



**The Nativity of St. John the Baptist**  
**June 24, 2018**

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**THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

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St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

1600 S. Main St.

Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54937-9235

[www.stpetersfdl.net](http://www.stpetersfdl.net)

Worship: Thursday, 6:30pm ~ Sunday, 7:45 & 10:00am

Phone: 922-1160 or 921-8075

Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier: 517-8808

Pastor Matthew M. Guse: 517-9000

For hospital visits or emergencies, please call Pastor Zuberbier at 517-8808.

St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Andrew Mildebrandt, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302

Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. David Schroeder, Principal 921-4930 ext. 304

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**WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE** We rejoice in the birth of our Savior's forerunner—John the Baptist.

Thank you for joining us for worship. If you have any questions about our service or practice, please feel free to ask one of the ushers or a pastor.

- Family restrooms are available in the multi-purpose room off the narthex or on the right side of the large hallway leading to the school wing.
- A parent's room with audio feed and a window into the sanctuary is available.
- Listening devices and six large print hymnals are available, please ask an usher.
- Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 each Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.
- Please silence your cell phone and all other electrical devices to help minimize distractions during Divine Worship. Thank you.
- Hymns and songs are reprinted under OneLicense #A-713891. Artwork obtained from churchart.com. Scripture texts are taken from the New International Version 1984 translation.
- Visitors, we are pleased that you have joined us this morning. Please feel free to inquire about our congregation through the pastors, one of the ushers, or one of the members. If you are a visitor from out of town, please be sure to introduce yourself to one of the pastors after the service. We welcome all of you to come and worship with us again.

**A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** When all the world was cursed By Moses' condemnation, Saint John the Baptist came with words of consolation. With true forerunner's zeal the greater one he named, and him, as yet unknown, as Savior he proclaimed. Oh, grant, dear Lord of love, that we receive, rejoicing, the word proclaimed by John, our true repentance voicing, that gladly we may walk upon our Savior's way until we live with him in his eternal day. Amen. (See also the prayers on pages 10-11 of *Christian Worship*.)

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**SERVICE THEME** Through his miracles and words of authority, Jesus revealed himself to be the promised Messiah.

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*Service of the Word* on page 38 in the front of the hymnal

**OPENING HYMN**

**"Jesus Christ, My Pride and Glory"**  
*Hymn 464*

M: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

**PRAYER AND PRAISE**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**OH, TASTE AND SEE**

♪ Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Blessed are they who take refuge in him. Your Word,  
O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your  
faithfulness continues forever. Oh, taste and see that the  
Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave your servant John the Baptist to be the forerunner of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant us grace to repent of our sins, to boldly rebuke vice, and to patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**FIRST LESSON**

Isaiah 40:1-5

*Over seven centuries before his birth, the prophet Isaiah described how John the Baptist would prepare the way for the promised Messiah.*

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

## PSALM 73

page 94 in the front of the hymnal

## SECOND LESSON

Acts 13:16-26

*John the Baptist was a bridge between the Old Testament promises and the fulfillment of those promises through the saving work of the Messiah.*

Standing up, Paul motioned with his hand and said: “Men of Israel and you Gentiles who worship God, listen to me! The God of the people of Israel chose our fathers; he made the people prosper during their stay in Egypt, with mighty power he led them out of that country, he endured their conduct for about forty years in the desert, he overthrew seven nations in Canaan and gave their land to his people as their inheritance. All this took about 450 years. After this, God gave them judges until the time of Samuel the prophet. Then the people asked for a king, and he gave them Saul son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, who ruled forty years. After removing Saul, he made David their king. He testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.’ From this man's descendants God has brought to Israel the Savior Jesus, as he promised. Before the coming of Jesus, John preached repentance and baptism to all the people of Israel. As John was completing his work, he said: ‘Who do you think I am? I am not that one. No, but he is coming after me, whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.’ Brothers, children of Abraham, and you God-fearing Gentiles, it is to us that this message of salvation has been sent.”

## VERSE OF THE DAY

♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**These words are written that we may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”**

*Hymn 16*

## SERMON TEXT

Luke 1:57-67

*In obedience to the angel Gabriel’s instructions, Zechariah named his son John, which means, “The LORD is gracious.”*

When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they

shared her joy. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zechariah, but his mother spoke up and said, “No! He is to be called John.” They said to her, “There is no one among your relatives who has that name.” Then they made signs to his father, to find out what he would like to name the child. He asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone's astonishment he wrote, “His name is John.” Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue was loosed, and he began to speak, praising God. The neighbors were all filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, “What then is this child going to be?” For the Lord's hand was with him. His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied.

## “The Lord is Gracious”

*Pastor Guse*

## 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.**

## THANKSGIVING

## GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

## THE 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.**

## HYMN

**“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”**

*Hymn 234 v 1-3*

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and ✕ give you peace.

C: ♪ **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

**“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”**

*Hymn 234 v 4-5*

### ORGANIST

Ruth Koepsell

### GREETERS

7:45 ~ Ruth Schultz

10:00 ~ Jim & Marcia Pflum