

JANUARY 15, 2023 – 10 AM

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Tuesday 11am Bible Study at Zion and on Zoom!

New Bible Study– Jan.18, 2023 – @ 6:30pm - "The Chosen"!_season 3. Connie Pinkowski's home – 4E 26th St. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Annual Meeting – Jan. 29th after worship.

INAUGURAL ZION LADIES' DAY OUT RETREAT! Wed., Feb. 1st from 9:30 AM - 12:30. "Journey to the Promised Land." Harvey Cedars Bible Conference, Cost \$10. More Info call Sharon Joyce Sharon Joyce at 267-566-5640 or sandbjoyce79@gmail.com.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We celebrate that sacred day when Jesus entered the waters of the Jordan River to be baptized by John. In the Bible reading for today, the heavens open by the voice of the Father and the Holy Spirit descends as a dove upon God's Son. We are invited today, to join our lives again to Jesus in the saving waters of Baptism.

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.**

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

We praise you for **the gift of water that sustains life,**
Above all we praise you **for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.**

Shower us with your Spirit, **renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

All: To you, O Lord God, be given all honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

(All are sprinkled with the water of the Baptismal font)

Opening Hymn: ELW#310 – Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

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.**

God's Holy Word

First 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!**

Psalm 29

All: (response) The voice of the LORD is upon the waters.

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

2Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

3The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

4The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. R

All: (response) The voice of the LORD is upon the waters.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:4-11- **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!**

REFLECTIONS

HYMN: ELW#304 – Christ, When for Us You were Baptized

Prayers of Intercession

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of the cross. **Help us to work together across differences and denominational traditions.**

We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. **Bless our harvests and our preparation for a new season of planting.**

In Jesus Christ your reign O God comes near and calls all to repentance. **Dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution.**

O Lord, Our Lord, Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. **Rouse communities to care for neighbors who need shelter or are isolated and lonely.**

We pray for those who are sick among us especially...NAMES ARE READ ALOUD...

O Lord, Our Lord we bring to you our needs and hopes trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Jesus Christ, Our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY

Offering Prayer - Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen!**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 to Communion – The Lamb of God has taken away the sins of the world! Come now and receive the Bread of Life!

*[Ushers will escort you to the Communion Rail to receive.
After receiving the wafer, (GLUTEN FREE WAFERS AVAILABLE)
you will be able to take a small cup of wine (red)
or grape juice (white) from a tray.
Deposit the empty cup in the basket.
Then return to your seat.]*

OUR TIME OF COMMUNION WITH THE LORD!



HYMN: CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD (ELW 801)

**Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.**

**You are the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.**

Prayer after Communion - Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **Amen.**

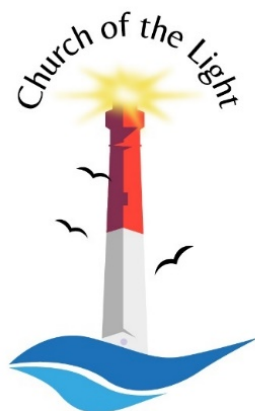
Blessing - The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN – #314 – Arise, Your Light Has Come!

Benediction Hymn: May God's Blessing (back of hymnal)

Dismissal - Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
Barnegat Light NJ

18th Street & Central Ave. Barnegat Light, New Jersey
609-494-8676

The Rev. William McGowan, Pastor - 484-798-3929
zionchurchlbi@gmail.com – zionlbi.com

***"God calls us to share our faith in Christ
with the community in all seasons."***