

Festival of Our Lord's Baptism

January 12, 2025

Order of Worship: Holy Communion, Setting Four

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Congregational responses are printed in bold type.

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PRELUDE & BELLS *We observe a moment of silence for prayer and meditation.*

WELCOME

Blessed be the Kingdom...now and forever **and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

We stand OPENING HYMN

#311

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

tune #654

✠BRIEF RITE FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS✠

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thought of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.

1John 1:8-9

Most merciful God... **we confess that we are born captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you- who believe and repent- of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

✠HOLY COMMUNION✠

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.**

Song of Praise

“Glory to God in the Highest”

p. 148 Luke 2:14



A Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa - ther:



We wor- ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo- ry.



Lord Je- sus Christ, on- ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a- way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat- ed at the right hand of the Fa- ther; re- ceive our prayer.



For you a- lone are the Ho - ly One, you a- lone are the Lord,



you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir- it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa- ther. A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

Next Steps Weekly Memory Verse: MATTHEW 3:17

A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

We sit FIRST READING ISAIAH 43:1-7

¹ But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth" ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE & MEDITATION: PSALM 29

¹ Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴ **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶ **he makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷ The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire; the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁸ **The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.**

⁹ And in the temple of the LORD
all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰ **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹ The LORD shall give strength to his people;
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

SECOND READING ACTS 8:14-17

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. 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!**

HYMN OF THE DAY

#305

“When Jesus Came to Jordan!”

We sit. SERMON

Faith through Action
St. John the Baptizer

These persons have come to us from other churches, and desire to make public affirmation of their Baptism: Chris and Maddie Chudej

Dear friends we rejoice to receive you, members of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, into our fellowship in the Gospel. Do you renounce your memberships in all other congregations and churches? I do.

Brother and sisters in Christ: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been nourished at his holy table and called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now, therefore, I ask you all to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce all the forces of evil? I do.

Do you renounce the devil? I do.

Do you renounce all the devil's empty promises? I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

*means whole, entire Christian

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us draw near to the Throne of Grace, offering prayer and supplication on behalf of the Church, the world, and one another.

A brief silence

Let us pray for those who are affirming their Baptism, and for all the baptized everywhere: that they may be redeemed from all evil and rescued from the way of sin and death; that the Holy Spirit may open their hearts to your grace and truth; that they may be kept in the faith and communion of your holy Church; that they may be sent into the world in witness to your love; that they may be brought to the fullness of your peace and glory:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving us a glimpse into the mystery of the Trinity in the Baptism of your beloved Son. Thank you for uniting us to him, in the power of the heaven-descended Dove. Thank you for naming us your beloved children, in our own Baptism. Give us grace to live lives well-pleasing to you. Let all of our thoughts, words, and deeds cry “Glory!”

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Through your holy Church, let the world hear the thunder of your voice and know the beauty of your holiness. Strengthen and defend all who suffer for confessing Jesus as Lord. Fulfill among them your promise that the flames of persecution should not burn them, nor the waters of death carry them away from you.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all who are baptized or reaffirming their baptismal covenant today. Stir up your Spirit in them, that they may be freed from sin, united to Christ, and named as your children forever.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the people and the ministry of this congregation. We pray for our mission to develop fully devoted followers of Jesus; to support Solid Rock our mission in action; and that you send us adults for baptism. Make us dead to sin and alive to you in Christ. Burn away the chaff from our hearts. Gather up and sanctify all that you have cleansed. Help us share with family and friends the goodness of the new life we have in our Savior.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Protect, purify, and guide the leaders of all nations, especially our own. Establish peace, wisdom, and righteousness among us. Keep watch over those who walk through the floods of violence and the flames of war to defend us. Conform their decisions, words, and actions to your will. Bring them home safely and soon. Bring healing to communities wounded by violence and fractured by injustice and hatred.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Say to all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, “Do not fear, for I am with you.” Especially we name before you: {List}. Gather them from the far reaches of suffering and sorrow; restore them to all who love them; and remind them always that they are precious in your sight.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We remember before you our loved ones whom you have delivered from the waters of death. We pray for the families of {List}. You have also called us by name, and made us your own in Baptism. Keep us united with Jesus. Strengthen us by your Spirit to daily walk in the newness of his life. At the last, say to us and to all whom you name as your own, “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.⁴ You are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, ⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.⁷

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Graciously hear, and generously answer our prayers, dear Father, in accordance with your wisdom and mercy for us. We pray in the name of your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God’s faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

Let us pray.

Those making affirmation kneel. A brief silence is kept so that prayer may be made for them.

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made this man and this woman your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

2025 CHURCH COUNCIL INSTALLATION

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also, with you.**

We briefly greet those in our row with the words “Peace be with you.”

OFFERTORY SONG *Giving back to God*



First- and second-time guests are not expected to give a monetary offering; your Connection Card and your presence this morning are your gifts. Safe, secure & easy electronic giving is available on our website stpeterhallettsville.org/giving or by scanning this code.

We stand

“Thank the Lord”



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

Blessed are you, O Lord, our God, king of the universe. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



It is indeed right and salutary . . . and join their unending hymn:

5PM SPOKEN



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

You are indeed holy . . .

In the night in which he was betrayed, . . . Do this for the remembrance of me.

All honor and glory are yours . . . now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

We sit. INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ present and received in, with, and under the bread and wine. All who are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and who believe the Lord's words "This is my body given for you" and "This is my blood poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins" may receive Communion. Young children, not yet receiving Communion, may receive a blessing.

(Matt 26:26ff, Mark 14:22ff, Luke 22:19ff, 1 Cor. 11:24ff)

Communion administration occurs in a continuous fashion at the Communion rail. The ushers will guide you to the rail. To receive the elements, extend your hand, palm up, to the ministers. White grape juice is available in the center of the trays. For those unable to consume either bread or wine, the Church affirms the Lord's full presence in each element alone. Once you have received the elements, return to your seat by the side aisles. If you do not desire to receive Holy Communion, you may remain seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#195

"Lamb of God"

John 1:29

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

We stand POST-COMMUNION BLESSING, SONG, & PRAYER
May the true body and blood...keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

“Lord Now You Let Your Servant

Luke 2:19-32

Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,
and will be for - ev - er. A - men

Let us pray... We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

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. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

#304

“Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized”

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH
100 North Promenade, Hallettsville, Texas 77964
(361) 798-2808 www.stpeterhallettsville.org

Our mission is Christ's mission – "I will build my church"
by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Sympathy and prayers to Dowlen Adee Family (Michael's dad) who died on Jan 1st.

Sympathy and prayers to Harvey Drozd Family (Daniel's brother) who died on Jan 6th.

Welcome New Members: Chris & Maddie Chudej

TODAY St. Peter's Council Installation for 2025:

Thank you to outgoing member; Kari DeForest We appreciate all you have done for St. Peter as Council Member.

St. Peter's new Council Officers 2025:

Debbie Hopper (P), Michael Woytek (VP), Carol Drozd (Sec); and Kevin Sullivan (Treas)
(Ruth Muehr Bookkeeper).

Continuing Council Members:

Clayton Muehr, Rodney Horton, Clint Satterly, & Sophie Teltschik, Reagan McAda,
Michael Adee, and Carol Drozd, June Pence. Welcome to new Council Member:
Mike McRaith

TODAY Next Steps Class (*Baptism*)_10:30 am-12:30 pm

Wednesday, Jan 15 Family Faith Night returns 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

It's time to sign up for St. Peter's 2025 Blood Drive!

YTD (Jan-Nov '24) \$257,884.39; **EXPENSES** \$276,398.25
DIFFERENCE +/- -\$18,513.86 (*due to increased insurance rate*)

Attendance: Sunday, Jan 5: 9AM 95/5PM 12

Openings for: (2025 Flower/Radio Sponsorships are available)

Serving This Weekend Jan 12

Sunday AM: *Assisting:* Marilyn McAda

Communion Set Up: Barbara Koehn

Communion Clean Up: Judy Drozd

Organist: Denise Drozd

Ushers: Donald Muehr, Ramon Lopez, Clayton Muehr, & Chris Chudej

Acolytes: Ariel Muehr & Caroline Duty

Power Point Sunday: Sophie Teltschik

Altar Flowers given by Lee & Cindy Rother in memory of Joe Ray Prasek

Radio Ministry given by Women in Mission in memory of Celia Ann Kruse

Sunday PM: *Assisting:* Daniel Drozd

Communion Clean Up: Janis Muehr

Organist: Janis Muehr

Second Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm: Psalm 36:5-10

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11

This Week @ St. Peter

Sun Jan 12, 9:00 am Worship, 10:00 Coffee Time,

10:30 am Youth Christian Learning & Next Steps Class: Baptism 10:30 am -3:30 pm,

5:00 pm Worship Service

Mon Jan 13, 1:00 pm Quilting, 5:00 pm Stewardship, 6:00 pm Council

Tue Jan 14, 7:00 pm Prayer

Wed Jan 15, 6:00 pm Family Faith Night

Thu Jan 16, 7:30 pm AA/Al-Anon

Sat Jan 18, FH Rental

Sun Jan 19, 9:00 am Worship), 10:00 am Coffee Time,

10:30 am Adult/Your Christian Learning

Serving Next Weekend Jan 19

Sunday AM: *Assisting:* Tammy Garner

Communion Set Up: Susan Brandenberger

Communion Clean Up: Kellee Horton

Organist: Denise Drozd

Ushers: Donald Muehr, Ramon Lopez, Clayton Muehr, & Chris Chudej

Acolytes: Karlie Hotz & Emilie Hotz

Power Point Sunday: Sharyn Sullivan

Altar Flowers given by OPEN

Radio Ministry given by Women in Mission in memory of Larry Stillions

Sunday PM: *Assisting:* Aileen Peck

Communion Clean Up: Judy Winfield

Organist: Denise Drozd

Our Prayer List: Requests listed 4 weeks under *Concerns For unless otherwise requested.*

Concerns for: Mark & Mary Pat Bailey, Ruth Rouse, Abi Kraatz, James Kubecka, Jonathan Brooks, Margie Renger, Jerry Brown, Joseph Williams, Johnny Draper, Howard Loewe, Leroy Schroeder

Extended concerns: Jim Brandt, Edmund Koerth, Barbara Tackett, Charlotte Hartmann, Melissa Grice, Michael Drozd, Misty Fletcher Remmers, Cody Rice Jr, William Lane, Brandi Orsak, Jeffrey Morgenroth, Charlie Garmon, Carrie Besetsny, DeWayne Dixon, James Evans, Pr. John Schmidt & family (*Missionary in Ghana*)

Other Concerns: first responders (*military, law enforcement, firefighter, medical*), Safe House Church (*Hallettsville*); San Miguel (*Ft. Worth*) and Houston Oromo Lutheran Churches, President Biden; President-elect Donald Trump, our country; and those facing unrest & unemployment Grieving Families of Dowlen Adee, Harvey Drozd, Buddy Hermes, Joseph Orr, Helen Spies, Beverly Green, Larry Stillions, Elroy Tesch, Francis Christ, Bill Drozd, A.J. Kutac, Celia Ann Kruse, Milton Mika, Evelyn Lishinski, Sarah Sralik, Carl Ticken

SAVE THE DATE IN FEBRUARY:

Sunday, Feb 2 St. Peter Blood Drive 8:00 am-1:00 pm

Sunday, Feb 2 Financial Peace Begins 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

Wednesday, Feb 5 Confirmation 6:00 pm -8:00 pm

Wednesday, Feb 12 Family Faith Night 6:00 pm -7:30 pm

ENTRANCE HYMN (ELW) *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* (ELW 311)

Tune #654

Text by James Montgomery; Music by Leonhart Schroter

**1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
your reign on earth begun!
You come to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression
and rule in equity.**

**2 You come with rescue speedy
to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
are precious in your sight.**

**3 You shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
spring in your path to birth.
Before you on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.**

**4 Kings shall fall down before you,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore you,
your praise all people sing.
To you shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
your kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.**

HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW) *When Jesus Came to Jordan* (ELW 305)

Text by Fred Green; Music by David Chernien

1 When Jesus came to Jordan
to be baptized by John,
he did not come for pardon
but as the Sinless One.
He came to share repentance
with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence
with which good news begins.

2 He came to share temptation,
our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation
to die upon the cross.
So when the dove descended
on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended,
the age of grace began.

3 Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make;
this very day invade us,
and ev'ry bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most:
to share the resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.

CLOSING HYMN (ELW) *Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized* (ELW 304)

Text by F. Bland Tucker; Music by Nikolaus Herman

**1 Christ, when for us you were baptized,
God's Spirit on you came,
as peaceful as a dove, and yet
as urgent as a flame,
as urgent as a flame.**

**2 God called you, "My beloved Son";
you are God's servant true,
sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n,
God's holy will to do,
God's holy will to do.**

**3 Straightway and steadfast until death
you then obeyed the call
to serve with free and willing heart,
to give your life for all,
to give your life for all.**

**4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord;
your cross on us be signed,
that likewise in God's service we
may perfect freedom find,
may perfect freedom find.**