

## GATHERING

**PRELUDE**    **Soren Miller, trumpet and Henry Miller, trombone**

**WELCOME**    *Sarah*

- Welcome to worship! Welcome to all those joining us via our Live Stream, welcome to those joining us through our Listen to Church service.
- Welcome Bishop Martin Halom!
- Welcome to the OSL Choir and to all our musicians!
- If you are joining us from home, I invite you to gather some bread and wine/juice so you can join us in celebrating Holy Communion this morning.

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

L: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

**C: Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.**

L: Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

**C: At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.**

L: By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**C: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,**

L: and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

**C: Shower us with your Spirit,**

L: and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **GATHERING HYMN O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright 308:1, 2, 5**

<p>1 O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's own truth and light, aglow with grace and mercy! Of Jacob's line, King David's son, our Lord and Savior, you have won our hearts to serve you only! Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, all victorious, rich in blessing!</p>	<p>Rule and might o'er all possessing!  2 Come, precious diamond, light divine, and deep within our hearts now shine; there light a flame undying! In your one body let us be as living branches of a tree, your life our lives supplying. Now, though daily earth's deep sadness</p>
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may perplex us  
and distress us,  
yet with heav'nly joy you bless us.

5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!  
Our joy be all with music crowned,  
our voices gaily blending!

For Christ goes with us all the way—  
today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!  
His love is never ending!  
Sing out! Ring out!  
Jubilation! Exultation!  
Tell the story!  
Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
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## GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Let us pray,

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING *Acts 10:34-43 Reader*

*Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. A reading from Acts.*

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

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

**GOSPEL** *Matthew 3:13-17* *Bishop Martin*

The holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** *Bishop Martin Halom*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Once Led to Your Font*

1. Once led to your font to die and to live  
called down to the water for washing,  
O God, lead us out to serve and to give,  
sent forth from the bath for the living.
2. Addressed by your word, caught tight  
and set free,  
reshaped by our Savior’s embracing,  
O God, lead us out, and speak by our  
deeds,  
sent forth with your word for the nations.

3. Both welcomed and fed at your table of grace,  
your supper brings life and salvation.  
O God, lead us out to nourish and cheer,  
sent forth from your meal for creation.
4. By your washing made pure; by your  
feeding made whole;  
By your calling made willing and able;  
O God, lead us out to make your world  
ring  
With echoes of bath, word, and table.

Tune: GE MIG DAG, Danish melody

Permission is granted for congregational use, but not for sale.

**RITE OF INSTALLATION    *Bishop Martin, Lindsay Barnhart?***

**Bishop Martin:** Having been authorized by the church to install Rev. Sarah Miller, our co-worker in the gospel, as pastor, I now ask for certification of this call.

*Lindsay?:* After prayerful deliberation, we, of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, have called Rev. Sarah Miller to serve as a minister of word and sacrament in the position of pastor. I present Rev. Sarah Miller and this letter certifying the call.

**ADDRESS**

**Bishop Martin:**

*A reading from John:* Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20:21-23)

*A reading from Matthew:* Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)

*A reading from First Timothy:* Set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Attend to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers. (1 Timothy 4:12-16)

**QUESTIONS (need title slide)**

**Bishop Martin:** Sarah, in the presence of this assembly will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, in the confidence that it comes from God through the call of the church?

**Sarah:** I will, and I ask God to help me.

**Bishop Martin:** Will you preach and teach in accordance with the holy scriptures and with the confessions of the Lutheran church? Will you carry out this ministry in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?

**Sarah:** I will, and I ask God to help me.

**Bishop Martin:** Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace?

**Sarah:** I will, and I ask God to help me.

**Bishop Martin:** Trusting in God's care, will you love, serve, and pray for God's people, nourish them with the word and sacraments, and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?

**Sarah:** I will, and I ask God to help me.

**Bishop Martin:** Will you give faithful witness in the world, that God's love may be known in all that you do?

**Sarah:** I will, and I ask God to help me.

*Bishop Martin:* Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them. **Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Bishop Martin:* People of God, will you receive Sarah as a messenger of Jesus Christ sent to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard her as a servant of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God?

**C: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

*Bishop Martin:* Will you pray for Sarah? Will you help and honor her in carrying out this ministry? In all things, will you strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

**C: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Sarah, the office of pastor is now committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**BLESSING**   *Bishop Martin*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

**Amen.**

*The bishop escorts the pastor to the place of baptism.*

Max Jaeger: You have been called to be among us to baptize, to teach, and to forgive sins.

*They proceed to the place of the word.*

Barbara Solsaa: You have been called to be among us to proclaim the good news.

*They proceed to the place of the meal.*

Glen Miller: You have been called to be among us to preside at the Lord's supper.

*Bishop Martin:*

People of God, I present to you Sarah Miller, your pastor. Let us welcome Pastor Sarah in the name of Christ.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**   *Reader*

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

Steadfast God, give courage and strength to all whom you have called to serve as leaders in your church that through the power of your Holy Spirit they may bear witness to your love and grace. Today we pray especially for our bishops Martin and Yehiel and for Pastor Sarah, who has been newly installed as our pastor. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Restoring God, cleanse the life-giving waters of rivers, seas, and springs, especially Lake Menomin, Lake Tainter and the Red Cedar River. Create in us an urgent desire to preserve the beauty and bounty of your good creation. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Righteous God, you guide the nations. Reconcile warring enemies and end cycles of violent retribution. Defend the rights of prisoners, detainees, and all who flee from persecution. Sustain international aid workers and peacemakers. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, you care for all in distress. Provide safety and support for immigrants and refugees, tend to those who are homeless, and enfold in your care those who are marginalized especially members of the LGBTQ community. Be near to the dying, comfort all who are grieving or and bring healing to those who are ill (*especially Josh VanSant, Roger Hillestead, Mark Zuber, Johnny Foster and Erica Peterson*). Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Loving God, awaken the gifts of the Spirit in this congregation, that we may serve Christ by loving one another, welcoming the stranger, and caring for those in need. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Promising God, in baptism we die and rise with Christ. We give thanks for those who have gone before us, and we trust that we will join them in your everlasting peace. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **BRIEFING THE MINISTERS**

### **MEAL**

#### **OFFERING    “Wade in the Water” – OSL Choir**

#### **OFFERTORY Brightest and Best of the Starts 303:3**

3 What shall we give him, in costly devotion?

Shall we bring incense and offrings divine,  
gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray,

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

*In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:*

*This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

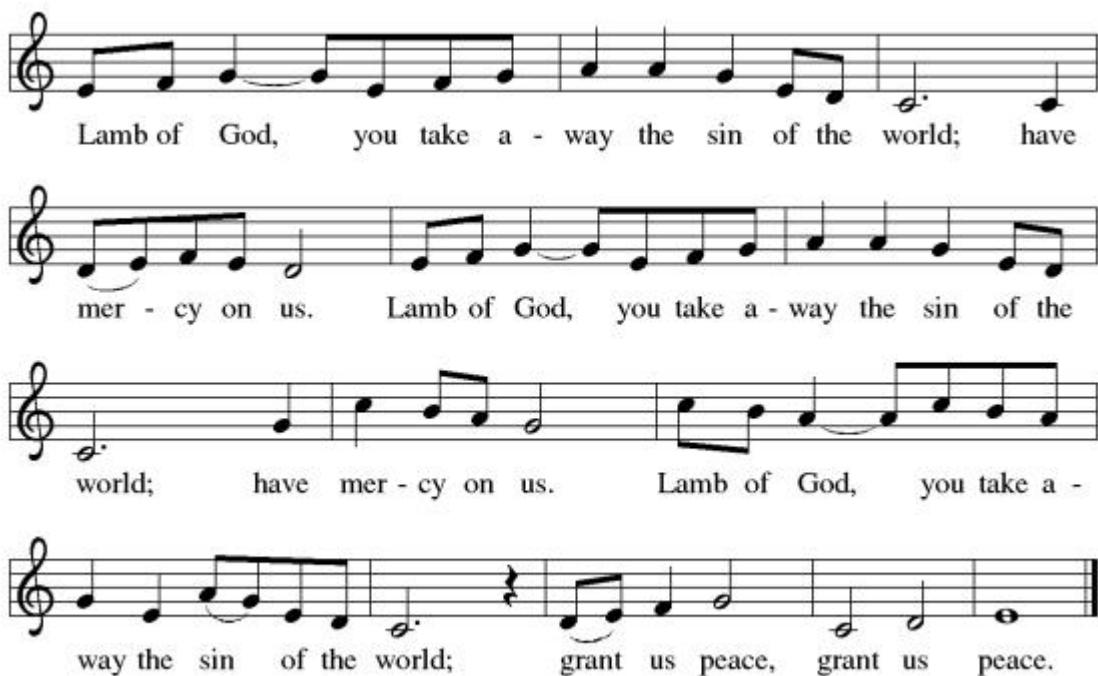
**LORD'S PRAYER**

*Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

**Lamb of God**



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.

**O Living Breath of God 407**

1 O living Breath of God, wind at the beginning upon the waters;  
O living Breath of God, bearing the creation to wondrous birth;

*Refrain*

Come now, and fill our spirits; pour out your gifts abundant.  
O living Breath of God, Holy Spirit, breathe in us as we pray.

2 O living Breath of God, by whose pow'r the Son came to birth among us;  
O living Breath of God, who to the creation gives life anew; *refrain*

3 O living Breath of God, bearing us to life through baptismal waters;  
O living Breath of God, sighing with creation for freedom's birth; *refrain*

Text: Osvaldo Catena, 1920-1986; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923  
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**Baptized and Set Free 453**

1 We are people created, and wholeness and more.  
chosen by God.  
Then we're washed, ever gently,  
in mercy and love.  
Sin has power no more.  
Jesus opened the door  
to a fountain bringing healing,

2 We are fed and we're nourished,  
filled and refreshed.  
Then our hunger returns and  
again we are blessed.  
For whatever the need,

God is greater indeed:  
endless ocean, always deeper  
than all of our need.

3 We are nourished by water,  
all living things,  
and by life that the Spirit  
abundantly brings.  
As we journey toward home,  
may your presence be known:  
precious river, ever-flowing,

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956  
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now carry us home.

4 Now with praise and thanksgiving,  
we join the song.  
All are welcome! We gather  
to sing loud and strong.  
Not enslaved, but set free!  
From now on, all will be  
one in Jesus, one in water,  
baptized and set free!

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## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray,

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood  
you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty  
of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.

## SENDING

### BENEDICTION

May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
☩ bless you now and forever.  
Amen.

### SENDING HYMN    We All Are One in Mission  576 (with brass)

1 We all are one in mission;  
we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united  
by Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single great commission  
compels us from above  
to plan and work together  
that all may know Christ's love.

2 We all are called for service,  
to witness in God's name.  
Our ministries are diff'rent;  
our purpose is the same:

to touch the lives of others  
with God's surprising grace,  
so ev'ry folk and nation  
may feel God's warm embrace.

3 Now let us be united,  
and let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel  
for God's redeeming Word.  
We all are one in mission;  
we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united  
by Christ, the Lord of all.

Baptism of Our Lord Sunday      January 11, 2026      9:00am Service

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

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**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE   Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing - Brass**