

# St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

8:30 & 11:00 Services

**Worship Notes:** Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

## Gathering

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements      Pastor Ann Williams

*Please stand as you are able.*

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our rock and refuge,

**we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. In baptism, we have been made a new creation. The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

**Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn

## #302 As with Gladness Men of Old

## Litany for the Baptism of our Lord Sunday

At creation, a wind from God swept over the waters,  
**and the world was brought to life.**

At the Jordan, a wind from God's Spirit swept over the waters,  
**and the baptized Christ was declared the Son of God.**

At our own baptisms, the Holy Spirit's breath swept into our being,  
**and through water and the Word, we became God's very own.**

## Hymn of Praise

## Arise and Shine

Refrain

A - rise and shine! Your light has come to all who dwell in dark-ness.

A - rise and shine, for in our midst the light of Christ is with us.

1. We who walked in dark of night, have seen a great light.  
 2. Un - to us a child was born, a Son was giv'n.

A star has shown our Lord was born; the dawn on this new day.  
 Bap-tized by John now he reigns as migh - ty Prince of Peace.

Music & Text [based on Isaiah 9:2] by John R. Paradowski. Copyright © 2005 Choristers Guild Publications.  
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## Apostolic Greeting

Arise shine; for the Light has come!

**The glory of the Lord has risen upon us!**

We gather in the name in which we are baptized.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Prayer of the Day

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters.

Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## Word

### First Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

*Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for us. God created and continues to create new life.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Second Reading

Acts 19:1-7

*In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptizes them, the Holy Spirit comes upon them and empowers them with gifts of the Spirit.*

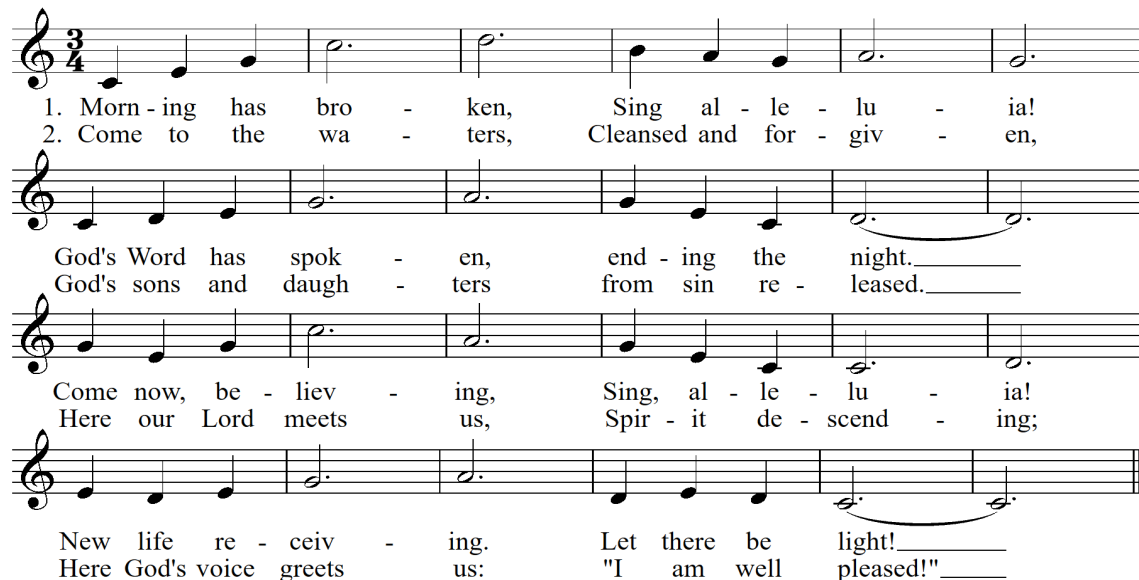
Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Gospel Acclamation

## Come to the Waters



1. Morn - ing has bro - ken, Sing al - le - lu - ia!  
2. Come to the wa - ters, Cleansed and for - giv - en,  
God's Word has spok - en, end - ing the night.  
God's sons and daugh - ters from sin re - leased.  
Come now, be - liev - ing, Sing, al - le - lu - ia!  
Here our Lord meets us, Spir - it de - scend - ing;  
New life re - ceiv - ing. Let there be light!  
Here God's voice greets us: "I am well pleased!"

Tune: Bunesan 554D. Gaelic Tune. Text: Arden Mead. Copyright © 1999 Creative Communications. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## Gospel

## Mark 1:4-11

*Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.*

The holy gospel according to Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**Glorify to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## Sermon

Pastor Ann Williams

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Hymn of the Day

## #451 We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

*(Prayer Cards, which can be found in the pew racks, will be collected during the Hymn of the Day)*

## Profession of Faith

## The Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

*Usher Volunteers gather for Offering Collection at the Welcome Center.*

## Prayers of Intercession

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

...Merciful God,

**Receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

**Amen.**

## Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

Meal

Offering

8:30

*Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized*  
by Kenneth Lowenberg - Senior Choir

Please stand as you are able.

## Offertory

### As the Grains of Wheat

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

Tune: As the Grains, Irregular, Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Text and Music Copyright © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

## Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

**Amen.**

## Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Invitation to Communion

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.

**There is a place and enough for all.**

*Please be seated.*

Call to Communion

**#486 God Extends an Invitation/  
Nuestro Padre nos Invita**

Communion Hymn

**#474 Bread of Life from Heaven**

*Please stand as you are able.*

Communion Response

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his light and grace.

**Amen.**

Prayer After Communion

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Sending

*Please be seated.*

Farewell & Godspeed Pastor Karen Natterstad

Address

Pastor Karen, as you leave our community of faith, St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church, we wish to bid you farewell.

You came to the community of St. Matthew's be interim pastor in this place: to proclaim God's word, to baptize and teach, to announce God's forgiveness, and to preside at the Lord's table. With the gospel you have been with us in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of our loved ones. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you have been important to our life together in the church of Jesus Christ, in our service to this community, and in God's mission to the whole world. As you now enter retirement and leave this community of faith, we say farewell, and we pray for God's blessing.

Thanksgiving and Sending

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them, and you call them to various avenues of service. We give you thanks for the ministry of Pastor Karen among the people of God in this place.

Bless us all at this time of ending and beginning. You surround your people in every time and place: keep us close in your love. Help Pastor Karen and her family and all of us to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us. As she has been a blessing to us, so now send her forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Sending Song

**#454 Remember and Rejoice**

Blessing

God, who through water and the Spirit has made us beloved daughters and sons, strengthen you in your baptism. 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. Almighty God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude



## Scripture for Baptism of Our Lord – January 7, 2024

### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading -- Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading -- Acts 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' <sup>3</sup>Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' <sup>4</sup>Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— <sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them.

### Gospel Reading -- Mark 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'