

Baptism of Our Lord
January 10, 2021

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

*For the safety of all in our congregation,
the congregation council has determined that it will be best for our congregation
to worship with our services **online only** beginning November 29.
On January 11, 2021 the council will evaluate the situation.*

*For those who are connected to the internet,
we will be posting our worship online early on Sunday mornings.
It will be on facebook “First Evangelical Lutheran Church”
and also on our website at www.FELCC.org.*

*Our church office is currently staffed by volunteers,
as the parish administrator is recovering from surgery.
Pastor Nicholson has been working from home as she is under quarantine.
If you need to stop by the church, you may **use your keycard to enter**.*

CONGRATULATIONS to Theo and Victoria Camara upon the birth of their
daughter, Ahava. Ahava was born January 1, 2021.

*We will be posting **updated prayers and announcements** on the website.
Below the worship videos click on “Bulletins” and we will add the updates there.*

Remember – God is with you always, we are never alone.

~Pastor Jane Nicholson~

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

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. 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. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

We thank you for bringing Kashton Peters to faith. Kashton was baptized last January and is pictured here with his family, Ron and Ashley, Grayson, Aiden, and Zachary.

Help us to remember our baptism each day, living into the promises made in baptism.

- **Lead us and guide us as we grow in knowledge and understanding.**
- **Enrich our lives through worship and the sacraments.**
- **Help us to proclaim you through Word and deed.**
- **Encourage us as we work for peace, justice, and the care of others in the world which you created.**

Shower us with your Spirit,
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.**

HYMN

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

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 1:1-5

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:4-11

The Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And 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

HYMN

OUR RESPONSE

OFFERING *Returning thanks to God with our offering is a regular part of our worship. You are welcome to mail your financial gifts to church at 43 West Washington St; Chambersburg PA 17202 or give online at www.FELCC.org. Click on the "give" button on the top right hand corner of your screen or on you cellphone click on the three dots and choose "give."*

OFFERING PRAYER

O God, receive these gifts as you receive us:
like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.
Nourish us anew in your tender care,
and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love,
through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. **Amen.**

APOSTLES' CREED

As God's beloved children, let us confess our baptismal faith, using the words of
the apostle's creed.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter † keep you in peace. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Remember in your prayers...

Sandy Curfman	Aloma Dawkins	Ernie Fricke
Rick Gates (1/15)	Bonnie Goshen (1/7)	Mary Gotwald (1/7)
Nancy Jacobs	Charles Kampmeyer (1/31)	Mildred Kramer (2/10)
Elva Kroeger	Irene Naugle (1/15)	John Newcomer
Dalton & Julie Paul	Ron Roof (1/20)	Evelyn Scott
Carrie Stopyra (1/3)	James Warne	Jim Woods (1/26)
Private Parker Brown	The Family of Pam Keller	

CHURCH OFFICE The church office is staffed by volunteers through February 4 from 9 to 12. Our Parish Administrator is on sick leave. Please leave a message or send an e-mail and Pastor will be in touch. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Nicholson at home. 717-753-3940. Pastor Nicholson is at home under quarantine through January 10. Call or email her at home if needed.

PANDEMIC FATIGUE Are you feeling mentally and emotionally exhausted from all the disruptions to life brought on by the pandemic? Are you facing isolation, loneliness, anxiety, grief, health issues, financial strain or job loss? Please know you don't have to face these things alone. If you or someone you care about is experiencing difficulties like these, our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and be there to offer support. A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately—by phone or video chat—to focus on you and your needs. It's free and completely confidential, and it offers real care, comfort, and hope. To learn more, please contact Stephen Ministry Leader, Linda Beaver at 717-264-0737 or lbeaver@spiritrustlutheran.org

BACK PACK PROGRAM January suggested items are: grains such as Graham or Animal Crackers, Light Popcorn, Whole Grain Cereal, Granola Bars, Individual Cereal Boxes. Thank you for your continued support of this much-needed program.



THANK YOU to those who gave coats and to those who worked with the Coat Give-Away on Saturday, January 2. Thanks also to Giant Grocery, St. Luke and to Trinity Lutheran for the hats and mittens provided to share.

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING Our Congregation meeting will be held on January 24 following worship. (11:15). This will be a hybrid meeting with people gathering in the sanctuary and on Zoom. Our main piece of business will be to approve the 2021 budget. You may pick up your annual report (including the proposed budget) in the church office closer to the meeting date. If you would like to participate via Zoom, please email Theo (Theo.FELCC@gmail.com) by Thursday, January 21.

YOU ARE NEVER ALONE by Max Lucado. Each of us longs for someone who will meet us in the midst of life's messes. We believe in a living, loving,



miracle-working God who won't think twice about stepping into the thorny thickets of our world and lifting us up. In this study of the gospel of John, we discover that Jesus is right here with us and cares about every aspect of our life. Pastor Nicholson will be leading this Bible Study on Thursday nights via

Zoom. The group will view a video clip and then reflect together. The study will begin on January 28 and run through March 4 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. If you would like to participate in this group, please contact the church office so we are able to order a study guide for you.

THE GIVE AND TAKE BOX Please pick up a few items to share. This box supplies personal care items such as shampoo, deodorant, tissues, toothpaste and brushes, hand soap, body soap, laundry detergent, dish detergent, band aids, and toilet paper.



COLLECTION OF QUARTERS by The Neighborhood Task Team has resumed for future Laundry Events. If you have donations you may drop them off at the church office during office hours or you may drop your donations at either entry/exit from the sanctuary. There is a basket at back of the sanctuary and a Laundry Soap container at the elevator entrance. Thanks so much for your support of this ministry to our neighbors.