

# BAPTISM

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## WINNETKA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BAPTISM OF THE LORD  
JANUARY 14, 2024

### GATHERING

PRELUDE

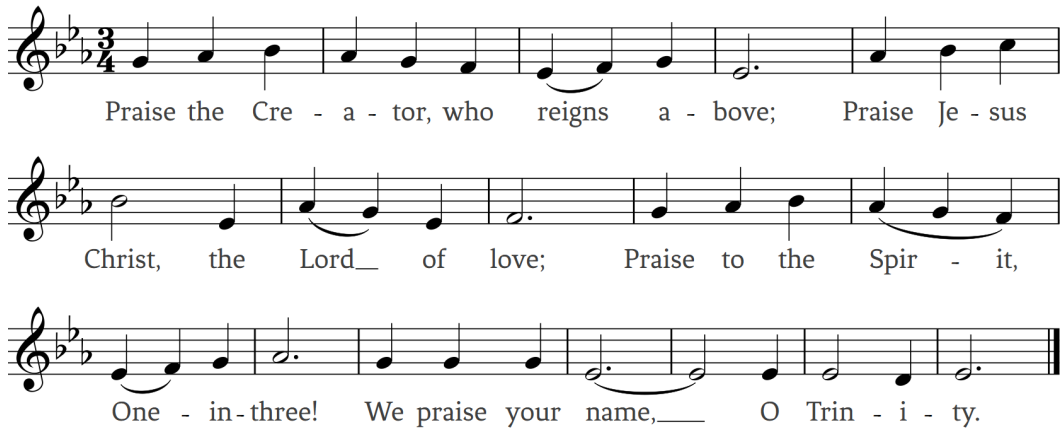
Morning Has Broken

WELCOME

SILENT REFLECTION

SONG OF PRAISE | STANDING

Praise the Creator



Praise the Cre - a - tor, who reigns a - bove; Praise Je - sus  
Christ, the Lord\_ of love; Praise to the Spir - it,  
One - in - three! We praise your name,\_\_\_ O Trin - i - ty.

## CALL TO WORSHIP | STANDING

God's redeeming voice calls us to this holy place -  
**calling us to sing and offer praise.**

God's creating voice calls us to the Word -  
**calling us to life and light.**

God's loving voice calls us to the waters -  
**calling us to love and be loved.**

Listen, for God's voice calls to us now to worship.

## HYMN 482 | STANDING

Baptized in Water

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God,  
when we forget that we are your beloved children,  
draw us ever closer to you.

When we fail to listen to your voice of love,  
whisper your words of reassurance.

When we do not reflect your divine image,  
forgive us.

Wash over us with your grace,  
and bathe us in your love,  
that we may remember who we are  
and whose we are.

*Silence is kept for personal confession.*

**Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the truth of God's voice,  
breaking through the clouds of our lives:

"You are my child, the one I dearly love.

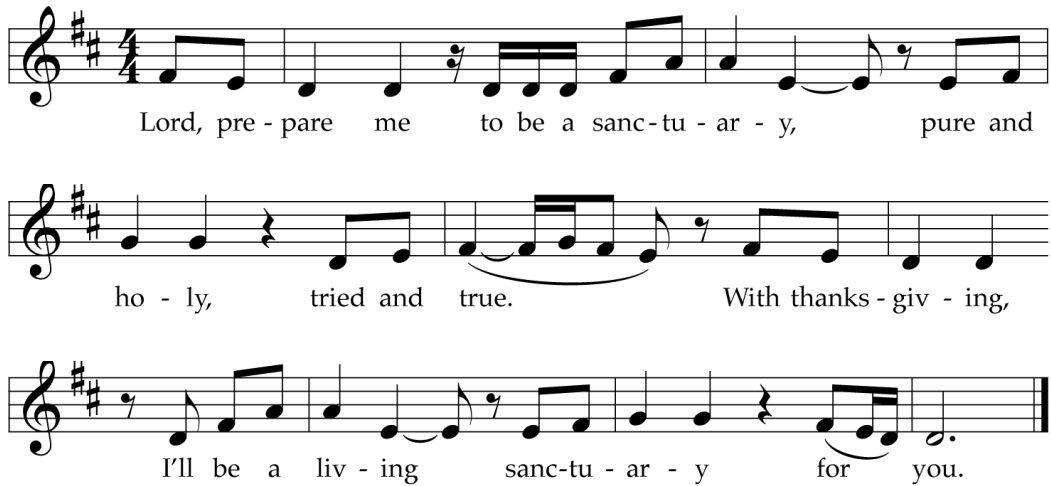
I delight in your creation."

**I am God's child, the one God dearly loves.**

**God delights in my creation.**

## RESPONSE

## Lord, Prepare Me



Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and  
ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing,  
I'll be a liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.

## WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 19:1-7

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### CHORAL MEDITATION

My Son, the Beloved

In those days, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee,  
and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

And as he came out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart,  
and the Spirit descending like a dove on him.

And a voice came from the heaven,

“You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Children are dismissed to Sunday School (K-6) following the scripture readings.  
They will rejoin their families after the sermon for the Remembrance of Baptism.*

SERMON

*Knowing the Secret*

Rev. Paul Gilmore

HYMN 482 | STANDING

Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed



1. Won-der of won - ders, here re - vealed: God's cov - e -  
 2. Here is this sac - ra - ment we see God's grace un -  
 3. Chil-dren of God, though young or old, we wel - come  
 4. Now we our vow of faith re - new, stretch wide our



nant with us is sealed, and long be - fore we  
 bound, for all, for me! May we re - spond with  
 all in - to Christ's fold, to know with us God's  
 sights to glo - bal view, and claim with Chris - tians



know or pray, God's love en - folds us ev - 'ry day.  
 joy - ful praise in lov - ing ser - vice all our days.  
 lov - ing care, and all our joys and sor - rows share.  
 far and near a larg - er fam - i - ly held dear.

*All are invited to gather around the baptismal font in the back of the sanctuary.*

## REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM | STANDING

Friends,  
whatever our journey to this point  
we remember that in baptism  
God claims us as beloved children.

Baptism is the sign and seal of God's promises.  
In baptism God promises by grace alone:  
to forgive our sins,  
to adopt us into the body of Christ, the church,  
to send the Holy Spirit daily to renew and cleanse us,  
and to resurrect us to eternal life.

This promise is made visible in the water of baptism.

Water cleanses,  
purifies,  
refreshes,  
sustains;  
Jesus Christ is living water.

Through baptism Christ calls us to love and trust God completely,  
to forsake the evil of the world,  
and to live a new and holy life.

Yet, when we fall into sin,  
we must not despair,  
for baptism is the sign and seal  
of God's eternal covenant of grace with us.

And so, today we come once again to these waters,  
to renew the commitments made on the day of our baptism.

Do you renounce sin and the power of evil  
in your life and in the world?

**I renounce them.**

Who is your Lord and Savior?

**Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation,  
through worship and service,  
seeking to advance God's purposes  
here and throughout the world?

**I will, and I ask God to help me.**

## **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER** | STANDING

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We praise you, O God, for water.

**We praise you, O God, for water.**

We give you thanks, O God,  
for the gift of water -  
for oceans and lakes, rivers and streams,  
clouds and rain, dew and snow.

In the beginning of creation your Spirit moved over the waters.

In the waters of the flood you destroyed evil.

In the waters of the Red Sea you led the children of Israel into freedom.

In the river Jordan, John baptized Jesus and your Spirit anointed him.

In the waters of baptism you birth us into the family of Christ,  
claim us as your beloved children,  
bathe us in forgiveness,  
and enliven us with your Holy Spirit.

We praise you, O God, for water.

**We praise you, O God, for water.**

To you, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer -  
Sea of holiness,  
Spring of salvation,  
Cloud of mystery,  
be all praise and thanksgiving, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*You are invited to bless your neighbor with water saying, "Remember your baptism."*

## SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST | STANDING

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The congregation returns to their pews after greeting one another.*

## RESPONSE | STANDING

There Is One Lord

Ephesians 4:5

There is one Lord,\_\_\_ There is one faith,\_\_\_  
There is one bap - tis - m\_\_\_ There is one God. \_\_\_  
And we are all\_\_\_ chil-dren of God,\_\_\_  
born of one same\_\_\_ Spir - it,\_\_\_ Al-le-lu - ia!

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a repeat sign. The second staff has a fermata over the final note. The third staff has a fermata over the final note. The fourth staff has a fermata over the final note and a triplet of eighth notes for 'Al-le-lu - ia!'.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### 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 debts as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen.



# THANKSGIVING

## OFFERING

### MUSICAL OFFERING

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus  
Ensemble

I have decided to follow Jesus.  
No turning back.  
The world behind me, the cross before me.  
No turning back.  
Though none go with me, still I will follow.  
No turning back.

### DOXOLOGY | STANDING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people  
here below; praise Holy Spirit ever more;  
praise Tri-une God, whom we adore. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING | STANDING

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Holy God, you shake us out of complacency,  
remind us of the meaning of service,  
restore our relationship with you and others,  
empower us with your spirit,  
and speak your words of reassurance over us.

**Thank you for each new day,**

**each new beginning,**

**and each touch of your grace in our lives.**

**Use the gifts we now offer to bring your love to our world.**

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### HYMN 485 | STANDING

We Know That Christ is Raised

### CHARGE | STANDING

Go forth and proclaim the good news:

God calls us by name

and fashions us for glory.

**We go as people washed clean**

**in the waters of our baptism.**

Go forth to live the good news:

the Holy Spirit blesses us

and seals us with God's love.

**We go as people blessed by God,**

**that we might be a blessing to others.**

**BLESSING** | STANDING

**POSTLUDE**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Information about weekly Bible studies and small groups can be found in your weekly email or at [winnpres.org](http://winnpres.org). Sign up at [winnpres.org](http://winnpres.org) to receive our weekly email.



### OFFERING

You can financially support the ministry of WPC in one of the following ways:

- Scan this QR code.
- Place your offering in the collection box.
- Give online at [winnpres.org/give-online](http://winnpres.org/give-online).

### NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING

All women are invited to the new Bible study, beginning on January 13 at 10am in Conference Room A. Our guide for the next nine weeks will be *Into the Light Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*.

### PANCAKES FOR MARDI GRAS: FEB 11

Celebrate Mardi Gras with pancakes served by the Senior High Youth of WPC! The pancake breakfast will be immediately following worship on February 11. All proceeds will go to support the youth summer mission trip.

### DRIVE-THROUGH ASHES: FEB 14

Lent begins early this year. Ashes will be distributed in the roundabout outside the church office between 8-9am and 12-1pm on February 14. Drive through anytime to begin your Lenten journey!

### SERVING TODAY

Worship Leaders: Paul Gilmore, Geoff Duffy  
Greeters: Nancy Holly  
Lectors: Jill Vint, Karen Tokmakoff  
Prayer Leader: Karen Tokmakoff  
Musicians: Bryan Wlas, Daniel Rausch,  
Shannon McMullen, Kyra Kornfeld

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### COVER ART

The painting of "The Baptism of Christ" is by Jerzy Nowosielski (1923-2011). one of the greatest contemporary Polish icon painters.

## WINNETKA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Phyllis Beattie, Parish Associate

