall
The Chair of the Board of Stewardship Rod Lair
The Chair of the Board of Christian Care Char Strub
The Chair of the Board of Trustees..... Chris Fink
The Chair of the Board of Youth Anna Staudinger

Boards/Committees

Elders Matt Kenitzer*, Tom Strub, Ryan Thornton,
Rod Lair, Stephen Hoffman, Alan Czarnetzki
Trustees..... Chris Fink*, Dusty Greiman, Brad Bovy,
Dean Fink, Kelly Barber, Blake Wayson
Education Ryan Thornton*, Tammy Knox,
Gerry Peterson, Judy Fink, Michaela Knox
Communication/Outreach..... Jim Niebergall*, Adam Lewis,
Sara Lair, Greg Gerjerts
Stewardship..... Rod Lair*
Endowment Dave Kmoch*, Martha Garms, Kathy Niebergall,
Tim Koch, Stephen Hoffman, Roger Mishler
Christian Care Char Strub*, Sara Lair, Sandy Stone, Pauline Hanson,
Jana Norton, Elizabeth Peterson, Gerald Peterson, Judy Fink
Youth Anna Staudinger*, Maisie Bovy, Kayla Irwin,
Brady Wayson, Carson Irwin

We thank those whose term of office is completed:

Becca Barber – Board of Education
Greg Gerjerts - Board of Communications & Outreach
Alan Czarnetzki – Secretary
Jason Knox – Elder