

COMMUNION HYMNS:

'Do Not Be Afraid for I Have Redeemed You' - (132)

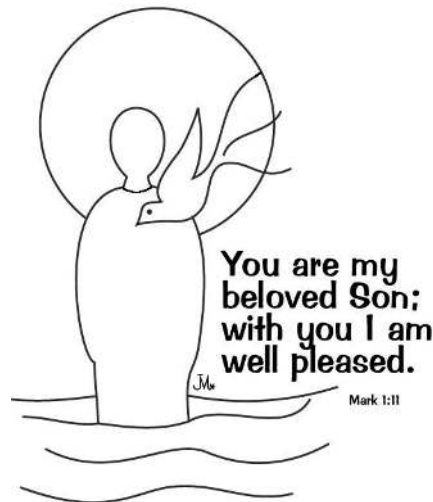
'O Let the Son of God Enfold You' (495)

'Come Down O Love Divine' (102)

POST COMMUNION

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:
by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FINAL HYMN: 'On Jordan's Bank' (513)



The Baptism of Christ

11th January 2026

GATHERING HYMN: 'Father Welcomes All His Children' (149)

COLLECT:

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen



FIRST READING

Isaiah 42: 1-9

Here is my servant! I have made him strong.
He is my chosen one; I am pleased with him.
I have given him my Spirit,
and he will bring justice to the nations.
He won't shout or yell or call out in the streets.
He won't break off a bent reed or put out a dying flame,
but he will make sure that justice is done.
He won't quit or give up until he brings justice everywhere on earth,
and people in foreign nations long for his teaching.

I am the Lord God.
I created the heavens like an open tent above.
I made the earth and everything that grows on it.
I am the source of life for all who live on this earth,
so listen to what I say.
I chose you to bring justice, and I am here at your side.
I selected you and sent you to bring light
and my promise of hope to the nations.

You will give sight to the blind;
you will set prisoners free from dark dungeons.

My name is the Lord!
I won't let idols or humans share my glory and praise.
Everything has happened just as I said it would;
now I will announce what will happen next.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SECOND READING

Acts 10:34-43

Peter then said:

Now I am certain that God treats all people alike. God is pleased with everyone who worships him and does right, no matter what nation they come from. This is the same message that God gave to the people of Israel, when he sent Jesus Christ, the Lord of all, to offer peace to them.

You surely know what happened everywhere in Judea. It all began in Galilee after John had told everyone to be baptized. God gave the Holy Spirit and power to Jesus from Nazareth. He was with Jesus, as he went around doing good and healing everyone who was under the power of the devil. We all saw what Jesus did both in Israel and in the city of Jerusalem.

Jesus was put to death on a cross. But three days later, God raised him to life and let him be seen. Not everyone saw him. He was seen only by us, who ate and drank with him after he was raised from death. We were the ones God chose to tell others about him.

God told us to announce clearly to the people that Jesus is the one he has chosen to judge the living and the dead. Every one of the prophets has said that all who have faith in Jesus will have their sins forgiven in his name.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GRADUAL HYMN— ‘Have You Heard the Raindrops’ (253)

We sing verse 3 after the Gospel Reading

GOSPEL

Matthew 3: 13-end

In Jesus left Galilee and went to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. But John kept objecting and said, “I ought to be baptized by you. Why have you come to me?”

Jesus answered, “For now this is how it should be, because we must do all God wants us to do.” Then John agreed.

So Jesus was baptized. And as soon as he came out of the water, the sky opened, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him like a dove. Then a voice from heaven said, “This is my own dear Son, and I am pleased with him.”

OFFERTORY HYMN: ‘Spirit of God, Unseen as the Wind’

Chorus:

*Spirit of God, unseen as the wind,
gentle as is the dove;
teach us the truth and help us believe,
show us the Saviour's love!*

You spoke to us long, long ago,
gave us the written word;
we read it still, needing its truth
through it God's voice is heard.

Chorus:

Without your help we fail our Lord,
we cannot live His way;
we need Your power, we need Your strength,
following Christ each day.

Chorus:

