



*The Why, How, and for  
What of God's Salvation*

**January 12, 2025**



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**Welcome!** Thank you for joining us for worship! In our service we receive God's grace through his Word and sacraments. As he works to strengthen our faith in Jesus, we respond to his goodness with our prayers, praise, and offerings. We are glad to be here and glad that you have joined us today!

- Restrooms are located in the main hallway, narthex, and back classrooms.
- If you wish to step out of the service to calm your child, please feel welcome to use the Fellowship Hall or the Toddler Sunday School Room (located in the back-corner classroom of the building, connected to the Fellowship Hall). Both of these rooms have televisions showing the worship service. Also, please do not hesitate to ask an usher or any member if you need help locating anything. We want to make you feel welcome.

**Serving the Lord and Serving Us:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Paul Jenkins

**Today's Focus:** For Jesus' sake, God gives gracious gifts in the waters of baptism. Our worship follows *Service of the Word*.

# We Come into the Presence of God

## MUSICAL INTRODUCTION

*This is an opportunity to quiet your mind and heart and prepare for the joy of worshipping your God.*

## OPENING HYMN: 294, Baptized into Your Name Most Holy



1 Bap - tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O  
2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me To  
3 My faith - ful God, you fail me nev - er; Your  
4 All that I am and love most dear - ly— Re -



Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a  
be hence - forth your child and heir. My faith - ful  
prom - ise sure - ly will en - dure. Oh, cast me  
ceive it all, O Lord, from me. Let me con -



place, though weak and low - ly, A - mong your saints, your  
Sav - ior, there you let me The fruit of all your  
not a - way for - ev - er If words and deeds be -  
fess my faith sin - cere - ly And help me your own



cho - sen host, Bur - ied with Christ and dead to  
sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it, com - fort  
come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I come de -  
child to be! Let noth - ing that I am or



sin. Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.  
me When threat - 'ning clouds a - round I see.  
filed; For - give, lift up, re - store your child.  
own Serve an - y will but yours a - lone.

Text: Johann J. Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HÄTTE (KÖNIG) (98 98 88) Johann B. König, 1691–1758.

*Stand*

## INVOCATION

Minister: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship the Holy Spirit be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

## OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Be seated*

# THE WORD

## FIRST LESSON

### 1 Samuel 16:1-13

*David's anointing by the prophet Samuel set him apart for the special task of leading Israel as king. Jesus' anointing by the prophet John also set him apart: he is our King who rules our hearts and fights to deliver us from all evil.*

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I see a king for myself among his sons."

<sup>2</sup> Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."

The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' <sup>3</sup> Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will let you know what you are to do. You are to anoint for me the person that I point out to you."

<sup>4</sup> So Samuel did what the LORD had told him to do and went to Bethlehem. Trembling with fear, the elders of the city came to meet him. They said, "Do you come in peace?"

<sup>5</sup> He said, "Yes, in peace. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." He consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup> When they had come, he looked at Eliab and said, "Certainly this is the LORD's anointed."

<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at how tall he is, because I have rejected him. For the LORD does not look at things the way man does. For man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

<sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either."

<sup>9</sup> Then Jesse had Shammah pass by. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either."

<sup>10</sup> Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel. Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." <sup>11</sup> Samuel said to Jesse, "Is that all of the young men?"

Jesse said, "There still is the youngest, but he is tending the sheep."

Samuel said to Jesse, "Send for him, for we cannot sit down to eat until he comes."

<sup>12</sup> He sent for him and brought him in. David had red hair and striking eyes, and was good-looking. The LORD said, "Get up! Anoint him, because this is the one."

<sup>13</sup> So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers. The Spirit of the LORD rushed on David with power from that day forward. After that Samuel set out and returned to Ramah.

## **PSALM OF THE DAY: 2**

*Read responsively*

M: Why do the nations conspire

**C: and the peoples plot in vain?**

M: The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD

**C: and against his Anointed One.**

M: The One enthroned in heaven laughs;

**C: the LORD scoffs at them.**

M: Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,

**C: “I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”**

M: I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:

**C: He said to me, “You are my Son, today I have become your Father.”**

## **SECOND LESSON AND SERMON TEXT**

### **Titus 4:4-7**

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior toward mankind appeared, <sup>5</sup> he saved us—not by righteous works that we did ourselves, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and the renewal by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs in keeping with the hope of eternal life.

## **VERSE OF THE DAY**

M: Alleluia! “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.” Alleluia! (*Mark 1:11b*)

*Stand*

## **GOSPEL**

### **Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

*The Father publicly declares that Jesus is his beloved and holy Son, the one anointed to save.*

The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might be the Christ. <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But someone mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will thoroughly clean out his threshing floor. He will gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. While he was praying, heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and 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. I am well pleased with you."

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

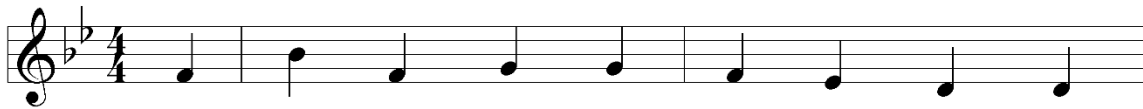
**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be Seated*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON:** See All Three



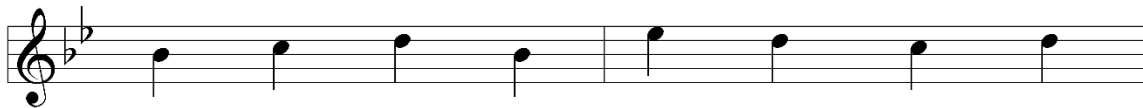
HYMN OF THE DAY: 89, To Jordan's River Came Our Lord



1 To Jor - dan's riv - er came our Lord, The  
 2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— The  
 3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood And  
 4 Then from God's throne with thun - d'rous sound Came  
 5 The Fa - ther's word, the Spir - it's flight A -



Christ, whom heav'n - ly hosts a - dored, The  
 Son of God in flesh dis - guised— To  
 John bap - tized the Lamb of God, The  
 God's own voice with words pro - found: "This  
 noint - ed Christ in glo - rious sight As



God from God, the Light from Light, The  
 stand be - neath the Fa - ther's will And  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, heav'n - ly dove, De -  
 is my Son," was his de - cree, "The  
 God's own choice, from A - dam's fall To



Lord of glo - ry, pow'r, and might.  
 all his prom - is - es ful - fill.  
 scend - ed on him from a - bove,  
 one I love, who pleas - es me."  
 save the world and free us all.

6 Now rise, faint hearts: be resolute!  
 This man in Christ, our substitute!  
 He was baptized in Jordan's stream,  
 Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

Text: James P. Tiefel, b. 1949. © 1993 James P. Tiefel. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
 Tune: WINCHESTER NEW (LM) *Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien*, Hamburg, 1690, alt.

SERMON

TEXT: Titus 3:4-7  
 THEME: The Why, How, and What of God's Salvation

Stand

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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.**

*Be Seated*

## **OFFERING**

*Please take a moment to sign the friendship register found in your pew.*

*The members of Trinity make joyful offerings to support this church's ministry. A portion of our offerings is also used for the training of future pastors and teachers, and the worldwide mission work carried out by our fellowship, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Our guests are under no obligation to give, but any gifts freely given are welcome and will be put to work in service to God's kingdom.*

*Stand*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: O heavenly Father, we come before you this day in thanksgiving and praise. We thank you for revealing yourself at the baptism of Jesus. There you declared the one born at Bethlehem and adored by the Magi to be your dearly loved Son in whom you are well pleased. Enable all of us to find in him our hope and salvation.

As you anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit, so pour out that same Spirit on us that we may serve you in the world. Take from us all fear and doubt, overcome our laziness and indecision, and drive the ugliness of sin from our lives. Open our eyes to the glorious trust that as your baptized children we are your priests in this world.

Grant your strength and blessing to all pastors, teachers, and missionaries. May they proclaim your Word with fervor and diligence and so bring light to those who sit in darkness. In your mercy bring help and healing to the ill and afflicted. By your grace enable them to cast their care on you, knowing that you care for them.

### *Special prayers*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

### *Silent prayer*

M: May we all together rejoice in your Son, Jesus Christ, whom we worship and adore with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

*Be Seated*

## CLOSING HYMN: 320, On My Heart Imprint Your Image

On my heart im - print your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus,  
King of grace, That life's rich - es, cares, and plea - sures Have no  
pow'r to hide your face. This the su - per - scrip - tion be:  
Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me, Is my life, my hope's foun -  
da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703, abr.; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.

Tune: FREU DICH SEHR (87 87 77 88) *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551, alt.

## Trinity Lutheran Church

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Find us online at [www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org](http://www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge](http://www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge)

### Wine and Word Bible Study – January 16

The Wine and Word Bible Study meets at the home of Bruce and Dawn Knox. Their home is located just 5 minutes from the church in Old Bridge Estates. We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays from 7-8:30 pm. We are studying. Those who wish can bring a bottle of wine and a small bite appetizer. Come and join us whether you drink wine or not! Contact Dawn at 703-615-9320 or [dawn.f.knox@gmail.com](mailto:dawn.f.knox@gmail.com) to RSVP.

### Trinity's Book Club – January 18

Trinity's Book club will meet at 9:30am on Saturday, January 18, at Cuppi Coffee in Dumfries. Please join us to discuss *An Hour Unspent* by Roseanna M. White and to choose our next read! New members are always welcome.

### Valentine's Breakfast – Sunday, February 9 between Services

Trinity's Second Annual Valentine's Breakfast will be help between services on Sunday, February 9. (There will be no Bible class that Sunday, and Sunday School will be abbreviated.) There are many ways you can help: we'll need cooks (ideal for late service attendees), floaters (during the breakfast itself), and clean-up folks (ideal for early service attendees.) There is also plenty of food that can be donated. To sign up to work and/or donate food, please see the sheet in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please speak to Sandee Clay or to pastor.

This breakfast would be a great chance to invite a friend or neighbor to worship at Trinity. In addition to getting to enjoy good food and good people, it's also a non-Communion Sunday, so you could ask your guest to join you for worship without the potential awkwardness of having to explain our Close Communion practice. (We don't apologize for our practice but do recognize that it may create some tension with friends who do not understand the reasons for it.) So, if you've been thinking of asking someone you know to join us, why not target this special Sunday?

Our thanks to Sandee for spearheading the breakfast again this year!

### December Attendance

8<sup>th</sup>: Worship: 25+47=72; Bible class: 32

15<sup>th</sup>: 20+71=91; 26

22<sup>nd</sup>: 41+32=73; 17

24<sup>th</sup>: 77+45=122; N/A

25<sup>th</sup>: 18; N/A

29<sup>th</sup>: 29+12=41; 21

**Trinity's Little Free Library** is one of our church's most effective tools for reaching out to our neighborhood. Many families in the area around Trinity regularly visit our LFL for books and shelf-stable food items, especially those who are experiencing food scarcity. Particularly useful are canned or boxed foods that do not require additional ingredients besides water to prepare. Books are always welcome, too, of course! If the shelves happen to be full, there is a donation bin for overflow items in the fellowship room beside the door to the hallway.

### **Small Choir**

Trinity's choir sings about once a month during worship. Anyone is welcome to join! We'll sing hymns from our hymnal, Christian Worship. If you are interested in joining, please let John or Erika Ohlendorf know.

### **Ushers and Usher Assistants Needed**

A sign-up sheet is sent via email through Sign-up Genius. You are welcome to fill in as many Sundays as you are available. If you would like to become part of the regular rotation of ushers, or even just fill in once in a while when needed, please speak to Worship Elder Steve Baker. If you are not getting the emails for Sign-Up Genius, please email [admin@trinityofwoodbridge.org](mailto:admin@trinityofwoodbridge.org)

### **Lord's Supper Available to All Members**

If you are a confirmed member of Trinity, Pastor would be happy to commune you at home, or anywhere else you would like to meet. Just contact him at (309) 433-5807 or [revpauljenkins@yahoo.com](mailto:revpauljenkins@yahoo.com) with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work.



## And So It Begins

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20240112/>

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 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. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Mark 1:9-11

Every great story, every great adventure, every great journey has to have a beginning. Whether you are Bilbo Baggins walking out your front gate in *The Hobbit* or you and your family are pulling out of the driveway for a vacation, you have to start somewhere. The same was true for Jesus when he began his public ministry.

John the Baptist was preparing for all of this. God sent him to prepare the way for the coming Lord. He was sent to call people to turn away from their sins and live as forgiven children of God. He baptized people, young and old, in the waters of the Jordan River. John knew that he was preparing the way for the coming Lord, but he didn't realize how humbly Jesus would come to him.

One day, Jesus came to John and asked to be baptized, even though Jesus was holy and perfect. He had no need to receive forgiveness through the waters of Baptism. Yet Jesus was there to put himself in our place under the same waters of Baptism connected with God's Word that change our lives and bring us God's forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus's baptism looked like anyone else's with water poured over his head and the Word spoken by God's servant, but what happened next was very different!

"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. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'" What a sight! The heavens torn open. The Holy Spirit descending in the form of a dove. What a sound! The voice of God the Father speaking from heaven and pointing out Jesus as his chosen Servant sent to carry out the work of saving us and all people.

And so it began. Jesus' great journey would take him through temptation and suffering, miracles performed, and the Word of God proclaimed. In time, that journey would take Jesus to the cross to die and a tomb for when he was dead. But the journey would end with us saved from sin and death. But today we remember where it began, with baptismal waters poured over Jesus' head. And we remember the story of our salvation began exactly the same as Jesus' ministry.

*(Continued on Next Page)*

## Questions to Consider

Ask your parent or grandparent to remember what happened at your baptism.

Recall one of the wonderful things that happened at Jesus' baptism.

Reread Mark 1:9-11. How do we see God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit at Jesus' baptism?

Why did Jesus need to be baptized? Why do we need to be baptized?

Read Romans 6:3-4. What is the connection between our baptism and Jesus's life, death, and resurrection?

Explain what God the Father meant when he said to Jesus: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."



**It is the mission of**

**trinity**



LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

**to glorify God**

by growing in His Word and by going with His Word

to Woodbridge and to the world.



Trinity Lutheran Church is part of a group of nearly 1,300 churches called the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a world-wide church with congregations serving in all fifty of the United States, as well as in Mexico and Canada. The WELS also serves over 26 foreign countries through world mission work. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the WELS as well as the members of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, consisting of 21 confessional Lutheran church bodies throughout the world.