

Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church & School Grafton, WI February 29, 2024

A Great Power and a Greater Gift

There is no such thing as holy water. The water used in Baptism did not come from a magic fountain or mystical lake. It came out of the tap. Yet, Baptism consists of more than just water. It is water combined with God's Word. And God's Word is powerful! God's Word is the tool the Holy Spirit uses to create and strengthen faith—faith that connects us to Christ's death and resurrection. Thus, when you witness a baptism, you are witnessing more power being unleashed than you see in a flash of lighting. You are witnessing a power that can take that which is dead and make it alive.

God uses this savior power on us, but not because we deserve it. Because of our sins, we deserve nothing from God but punishment and pain. But our God is merciful. He spares us from the pain we deserve. And our God is gracious. He gives us countless blessings we do not deserve. Today, we marvel at the blessing of Baptism—a great power and greater gift.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding: Martin Wildauer
Organist: Robert Klug

Pastor: Jonathan Fischer Principal: Nathan Schultz Church Office: Sarah Smith School Office: Jill Klug pastorfischer@oursaviorgrafton.org nschultz@oursaviorgrafton.org oslcs@oursaviorgrafton.org osls@oursaviorgrafton.org

The 10:30 service is livestreamed for our members at home.



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Order of Service

398 Not All the Blood of Beasts

CW 398

Stand

In the name of the Father, and of the T Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

There is one body and one spirit.

There is one hope to which we were called;

one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all.

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in our baptism you have consecrated us to be temples of your Holy Spirit. May we, whom you have counted worthy, nurture this gift of your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith and worship you with upright lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The New Life of Baptism

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you reject the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I reject them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate you from God and neighbor? **I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Savior and Lord? I turn to Christ.

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his + cross. Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

Prayer

Almighty God, deliver those you have claimed from the powers of darkness. Restore in us the image of your glory and lead us in the light and obedience of Christ.

Amen.

Be seated

679 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

CW 679 st. 1

Reading Titus 3:4–7

⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

679 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

CW 679 st. 3

Passion Reading

Mark 14:27-42

²⁷"You will all fall away," Jesus told them, "for it is written:

"'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'

²⁸But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

²⁹Peter declared, "Even if all fall away, I will not."

³⁰"Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "today—yes, tonight—before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times."

³¹But Peter insisted emphatically, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the others said the same.

³²They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. ³⁴"My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch."

³⁵Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. ³⁶"Abba, Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

³⁷Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "are you asleep? Couldn't you keep watch for one hour? ³⁸Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

³⁹Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. ⁴⁰When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him.

⁴¹Returning the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. ⁴²Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death.

425 Go to Dark Gethsemane

CW 425

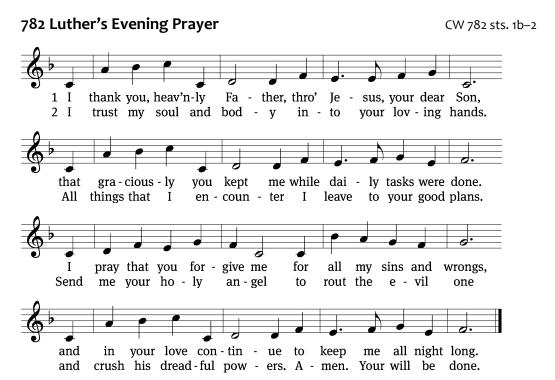
Sermon

Offering

Our Savior's ministries are supported by the joyful gifts of her members. If you are not a member of Our Savior, please do not feel obligated to give an offering. It is our privilege and pleasure to serve you with God's Word today.

Please sign the friendship register and pass it down the pew.

Stand



Text: para. Katherine J. Dubke, b. 1991; Martin Luther, 1483–1546

Tune: Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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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.

Blessing

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life. **Amen**.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Be seated

789 All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

CW 789 sts. 1-2

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