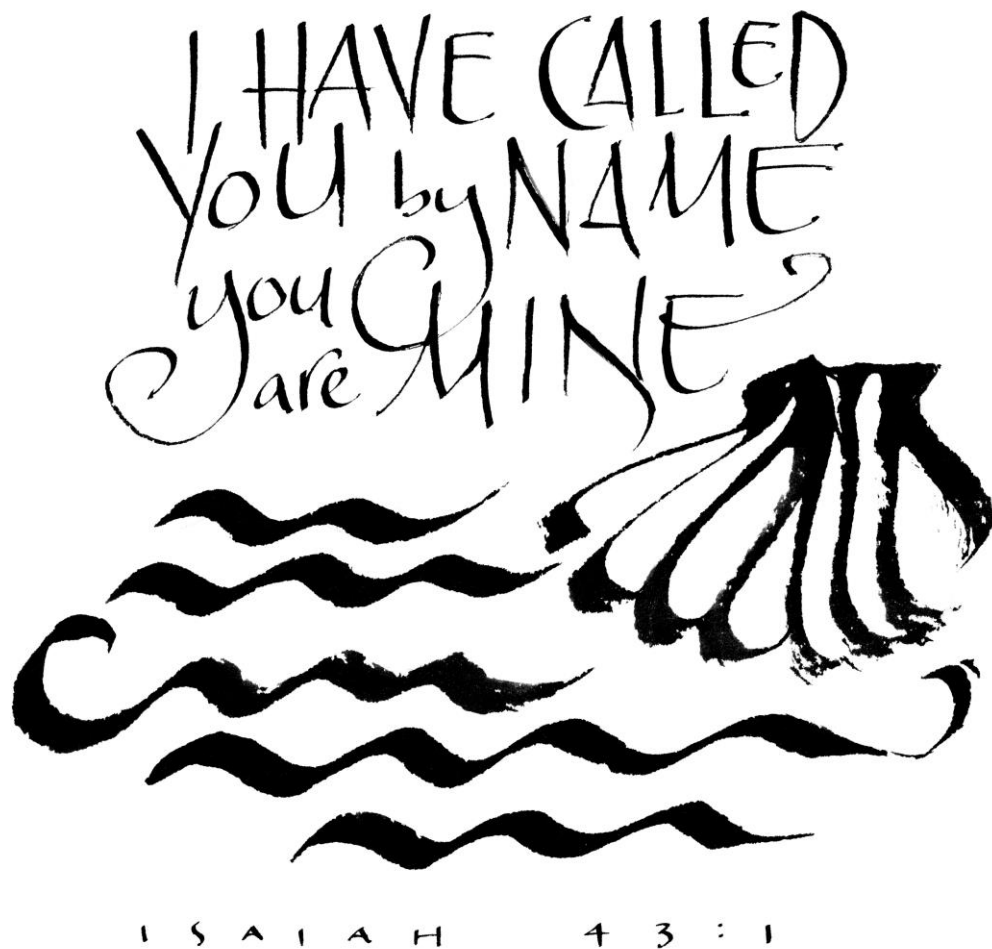


Welcome to St. Thomas Lutheran Church



The Baptism of our Lord
10:00 a.m.
January 9, 2022

Rev. Dr. Christian F. Just, Pastor
St. Thomas Lutheran Church
9042 S.R. 43, P.O. Box 2247
Streetsboro, Ohio 44241

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Thank you** everyone for joining us this morning for our worship service. Please join us inside or you can listen to the service on your car radio at 96.9 or on our Facebook page. If any problems happen during the service please let Del or Rory know so they can fix the problem immediately.
- **We are asking** that masks be worn again in the building since we have had a surge in the Covid virus. Thank you!
- **The Vigil Candle** is given in celebration of Joanna Nicely and Gabe Johnson's birthdays on the 6th and Deb Wolff on the 12th. We also celebrate Ben Wolff's baptism birthday on the 13th.
- **The Prayer book** is available on the choir stand by the bulletin stand. Steve can bring it to the cars.
- **The Lay Reader** list is available for volunteers for the month of January. Please see the signup sheet in the Narthex or let Steve know you would like to sign up for January. **Our lay reader today is**
- **Usher Steve Manijak**
- **Service Project...**We are helping out the Lutheran World Relief with the earthquake in Haiti and the hurricane Ida destruction in Louisiana and the northeast portion of our country. Please make check out to the church and place it in the offering plate.
- **Let's continue** to remember the Community pantry. Bring food or monetary donations anytime.
- **On January 16**, Pastor will be starting a new bible study on the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians at 9:00 a.m. Please join us.
- **Our fifth Sunday offering** for the month of January will be going to Family & Community Services, Inc. in Ravenna. Please consider remembering them on January 30.
- **The January-March Portal of Prayers** are available now.
- **The Church Council and Call Committee** have been meeting with Christ Lutheran Church in Mantua to work on a plan to share a pastor. Meetings have been going well and we are ready to start interviewing potential candidates in the new year when the Synod sends us a list. If you would like to know more, please talk to Pastor, Steve Hlava, Jim Doerfler, Diane Lee, Deb Wolff, Marla Manijak, Joyce Torres, Del Groff, Gilbert Ayers, Guy Jeanblanc, Diane Pencin or Robin Hoffman.
- **Contact Person:** Please call Pastor Just at 216-789-6688 or Council President Steve Hlava at 330 422-1959 for any emergencies or questions. Pastor Just is in the office on Thursdays.

Attendance Dec. 29th 16 Adults 2 Children

Towards Budget:

Current Expense	949.34	Building Fund	15.00
Benevolence	5.00	Mission	5.00
1 + 1 + 1	9.00	Lutheran relief	50.00
<u>Loose</u>	<u>160.00</u>	<u>Comm. pantry</u>	<u>150.00</u>

Total Offering 1343.34 Needed to meet budget--\$1,112.21

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

The Christ Candle had been left unlit throughout the Advent season, reflecting our anticipation of the coming Savior. In the Epiphany season, we make it a point to light this candle to reflect the announcement of Isaiah, “Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.” (Isaiah 60:1)

P: The promise You made, the work You have done, is fulfilled; we have seen it.

C: Your rescue, Your salvation, Your coming into our world, and switching on the lights, so we can see where to go, and how best to live.

P: The way You have chosen us, filled us with Your Spirit, with Your presence, with Your wisdom, the way you allow Your goodness and compassion and grace to peek through our brokenness—

C: these are gifts beyond measure, these are what make life truly alive; and so we praise You, and celebrate You, Christ, Child of God, Light to the nations, and the Glory of Your people. Amen.

By John van de Laar Copyright 2008 Sacredise

The Song: “*Christ Be Our Light*” Insert

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8,9)

C: Seeing that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

(Hebrews 4:14,16)

P: Since we are assembled here to hear God’s Word, to call upon Him in prayer, and to receive the Body and Blood of Christ, let us think on our unworthiness, confess before God that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and realize also that by our own strength we cannot free ourselves from our sinful nature. There we take refuge in His infinite mercy, seeking and imploring His grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: God be merciful to me, a poor, sinful being, May almighty God have mercy on us all, forgive us our sins, and lead us to life everlasting. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C: Whoever believes and is baptized shall be saved (*Mark 16:16*). **Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.**

Entrance Hymn “*O One with God the Father*” Insert

The Kyrie

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

C: And also with you.

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

**The Hymn of Praise—This is the Feast* pg. 60

C: Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

- 1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Refrain**
- 2. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. Refrain**
- 3. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:**
- 4. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. Refrain**
- 5. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Refrain**

The Prayer of the Day

P: Heavenly Father, with a shout that split the heavens you proclaimed your happy pleasure in your Son.

C: May we, too, bask in the sunshine of your smile.

P: Blessed with the Spirit's gifts, Christ was strengthened for his saving work.

C: May we receive Your Spirit, here.

P: Inspire us, O God,

C: with approving shout, with Spirit-given zeal,

P: to pursue the mission you have planned,

C: in our lives, in our world!

P: Through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now...

C: and forever. Amen.

All readings are from the New Revised Standard Version

The First Lesson Isaiah 43:1-7

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.

²When 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."

This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm "*Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness*" (Psalm 24) Insert

The Second Lesson 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. This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God!

The Verse

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*The Holy Gospel Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

C: Glory to you, O Lord. Pg. 63

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." This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ Pg. 63

The Sermon "*Death, Rebirth, Resurrection, Revival*"

Hymn of the Day "*I Bind Unto Myself Today*" No. 188

Affirmation of Faith and Baptismal Remembrance

P: In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the Body of Christ. As we live with Him and with His people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

"Baptism," Luther reminds us, "is not simple water only, but it is water comprehended in God's command and connected with God's word...It works forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this..."

We who have this gift of grace, live in Christ. Yet the reality of sin remains, and we must do battle against it. Our Baptism helps us, not only to remember whose we are, but what He declares of us: “You are My Beloved;” so that, when confronted by evil—that which dwells within, and that which comes from without—we may be equipped to resist and overcome.

Yet sometimes we allow ourselves to wander away from that remembrance; it becomes a distant memory, not an active resource. Today we invite you to bring back into sharper focus the gift of your Baptism and all that it means for your life in Christ.

I ask you now, as you have been asked before: Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

C: I do.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

C: 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.

P: Do You believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

P: Draw near to this font whence springs the waters of life. Come back to that place where you first heard God’s gracious call. Come place your hand in the water and remind yourself how real that grace is. Place the water on your forehead and remember that you are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the Cross of Christ forever. Come, remember your baptism in a very concrete and material way.

All present are invited to come forward to the baptismal font, place their hands in the water, mark their foreheads with the sign of the cross, and return to their seats.

P: Let us pray. God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give You thanks for freeing Your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us all: 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.

C: Amen.

The Prayers of the Church

P: We look in faith today toward the Lord, the one on whom God’s favor rests. In confidence, let us bring our petitions to the Lord’s altar.

(after each petition)

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: All loving and ever-faithful God, we thank You for the gift of Your Son. As His disciples, we have offered our prayers. Hear them and answer them in His name, Jesus Your beloved Son and our beloved Lord, this day and forever.

C: Amen.

***The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so with the Church on earth and hosts of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

P: We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to reveal to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you.

Through him you created all things and in him you take delight.

He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb.

He there took on our nature and our lot

and was shown forth as your Son,

born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will

and won for you a holy people;

he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to

free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he, who handed over to a death he freely accepted,

in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one to crush hell underfoot, to

give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth his resurrection,

taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

“Take and eat; this is My body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave

it for all to drink, saying

“This is my blood poured out for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection,

we lift this bread and cup before you,

giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

And we ask you:

send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of your Church;

gather into one all who share this bread and wine;

fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish of faith in truth,

that we may praise and glorify you through your son Jesus Christ.

Through him all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church both now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**C: 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.**

Song for the Eucharist “Now the Feast and Celebration”

WOV 789

Communion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very Body and Blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may honor His sacrifice by continuing His mission in the world.

All are invited to take the communion packet that was provided as you came to worship this morning.

P: Take and eat, this is the Body of Christ, broken for you to be made whole.

All are invited to open the larger cup from the communion packet and partake of the wafer therein.

**P: Take, drink, the Blood of Christ, poured out for you to be filled with His endless life.
Please open the smaller cup to consume the wine.**

P: The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious Blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting.

C: **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

P: Lord, we have been baptized into Your family.

C: And so we are bold to gather at the family table,

P: refreshed with bread and wine, body and blood, grace and forgiveness.

C: Make us bold to proclaim your saving message to the world.

P: We bless You now and evermore.

C: Amen.

Sending

P: Go now, confident that you are God's precious and pleasing children.

In the face of fire or flood, trust in God and do not fear.

Accept the Word of God and point others to the one who baptizes with Spirit and fire.

God be your protection and your strength.

Christ baptize you with his Holy Spirit.

The Spirit be with you to empower you + and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Song *“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”*

WOV 721

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Our Worship Is Ended—Now Our Service Begins!

Please remember these members in your prayers

Bill & Sharon Crile—recovery from hospital stay and illness

Jim Doerfler—serious mouth surgery—continued healing

Carol Earle—immediate family for peace and comfort

Cory Hautmann—Physiological strength

Linda Hautmann—Strength and healing for Lupus and from melanoma

Palagia Hlava—complications from MS

Stephanie Johnson—still struggling with a cough from Covid

Lorene Kozar—has moved to Mentor assisted living

Becky Larkins—fostering Holly—possible adoption

Ken Nicely II—possible kidney failure due to diabetes

Kenny Nicely III—shoulder surgery

Kenny Nicely IV—Epilepsy

Stephen Nicely—traveling mercies for work in Normal, Illinois

Carol & Heather Poston—strength and healing from MS

Rory Wolff—shoulder and back pain

Our College Students— Abigail Ayers, Corey Hautmann, Joanna Nicely, Thomas Ayers

Troy Roman—joined the Marines

Remember in prayer these friends of the congregation

For our Bishop, Jamison Hardy, and the congregations and pastors of the
English District and the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Alayna—has covid—granddaughter of Joyce

Alexa—swollen spleen—granddaughter of Joyce

Alice Artman—Bell's Palsy—sister-in-law of Joyce

Aaron—marriage problems—brother of Joyce

Chip Black—loss of her husband, Roger--sister of Deb

Nickoles Bohne—dying from liver failure—in-law of Guy

Patty Bowman—covid—Bill & Sharon Crile's daughter

Carl—transition from Memory Care to move to Concord, OH—father of Carol Earle

Debbie Conrad—home burned down—co-worker of Amy

Leona Corban—pneumonia, doing better—Marla's mom

Dan Erlandson—severe depression-hopelessness—friend of Robin

George Foerster—father of Dianne Reynolds

Christine Frank—cancer—friend of Jim

Pastor Paul Frerich's Father—in hospice care—Pastor at Redeemer Lutheran

Ken Granville—leukemia—retired Band Director and friend of many

Patty & Kenny Hansen—many mechanical problems with their home—friend of Amy Rohaley

Kelly Heritage—severe lack of blood flow to legs—co-worker's husband of Deb Wolff's

Anita Hlava—speedy recovery from hip surgery—Steve's mom

Evan Hlava—heart inflammation—nephew of Steve Hlava

Charles Hovanvetz—triple bypass surgery—friend of Beuck's

Debbie Hovanvetz-internal problems-neighbor of Tom & Linda Beuck

Janice—heart problems

Jayne—suffered a stroke—Joyce's son's fiance

John—multiple health issues--neighbor of Joyce

Mike Latham—shoulder surgery--brother-in-law of Marla and Steve

Laura—family relationship problems—Joyce's sister

Dave Lauver—stomach cancer—Wolff's cousin

Lexi—Praise! No cancer but a bacterial infection—Trudy's niece

Lori—complications with knee replacement—co-worker of Joyce

Frank Manijak—failing health—Steve's Dad

Joe Manijak—complications after back surgery—brother of Steve
Samantha—ear barotrauma{swelling}--granddaughter of Joyce
Amanda Nicely—strength and peace—Trudy’s sister-in-law
Jodie Powers—addiction healing—niece of Steve and Marla
Peter Power—diabetes—friend of the Earle’s
Leo Rohaley—declining health—uncle of Amy
Kathi Rohrer—healing from back surgery—co-worker of Joyce
Sharon—heart valve infection—friend of Rory
Jim Shuster—hospitalized for several strokes—friend of Amy
Leslie Slanina—healing—Gilbert’s mom
Angela Smith—stage 4 cancer—friend of Robin
Joe Svidron—health issues—husband of co-worker of Joyce
Tim Tolodzieski—recovering—brother-in-law of Steve Crile
Linda Veletta and family—family issues—friend of Robin
Bennie Wegener—pancreatic cancer—friend of the Wolff’s
Dan Wiley—undergoing radiation therapy—friend of Diane Lee
Donny Wood—cancer surgery recovery—friend of Joyce
Carol Yurkschatt—hospitalized—Rocky and Kim Kinder
Terri Zeigler—broken arm—on chronic dialysis—friend of the Wolffs’s

The missionaries that have been saved in Haiti and those still in captivity
The Haitian earthquake survivors, the survivors of Hurricane Ida and
survivors from the wildfires and all other natural disasters
The victims of recent tornados
Homeless served by LMM—space in Independence
COVID 19 virus patients