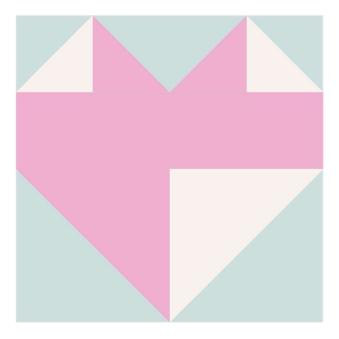
Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church

"Growing Relationships with God, Each Other, and Our Neighbors in the Way of Jesus"



Baptism of Our Lord Saturday, January 11, 2025, 4:00 PM Sunday, January 12, 2025, 9:00 AM

(i) elcome ... There is a place for you here!

Welcome to the Lord's Table

All Christians—including visitors of all denominations— are invited to the altar to receive Holy Communion. If you prefer to remain at your seat, select a prefilled cup from a basket at the top of the ramps before the service begins.

Worshippers may come forward via the center aisle to receive communion at the altar, then return by the side aisles. Bread, wheat wafers or gluten-free wafers are offered, as is a choice of wine (lighter color, outer rings of tray) or grape juice (darker color, inner rings). Paper-towel lined baskets are provided for empty cups at the end of the first pew and at the top of the ramps. Those who are not yet communing may also come forward to receive a blessing.

Children have a place here, too!

During our Sunday services, children are invited to come forward for the children's time. They may also receive communion at whatever age their adult(s) agree(s) they may. "Busy bags" are hung along the wall in the sanctuary for use during services. Books and small toys can be found on a shelf under the window behind the choir/bells tables.

Our staffed nursery is located at the bottom of the spiral staircase in the entryway. A changing table is found in the bathroom near the top of the stairs, and another is located around the corner through the sanctuary door past the bell tables.

Restrooms are located in the entryway on either side (mirrored cubes).

Note: our Sunday service is livestreamed, and some worshippers may be seen in the broadcast. Those seated behind the ramps will not be seen on camera.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 310 (vs. 1-2, 4)

"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

THANKGIVING FOR BAPTISM

We praise you, O God, for water—the Root River and Lake Michigan, the rain that nourishes animals and plants, the water for drinking and bathing. We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for our water stories—a flood that cleansed the earth, the sea that drowned the enemy, a river that healed leprosy. We praise you, O God, for water. **We praise you, O God, for water.**

We remember the waters of Jesus—baptized in the Jordan River, calming the Sea of Galilee, drinking from Jacob's Well, healing at the pool of Bethesda, washing the disciples' feet. We praise you, O God, for water. **We praise you, O God, for water.**

We praise you, O God, for this font, for through this water you have birthed us into the family of Christ, bathed us in forgiveness, and enlivened us in the Spirit. We praise you, O God, for baptism. **We praise you, O God, for baptism.**

O God, you are the Ocean, sustaining this earth. O God, you are the River, saving us from death. O God, you are the Fountain, granting us health and well-being. We praise you, O God, today, tomorrow, forever. Amen, and amen. Amen, and amen.





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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S SERMON (Sun.)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

A reading from Isaiah:

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.

PSALM: Psalm 29 (read responsively)

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

- ² Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's 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 the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- ⁷ The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.
- ⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- ⁹ 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!"
- ¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.
- ¹¹ O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

A reading from Isaiah:

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.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 The Holy Gospel according to Luke. 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.

SERMON: Pastor Sheila Rawn

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 575 (vs. 1, 3-4) "In Christ Called to Baptize"

APOSTLES' CREED

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

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.

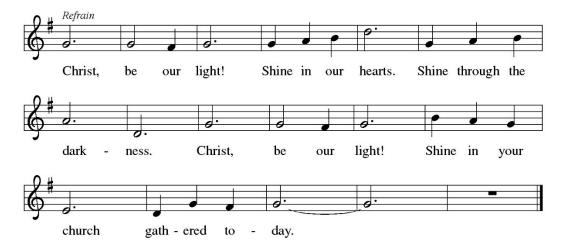
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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.

SONG FOR PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (sing once before and after prayers)

"Christ, Be Our Light" (ELW 715, refrain)



PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

CHOIR ANTHEM (Sun) "Come to the Water"

John Foley, arr. Lynda Hasseler

OFFERTORY

Use the QR code to reach our online giving page:



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: God of grace,

your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, mighty and merciful, your people praise you, saying: Your mercy endures forever. **Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures, granting them life and calling them to flourish, setting the sign of your bow in the clouds, the colors of your love and faithfulness. Your mercy endures forever.

Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise you bound yourself to your people of old, blessing them with family outnumbering the stars and calling them to be a blessing to others, showing them steadfast love in every generation and calling them to be a light to the nations. Your mercy endures forever.

Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise . . .

With this bread and cup we remember his life laid down and lifted up as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and wine. Bless us to be a blessing. Make us a sign of your faithfulness. Send us to tend and cherish the earth and to serve the world with mercy and love. With all the saints in light, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION

DISTRIBUTION (see inside of bulletin cover for communion directions)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS PRAYER FOR BLESSING AND SENDING PASTOR SHEILA

CHORAL BENEDICTION (Sun.)

Lutkin

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

ELW 543

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEGEMENTS

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Today's Worship Leaders

Musician: Michael Becker; Minister of Music: Dimitri Shapovalov Sun. Greeter: Maria & Brad Lee Sat. Reader: *One needed*; Sun. Reader: John Berge Sun. Communion assistant: Brenda Booker, Cindy Green Acolyte: *One needed* Video Producer: John Simpson (please see worship leader board for assistants needed)

Scan QR code with your phone camera or call the church office (262-634-6704) to sign up to be a worship leader next week



Worship Leaders for 1/18 & 1/19:

Musician: Michael Becker; Minister of Music: Dimitri Shapovalov Sun. Greeter: One needed Sat. Reader: One needed; Sun. Reader: One needed Sun. Communion assistant: Two needed Acolyte: One needed Video Producer: Chris Ryshkus (please see worship leader board for assistants needed) Sun. Jan 12
9:00 AM: Worship (Sanctuary)
10:00 AM: Coffee Hour Reception (Fellowship)
10:15 AM: Sunday School (Education)
10:20 AM: Adult Ed (Mygatts)

Mon. Jan 13 6:30 PM: Congregational Council (Mygatts)

Tues. Jan 14 11:00 AM: Chair Yoga (Fellowship) 6:30 PM: Bell Choir (Sanctuary)

Wed. Jan 1511:00 AM: Bible Study (Mygatts)6:30 PM: Confirmation (Sanctuary)7:00 PM: Adult Choir (Choir room)

Sat. Jan 18 4:00 PM: Worship (Sanctuary)

Sun. Jan 19
9:00 AM: Worship (Sanctuary)
10:00 AM: Coffee Hour (Fellowship)
10:15 AM: Sunday School (Education)
10:20 AM: Adult Ed (Mygatts)
4:00 PM: Open Table (Fellowship)

MPLC STAFF DIRECTORY

Senior Pastor Beth Ann L. Stone Transition Pastor Sheila Rawn Coordinator for Children & Family Ministry and Parish Coordinator Becky Litwin Minister of Music Dimitri Shapovalov dsh Organist/Accompanist Michael Becker Bell Choir Director Greg Schroeder gso Business Manager Jessica Sexton General Information Communications Director (vacant)

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