

**PRAYER SERVICE  
JANUARY 10, 2021  
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

God loves you all the time  
And all the time God loves you.

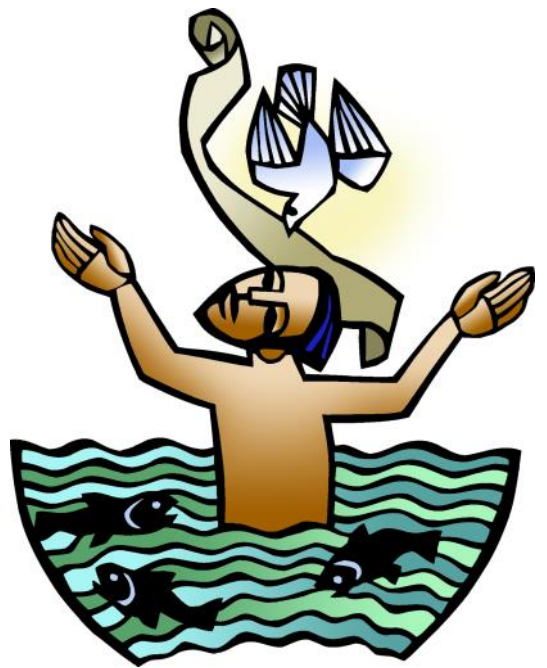
**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
whose voice is upon the waters,  
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,  
whose goodness cascades over all creation. **Amen.**  
Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
**you search us and know us.**  
**You are acquainted with all our ways.**  
**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—**  
**our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**  
**We turn inward, failing to follow**  
**your outward way of love.**  
**We distrust those who are not like us.**  
**We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come.**  
**Forgive us, gracious God,**  
**for all we have done and left undone.**  
**Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them;**  
**receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.**

How vast is God's grace!  
Through the power and promise of ✚ Christ Jesus,  
our sins are washed away  
and we are claimed as God's own beloved.  
Indeed, we are forgiven.  
In the wake of God's forgiveness,  
we are called to be the beloved community  
living out Christ's justice  
and the Spirit's reconciling peace. **Amen.**





1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spir - it on you  
 2 God called you, "My be - lov - ed Son"; you are God's scr - vant  
 3 Straight-way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed the  
 4 Bap - tize us with your Spir - it, Lord; your cross on us be



came, as peace - ful as a dove, and yet as  
 true, sent to pro - claim the reign of heav'n, God's  
 call to serve with free and will - ing heart, to  
 signed, that like - wise in God's ser - vice we may



ur - gent as a flame, as ur - gent as a flame.  
 ho - ly will to do, God's ho - ly will to do.  
 give your life for all, to give your life for all.  
 per - fect free - dom find, may per - fect free - dom find.

## OPENING DIALOGUE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## 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.**

## FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-5

<sup>1</sup>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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 29

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,

ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**<sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

**<sup>4</sup>The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**<sup>6</sup>the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD  
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**<sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.  
And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, "Glory!"

**<sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

**SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11**

The holy gospel from the book of Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>4</sup>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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**THE MESSAGE**

# PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.  
And also with you.

# HYMN

## *We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus*

ELW 451



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;  
2 In the wa - ter and the wit-ness, in the break-ing of the bread,  
3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo-ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.  
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,  
glo-ry to the Ho - ly Spir-it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,  
God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo-ry now re-sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.  
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.  
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

## 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 into hell.**

**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. Amen**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they proclaim the forgiveness of sins, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God's goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the nations of the world and their leaders, for laborers busy both day and night, and for peacemakers amid strife, that God inspire all people to use their strength wisely, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the sick and those who provide medical care, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer (*especially*), that God shower compassion, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the congregation gathered here, for students returning to school, for those seeking renewal in their daily work, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**     *Here other intercessions may be offered.*

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, that their witness inspire us in our baptismal vocations, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## 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.**

## BLESSING

God the creator strengthen you;  
Jesus the beloved fill you;  
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✝ keep you in peace.

**Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

*Baptized in Water*

ELW 456



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust-ing his  
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

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# **The Baptism of Our Lord**

## **Prayers of the Congregation for Week of January 10**

### **TODAY we pray for:**

Gene and Vanessa Spence

Family and friends of Betty Magoon as they mourn her passing; Jeremy, David and Pastor Tara

Friends and family of Owen Mathre as they mourn his passing

For all those suffering with Covid-19

Lena

Brian—covid

Pat Kizuka

Polly Gillis

Allen Whitley

Christina

Stacy Dambaugh

Sue, friend of JoAnne Deaton

Roger Camp

Krisida Alberto

Diane Kiefer daughter of Margie Betley

- all in our hearts and minds today.

### **WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:**

Louise Ench, Kathy Long, Gener Ernst, Barbara Hewlett, Russ & Joan Snyder, Clare Schoening, Scott; Chris, Denise, Clare Benz and Lynda Martinez, Barbara Lynn Grabher; daughter in law of Erika and Ed Burke, Kyle, Bill Smith; step-father of Rebecca Koreck, Lena, Leslie, friend of Diane Teig, Jack Baskow, Claudia and Geof Bromfield, Connie and family, Scott & Lia Wycoff, The Fenner family, John Worrell—brother in law of Bill Baur, Mike Goyda, Lis Verbeck, Lois Snyder

David & Angie Wasgatt, John Deaton, Joan Sandstorm, Delores Sipe, Doug Price, Bob Waller, Kent Hardel, Gretchen Platz, Ellen Hall, Nanci Hunsinger, Betty Magoon, Claire Schoening, Tyler, Bill Howerin, Marcia Burton, Gina Clay

For our bishops; Elizabeth Eaton, Bill Gohl

For the Dean of the Delmarva Conference; Barbara Melosh

For our staff; Pastor Tara, Susan Allen, Jordan Irazabal, Louis Jones

For leaders & congregations of the Delmarva Conference;

For all pastors and church leaders

For our country; the United States, leaders and citizens.

For all of our global neighbors, stricken by the covid-19 virus.

**To request a prayer, or update prayers, please call the church office (302-239-6481)  
or email [office@glcde.org](mailto:office@glcde.org).**

**Every Sunday on Zoom at 10:00AM**

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84338548999?  
pwd=bkd6S3NueTdOOTZ6UE1URINqK1pIU09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84338548999?pwd=bkd6S3NueTdOOTZ6UE1URINqK1pIU09)

Meeting ID: 843 3854 8999

Passcode: 799577



## **Adult Education Opportunity**

**TODAY!**

### *Anxious for Nothing – Finding Calm in a Chaotic World*

While initially produced in 2017, this Max Lucado video program is right on target for this year.

Titled “Anxious for Nothing – Finding Calm in a Chaotic World”, this is a series of five one-hour sessions. While there is some carryover from one session to another, each session is valuable on its own.

The program will follow the Sunday “Coffee and Connect” hour, using the same ZOOM link.

The remaining session is on January 10. Please join us as you are able.

### **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Rev. Tara Magoon, Pastor

Rev. David Wasgatt, Pastor Emeritus

Jordan Irazabal, Director of Music

Susan Wells Allen, Office Manager

Louis Jones, Custodian

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### ***From the Pastor***

Happy and Blessed New Year and Thank you! Thank you for your prayers, for your cards, for your gifts, for your worship, for your condolences, for your friendship, for air hugs and virtual high fives. Thank you for all of the ways you have shared yourselves with myself and my family and others as we have worshipped, rejoiced, struggled and grieved. We continued to social distance and have listened with caution as vaccines were approved and began distribution for this deadly pandemic. We watched and waited and told the story again of the birth of Emmanuel, God-with-us, Jesus Christ. And all of this just in the month of December. 2020 was a different path for everyone and we tried to walk it together in whatever ways that we could. As we come into the New Year with all of its promise and our hopes, I was thinking of this journey that we are on. I get frustrated that God doesn't promise easy, and I get hopeful that God does promise to be with us always. To that end I share a passage from Martin Luther that hangs near my desk in the office at Grace as I look ahead to a God-inspired path for 2021: *This life therefore is not righteousness but growth in righteousness, not health but healing, not being but becoming, not rest but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be but we are growing toward it, the process is not yet finished but it is going on, this is not the end but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory but all is being purified.* God bless you and keep you, God shine on you with grace and mercy, and God give you peace.

In Christ, Pastor Tara

“Mark Teasley, Council President, presents Pastor Tara with her annual Christmas gift from the congregation on the morning of Christmas Eve. We are so thankful for the graceful ministry she and the church staff has provided us in this difficult year. Hopefully, we can all gather together again in person next Christmas!”





## **Adult Ed**

This Sunday, Jan 10<sup>th</sup>, is the last week in the current Adult Education series. A big thank you to Nancy Goyda and Bill Brizendine for their leadership of Max Lucado's *Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World*.

The next series will be a study of 1 Peter "God's Own People" from the Book of Faith initiative through Augsburg Fortress. Pastor Tara will be leading the study which begins January 17 at 11 AM on Sunday mornings. You can participate through the "Coffee and Connect" link in this newsletter.

## **Town Hall**

2020 was a rough year. While we have passed into a new year, we do begin with some of the same challenges. Although we missed the opportunity to update the congregation in the Fall on what is going on in the life and ministry of Grace, at least the highlights, we will have a Zoom Town Hall on Sunday January 24<sup>th</sup> in place of Coffee and Connect and Adult Education. This Zoom meeting will use the same link as Coffee and Connect. Come and hear ministry and finance updates on this amazing congregation we call Grace.