



Baptism
of Our Lord

THE ORDER OF THE SERVICE OF THE WORD
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
JANUARY 8, 2023 - 8:00 AM

A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today! We celebrate together God's work in our lives as we receive His Word and Sacraments to strengthen our relationship with Him and one another. By the blood of Christ, we are made the household of God. Here, God builds us up by grace, through faith, and for service!

LESSONS AND LITURGY TODAY

At creation, God called forth into existence everything by the power of His Word; and everything was good. Sin brought disease and death. In our Baptism, God is at work restoring us in Christ by the power of His Mighty Word. Because of Jesus' Baptism, we go into baptism's living waters as dirty, marked with death, only to rise up clean and marked for new and everlasting life. Jesus' Baptism identified Him as the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world; our Baptism imparts to us the new identity as Children of God. Here God marks us and claims us: "You belong to Me."

❖ Denotes times when the congregation is invited to stand.

The congregation is encouraged to quietly and prayerfully prepare for worship during the prelude.

PRELUDE

Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier – J. Walther, P. Manz, J. S. Bach

GREETING

❖ **INVOCATION**

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

P Let us begin our worship in the Name of the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit; the God into Whom we are baptized.

C **We gather in the Name of our baptizing God. Amen.**

BAPTISMS OF LUCAS BADER NOREEN, MAGNUS WARREN NOREEN, LOGAN CHARLES NOREEN

P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew,
P *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.
Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit.”*
In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises,
“Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.”

P And the apostle Peter has written,
“Baptism now saves you.”
(Matthew 28:18b-19; Mark 16-16a; 1 Peter 3:21)

P The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are
under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own.
We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting
condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ
that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

The pastor addresses the parents and sponsors:

P How are these children named?
R *Lucas Bader Noreen, Magnus Warren Noreen, Logan Charles Noreen.*

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each child while saying:

P *Lucas*, receive the sign of holy cross upon your ✠ forehead and upon your heart
to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P *Magnus*, receive the sign of holy cross upon your ✠ forehead and upon your heart
to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P *Logan*, receive the sign of holy cross upon your ✠ forehead and upon your heart
to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P Let us pray.
Almighty and eternal God, according to Your great mercy You preserved believing

Noah and his family, eight souls in all, and though You drowned the host of Egypt in the Red Sea, You led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

P Receive *Lucas, Magnus* and *Logan* according to Your boundless mercy and bless them with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in them would be drowned and die. Grant that they be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, serving Your Name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, they would be declared worthy of Eternal Life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

If sponsors/godparents are present:

P From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.

The pastor addresses the sponsors/godparents (or those who stand in for them):

P Is it your intention to serve *Lucas, Magnus* and *Logan* as sponsors in the Christian faith?

R *Yes, with the help of God.*

P God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

C **Amen.**

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them. (Mark 10:13-16 NKJV)

The pastor addresses the parents:

P *Bradley & Megan, Douglas & Ainslee, and Bryan & Paige*, do you promise faithfully to bring *Lucas, Magnus* and *Logan* to the Lord's house, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,

P and as they grow in years, place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian faith, that living in the covenant of their baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead godly lives until the Day of Jesus Christ?

If you so promise, answer, "I do."

R *I do.*

P Let us gather at the font of Christ.

The pastor addresses the candidates, with the baptismal party [and congregation] answering with them:

P *Lucas, Magnus* and *Logan*, do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

C Yes, I renounce him.

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth?

C Yes, I believe.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

C Yes, I believe.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

C Yes, I believe.

P *Lucas, Magnus* and *Logan*, do you each desire to be baptized?

R *Yes, I do.*

The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:

P *Lucas Bader Noreen*, I baptize you in the Name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P *Magnus Warren Noreen*, I baptize you in the Name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P *Logan Charles Noreen*, I baptize you in the Name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

C **Amen.**

The pastor or liturgist lights a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and gives it to the family of the newly baptized saying:

P *Lucas, Magnus and Logan*, receive these burning lights to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the Marriage Feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom, which shall have no end.

The newly baptized are welcomed with the following:

A In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you members of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brothers in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

C **Amen. We welcome you in the Name of the Lord.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You Graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted *Caio, Jonas and Niall*

the new birth in Holy Baptism and made them members of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs of Your Heavenly Kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as they have now become Your children, You would keep them in their baptismal grace,

P that according to Your good pleasure they may faithfully grow to lead godly lives to the praise and honor of Your Holy Name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in Heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Peace ☩ be with you.

C **Amen.**

❖ **ENTRANCE HYMN**

To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

LSB 405

ALL 1. To Jordan's river came our Lord,
The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,
The God from God, the Light from Light,
The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.

Women 2. *The Savior came to be baptized—
The Son of God in flesh disguised—
To stand beneath the Father's will
And all His righteousness fulfill.*

Choir 3. *As Jesus in the Jordan stood
And John baptized the Lamb of God,
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,
Descended on Him from above.*

Men 4. *Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound
Came God's own voice with words profound:
"This is My Son," was His decree,
"The one I love, who pleases Me."*

ALL 5. The Father's word, the Spirit's flight
Anointed Christ in glorious sight
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall
To save the world and free us all.

ALL 6. Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;
This man is Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

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❖ **CONFESSION OF SINS AND GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS** *John 20:21-23*

P Though washed clean by the cleansing waters, we fall back each day into the old ways – the ways of sin. Let us remember our sin, and rejoice in our Baptism...

C **God, our Father, We remember this day that we are Yours, and yet we draw back into ourselves. Though we are bought with the price of the death of Your Son, we live as though we are on our own. Though we are washed clean of past sins, we cannot let go of our guilt. Though we have heard Your Words of love, we still manipulate and seek to control others. Forgive us, Lord. Remind us that we too are beloved by You. Bring us, this day, back to our Baptism. Washed in Your Love, let us leave this place today to live anew as Your people.**

P In His own Son, God reveals to us His mercy and love. As a Called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the Grace of God to all of you. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins; in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. God has announced that you are His beloved in whom He is well pleased. You have been washed clean. Rejoice in this Gospel news.

C **Amen.**

❖ **PRAYER**

P Let us pray.
Father in Heaven, at His Baptism in the Jordan River, You proclaimed Jesus Your

Beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit.

C **Mercifully grant that all who are baptized in His Name may faithfully keep the covenant into which they have been called; boldly confess Jesus Christ as their Savior; and with Him be heirs of Eternal Life; through the same Jesus Christ,
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY

Isaiah 42:1-9 [ESV]

(God reveals His Servant.)

42 Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
² He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a
faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴ He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.
⁵ Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched
them out,
who spread out the earth and what
comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶ “I am the LORD; I have called you in
righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the
people,
a light for the nations,
⁷ to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the
dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in
darkness.
⁸ I am the LORD; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to carved idols.
⁹ Behold, the former things have come to
pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
I tell you of them.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalms 29

(Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His Name.)

*The voice of the LORD is over the | waters;**
the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many | waters.
*Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly | beings,**
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.
*Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;**
worship the LORD in the splendor of | holiness.

*The voice of the LORD is over the | waters;**
the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many | waters.
*The voice of the LORD is | powerful;**
the voice of the LORD is full of | majesty.
*The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedars;**
the LORD breaks the cedars of | Lebanon.
*He makes Lebanon to skip | like a calf,**
and Sirion like a young | wild ox.
*The voice | of the LORD**
flashes forth | flames of fire.
*The voice of the LORD shakes the | wilderness;**
the LORD shakes the wilderness | of Kadesh.
*The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the | forests bare,**
and in his temple all cry, | "Glory!"
*The LORD sits enthroned o- | ver the flood;**
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | ever.
*May the LORD give strength to his | people!**
May the LORD bless his people | with peace!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

*The voice of the LORD is over the | waters;**
the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many | waters.

EPISTLE

Romans 6:1-11 [ESV]

(By baptism we were united with Christ into His Death and Resurrection that we might walk in newness of life.)

¹What shall we say then?

Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?

²By no means!

How can we who died to sin still live in it?

³Do you not know that all of us who have

been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin.

⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

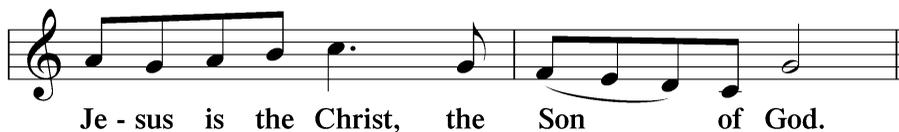
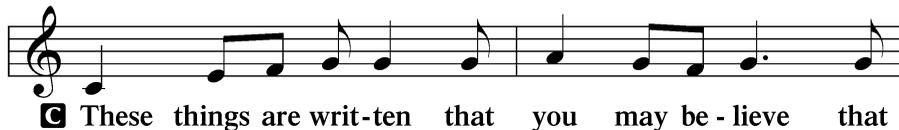
¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.

¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

❖ ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 205



❖ HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 3:13-17 [ESV]

(God the Father proclaims Jesus to be His Son.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, 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 thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented.

¹⁶And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

HYMN

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

LSB 394

**1. Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
Manifested by the star To the sages from afar,
Branch of royal David’s stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem:
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**2. Manifest at Jordan’s stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding guest In Thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in pow’r divine, Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**3. Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil’s might;
Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill;
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.**

4. Sun and moon shall darkened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning shine, All will see His glorious sign;
All will then the trumpet hear, All will see the Judge appear;
Thou by all wilt be confessed, God in man made manifest.

5. Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word—
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;
That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

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SERMON

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

A Little 'New Year' Every Day
Matthew 3:12-19/Romans 6:1-11
Sermon Notes on Page 18

❖ GREETING OF PEACE

All are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (*Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3*)

Any gesture accompanying this greeting (wave, hand over heart with slight bow, or handshake) is welcome.

OFFERING

(The offerings of God’s people will be received through electronic giving, by postal mail, and in baskets located at the doors.)

MUSICAL OFFERING

The Star Proclaims the King Is Here – arr. J. S. Bach

Sanctuary Choir

*The star proclaims the King is here; But, Herod, why this senseless fear?
He takes no realms of earth away Who gives the realms of Heavenly day.*

*The wiser Magi see from far And followed on His guiding star;
And, led by light, to Light they press And by their gifts their God confess.*

*Within the Jordan’s crystal flood In meekness stands the Lamb of God
And, sinless, sanctifies the wave, Mankind from sin to cleanse and save.*

*At Cana first His power is shone; His might the blushing waters own
And, changing as he speaks the Word, Flow wine, obedient to their Lord.*

*All glory, Jesus, be to Thee For this Thy glad epiphany,
Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Ghost forevermore.*

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❖ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P Father, Your Son came to the waters of the Jordan River to be baptized by John and thus fulfill all righteousness. Give us Your Holy Spirit that we may meet Him with faith in the waters of our own Baptism and live in the newness of Life which He gives to us there.
- C Grant us every comfort from Your Word, that in time of trouble we may know that You have called us by name and will keep us as Your own dear children.**
- P Give wisdom to all who lead us in this land, at every level of government, and bless the world with peace, freedom, and justice in every place. Watch over those who extend Your protection to us here and throughout the world.
- C Guide us that we may live out our new lives to the praise of Your Glory, honoring You with all that we say, think, and do; and serving You by caring for the poor, and boldly confessing Your Gospel.**
- P Rest Your Blessing upon Your Church, those whom You have called, gathered, and given new birth in Baptism and who have responded with faith. Bless all pastors, missionaries, and all church workers that they may serve You faithfully.
- C Plant us fully in Your Kingdom that we may live in the world without being led astray or deceived by the things of the moment. Teach our hearts generosity and compassion that we may serve, give, and love humbly.**
- P Be the peace for the dying and the comfort for those grieving. Help us to be faithful here on earth and to be prepared for Your coming again when we shall be Yours forever in Heaven.

After each portion of the prayers:

P Lord, in Your Mercy,
C **Hear our prayer.**

P Into Your Hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your
Mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

❖ **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.**

❖ **BENEDICTION**

P The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make His Face to shine on you and be gracious to you.
The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *(Numbers 6:24-26)*
C **Amen.**

P Go in peace and serve the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God!**

❖ **HYMN**

From God the Father Virgin Born

LSB 401 (Tune: LSB 344)

1. From God the Father, virgin-born To us the only Son came down;
By death the font to consecrate, The faithful to regenerate.
2. Beginning from His home on high, In human flesh He came to die;
Creation by His death restored, And shed new joys of life abroad.
3. Glide on, O glorious Sun, and bring The gift of healing on Your wing;
To ev'ry dull and clouded sense The clearness of Your light dispense.
4. Abide with us, O Lord, we pray; The gloom of darkness chase away;
Your work of healing, Lord, begin, And take away the stain of sin.
5. Lord, once You came to earth's domain And, we believe, shall come again;
Be with us on the battlefield, From ev'ry harm Your people shield.
6. To You, O Lord, all glory be For this Your blest epiphany;
To God, whom all His hosts adore, And Holy Spirit evermore.

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POSTLUDE

St. George's Windsor – F. Peeters

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Acknowledgments

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Servants in Worship

Preacher.....Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke
Presiding Minister..... Rev. Zach Sarrault
Organist/Director.....Robert E. Unger, Director of Worship and Music
Sanctuary Choir
Lector.....Bill Xenakis
Greeters.....Fran Xenakis, Brenda Peterson
Usher.....Troy Hirt



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A Little “New Year” Every Day (Matt 3:12–17; Rom 6:1-11)
Baptism of Our Lord: January 7 and 8, 2023

The topic today is baptism: First, Jesus’ very special baptism in the Jordan River by John...but then, God’s claim on each and every one of us delivered to us through the water of Holy Baptism. In Christ Jesus we receive a new beginning, a clean slate, a little “New Year” with each and every morning. In Christ, we walk in newness of life!

1. **Jesus’ explanation to a befuddled John the Baptist that His baptism is fitting “to _____ all _____” (Matt. 3:15) highlighted God at work to repair a world that doesn’t “work.”** What in the world did Jesus mean? Whose righteousness was Jesus talking about? What difference does it make for us as we begin another new year, a new week, or even a new day?
2. “Righteousness” is a churchy-sounding word, but we can easily unpack it. When Jesus was baptized by John and began the work of fulfilling all righteousness, He was enacting the *saving work of God* for us. **Jesus’ baptism began a life of ministry ending at His cross and empty tomb...all so that we might _____**. Because of what Jesus did, we can live each day with a clean slate: no more needing to be preoccupied with guilt; no longer needing to struggle alone with whatever burdens life brings; no longer needing to stay “frozen” from worry and anxiety because of what the future may hold. It is summed up in what St. Paul says: in Christ Jesus we now “walk in newness of life” (Rom 6:4)!
3. Where and how do we receive such Life? It is not from us. **Our baptism is the place we _____, _____, and _____ again to walk “in newness of life” together with the _____ Son of God, Jesus Christ (Rom. 6:5).** St. Paul makes it clear: you and I are NOT the active agents in any of this! Whether we are baptized as babies or adults, we *are* brought to the baptismal font; we *are* given the gift of salvation so that we might now live it out.
4. _____ is just what we need at the start of a new year and the beginning of a new focus on God’s mission to a world in need. We “work.” We have all we need to live in the “sweet spot” of why God has put us here. We have died and are risen again—today! In Christ Jesus we walk in newness of life.