

**LAMB OF GOD**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH



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**January 14, 2024**

**Today's theme:**  
**It Begins With Baptism**

**Welcome, guests!** God’s love welcomes you—no matter who you are or where you come from— and so do we. We believe that Jesus Christ is the true Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death, and triumphant resurrection he saves all sinners even without our help. Jesus Christ makes us special people, right with God and ready for life! We learn this from the Bible, God’s authentic message of grace and guidance for us. Whether you are a first-time guest or a curious observer with little religious background, we are delighted to share our worship with you. Please come back and worship with us again.

If you would like to know more about Lamb of God, visit our website [www.lambofgodlafayette.com](http://www.lambofgodlafayette.com), like us on Facebook, Instagram and/or YouTube. Lamb of God is a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod WELS ([www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)) est.1850.

**Children’s “My Worship Notes”** are included in another document. They can be used by children of any age to keep notes during the service.

**It Begins With Baptism** - At his baptism in the Jordan River Jesus was publicly anointed with the Holy Spirit and designated by God the Father as his chosen Messiah. Thus, Jesus’ baptism was the beginning of his public ministry. Jesus’ baptism revealed that he was not just a nice guy who could make a sturdy table. He was God’s chosen servant, the one who had come to bring salvation to the ends of the earth. Jesus is the one willing to stand in our place as our substitute and Savior.

Jesus’ baptism reveals to us who he really is. Our own baptism does the same! Our baptism was the beginning of a new and better life—eternal life!—a gift graciously given to us by our truest friend. Jesus’ ministry and our eternity with him. It begins with baptism.

## WELCOME

## OPENING HYMN

**Christ Begins**  
CW 385

*Please stand.*

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## CONFESSION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.  
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,  
I am sinful by nature  
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.  
I have not loved you with my whole heart;  
I have not loved others as I should.  
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.  
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with his innocent suffering and death.  
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

## ABSOLUTION

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

CW 174

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Amen.**

## **HYMN**

## **Glory to God in the Highest**

CW 176

## **THE WORD**

*[Like Mary, we sit at the feet of Jesus to hear his Word (Luke 10:39).]*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 49:1-6

*[Through the pen of the prophet Isaiah, the Messiah himself speaks, telling us of the work he would do when he was anointed at his baptism.]*

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you islands;  
hear this, you distant nations:  
Before I was born the LORD called me;  
from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.  
<sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharpened sword,  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me into a polished arrow  
and concealed me in his quiver.  
<sup>3</sup>He said to me, "You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will display my splendor."  
<sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain;  
I have spent my strength for nothing at all.  
Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand,  
and my reward is with my God."  
<sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says—  
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant  
to bring Jacob back to him  
and gather Israel to himself,  
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD  
and my God has been my strength—  
<sup>6</sup>he says:  
"It is too small a thing for you to be my servant  
to restore the tribes of Jacob  
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.  
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,  
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## SECOND READING

Romans 6:1–11

*[St. Paul connects our baptism to Christ, and he discusses the results of that connection in our lives.]*

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup>By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? <sup>3</sup>Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— <sup>7</sup>because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

<sup>8</sup>Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

<sup>11</sup>In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*[It has been a tradition in the Christian church to stand for the reading of the gospel for the past 2,000 years. Just as subjects rise when a king speaks, we rise out of respect for the words of our King.]*

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 1:11

Alleluia.

You are my Son, whom I love;  
with you I am well pleased.

Alleluia.

## GOSPEL

Mark 1:4-11

*[Jesus public ministry begins with the anointing he received in his baptism.]*

<sup>4</sup>And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. <sup>6</sup>John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup>At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated.*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

*Children are invited to sit in the front of the sanctuary.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**On Jordan's River Came Our Lord**

CW377

## SERMON

**based on Mark 1:4-11**

**Christ's Baptism and our Baptism**



## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

I 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I 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. Amen.

## OFFERING

If you wish to give an offering:

- place it in the offering plate
- scan this QR code
- text any dollar amount to **84321**
- mail a check to the church—1893 E 600 North, West Lafayette, IN 47906
- go to the church website [www.lambofgodlafayette.com](http://www.lambofgodlafayette.com) and click **GIVE** in the upper right corner.



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.

**Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.**

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.

**Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.**

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

**Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.**

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

**Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.**

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

**Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.**

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind.

[Pour out your special blessing on . . . *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.

**Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.  
**In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **THE BLESSING**

*[The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" (Numbers 6:27).]*

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✚ give you peace. **Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN**

**Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace**

CW 950

## Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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### **Serving at Worship (1/14)**

Vacancy Pastor: Bruce Marggraf

Piano: Liz Schmidt

Usher/Greeter: Hartzell family

Acolyte: Dax Graves

Livestream: Dave & Aiden Graves

Refreshments: Correll family

### **Serving Next Week (1/21)**

Vacancy Pastor: Bruce Marggraf

Piano: Liz Schmidt

Usher/Greeter: Becker family

Acolyte: TBD

Livestream: TBD

Refreshments: Need a volunteer

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Sun, Jan 14
- Bible Study – 9:15am
  - Worship Service – 10:30am
  - Catechism class – after service
- Wed, Jan 17
- Call Meeting – 7pm
  - Purdue Campus Ministry (WALC #3090) – 8pm

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Adult Bible Study – Sunday’s at 9:15am**

We will read the gospel of John starting at the beginning, discuss what St. John wrote, and apply it to our lives today. Most Christians know John 3:16 by heart, but how many of us have studied the rest of this wonderful gospel book? Come and learn with us, your faith will be strengthened!

**Contact information for Pastor Marggraf** - If anyone needs to contact him:

- Cell phone number: (262) 246-2320
- Email: [bjmarggraf@aol.com](mailto:bjmarggraf@aol.com)

**Would you like to receive the weekly email update from Lamb of God?** If so, please provide your email in the Friendship Register on your row or contact the church office at [loginlafayette@gmail.com](mailto:loginlafayette@gmail.com).

**Ladies Bunco Night** – Friday, Jan 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Cheryl's – Scan the QR code to register.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

For all those in our midst who may be dealing with grief, including Don Correll on the passing of his sister, Mary, and Deb Turley on the passing of her mother, Gail Rathgeber; for those dealing with physical ailments, including Denise Gilmore (Diane Brady's sister), Kyle Correll (son of Judy and Don), Jim Holmes and Joan Bonnet; for all those who are suffering from abuse in the home, that they might seek help.

For Lamb of God, that the Good Shepherd will lead and sustain the congregation through the vacancy and that he will provide another shepherd soon.

For peace within Israel and in her relationships with regional and world nations.

That the Holy Spirit would work in the hearts of all those who join us for worship each Sunday. That our Lord would give us the means to show the love of Christ as we support our neighbors in need.

That as we pray "give us our daily bread" our Almighty King would grant us good government, honest and faithful leaders, judges, a strong armed forces to defend and protect us, health of body and mind, good neighbors, godly spouse, godly children and Christian friends.

## Notes: