

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

propeace.org

Worship Videos: [YouTube.com/@princeofpeacesaratoga](https://www.youtube.com/@princeofpeacesaratoga)



January 21, 2024
Second Sunday after Epiphany

Sidenotes are back! On these grey spaces you will find explanations, quips, info, and fun.

Everything you need to sing, speak and participate in this worship is in the bulletin.

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Today we celebrate the gift of baptism by remembering our baptisms! You might feel a spray or sprinkle of water as we remember this gift!

If you are not yet baptized Pastor Sara is happy to sit down with you and talk about it!

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Welcome to Prince of Peace! As we begin worship, we hope and pray this will be a time of connecting to God and one another so that we might leave this worship service ready to love and serve our neighbors.

Bold print indicates response from all the people

Gathering

Prelude *Tender Mercies/Simple Gifts*

Choir

Music: Karen Mumford Arr.: Greg Hansen

Welcome

****Please stand as you are able****

Thanksgiving for Baptism

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who creates, saves, and sends us
With love that lives forever.

C: Amen

L: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we give thanks for the Great Exchange,
the mercy and forgiveness that wrap
our true selves in sacred belonging and purpose.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

L: For a word at the dawn of creation,
Which spoke water and life into being.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

L: For the great flood that revealed nature's power

And God's commitment to life after death.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!
For the river that carried Moses safely,
Building a bridge between mothers and nations.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!
For the rock split open in the desert,
Spilling water for those thirsting for freedom.
C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

L: For the One who turned water to wine
And met a woman at the well with living water.
C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

L: For the gift of holy baptism,
Which declares there are no more godforsaken place,
And nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus.
For Christ is risen!
C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

L: God of life, we rejoice with the waters that cover creation;
Our songs of praise echo their dancing tides and streams.
Pour out your Holy Spirit on this community and all of creation.
Cleanse our fears. Drown our divisions.
Give us mercy and grace to drink so that our whole lives
Are signs of death defeated and thirst quenched
Thanks to the risen Jesus, the Son of God.
Amen.

***Gathering Hymn** *Baptized in Water*

ELW 456
(printed on the next page)

Baptized in Water



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.

Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

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*Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you!

C: And also with you!

O God our Abba, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Help all who are baptized into Christ be faithful to their calling to be your children, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Word

Reading

2 Corinthians 6:2-10

²For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see — we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

****Please stand as you are able****

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-6, 11-17

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

The Apostle Paul is writing to the people of Corinth as a friend who delivers tough words as a way to remind you of all you have.

In this case, it is to not forget the grace of God that strengthens us.

Jesus models for us the importance of baptism.

As Lutherans, we celebrate baptism as a reminder that in Jesus Christ, God is unmistakably for you, in abundant and generous ways. And that we are never meant to do this faith thing alone.

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.

⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

¹¹I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

L: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Kid's Message

Drew Ajer

Sermon

Dave Birdsall

***Song of the Day** *Borning Cry*

ELW 732

(printed on the next page)

Borning Cry



- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
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*** Prayers of the People**

We join together in praying as a church body. Prayers are organized by themes and each prayer ends with...

L: Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

***Passing of the Peace**

We give one another a word of peace, in the same way Jesus did when he appeared to the disciples in the Upper Room. As we share peace with one another, feel free to share your star words with one another as well.

Deep gratitude for all that you do to support the ministries and programs of this congregation!

Offering is an act of worship that reminds us where our security resides---with God.

Why no communion today? Practically speaking, because we don't have an ordained person present.

Offering

Your offering makes possible and powerful the ministries of this congregation. You may place your offering in one of the plates in the back of the church. If you wish to give your offering electronically today, please scan this QR code...



***Lord's Prayer**

L: Lord, remember us when you come into your kin-dom and teach us to pray:

**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, the power, and the glory,
Forever and ever. Amen.**

The sending portion of the service is meant to prepare us for leaving and sharing what we have learned and experienced in worship.

The Sending

Announcements

*Blessing

P: God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
✠ bless you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

Closing Song: *Baptized and Set Free*

ELW 453

(printed on the next page)

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God, we will!

Please be seated and enjoy the postlude music

Postlude *Trumpet Tune and Air*

by Peter Clark

Baptized and Set Free



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956
Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner
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With thanks to our worship leaders:

Todd Hauschildt, *Head Usher*
David Laudenslager, *Video Production*
Lisa LeSage, *Reader*
Carol Bierach, *Altar Guild*
Mary & Jack Wall, Yildiray H., *Coffee Hosts*

Prince of Peace Staff

Rev. Sara Pearson
Drew Ajer, *Director of Youth and Service*
Sharon DeGraw, *Intern Pastor*
Anne Hess, *Office Manager*
Katie Hoffman, *Office Associate*
Barbara Day Turner, *Director of Music*
Michael Touchi, *Pianist/Organist*
Kerry Lewis, *Music Staff Associate*

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Thanksgiving for Baptism from *speak it plain* by Meta Herrick Carlson

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Welcome Visitors!

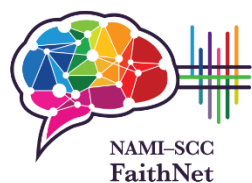
We are so glad you joined us! Please drop by the welcome center and sign our guest book, or use the Visitor Card in the pews and leave it in the offering plate.

Learn about upcoming events: ask for a copy of the “Peace Notes”, our printed announcements and calendar. We invite you to learn more about us on our website at propeace.org.

Prince of Peace is a congregation in the *Sierra Pacific Synod of the ELCA*.

We are proud to be a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation, publicly affirming our commitment to be a welcoming community of faith for LGBTQ+ people and their families.

We are also a member of *NAMI-FaithNet*, creating mental-health friendly, stigma-free congregations in the Santa Clara Valley.



[namisantacalara.org/
classes/faith-net-2](http://namisantacalara.org/classes/faith-net-2)

