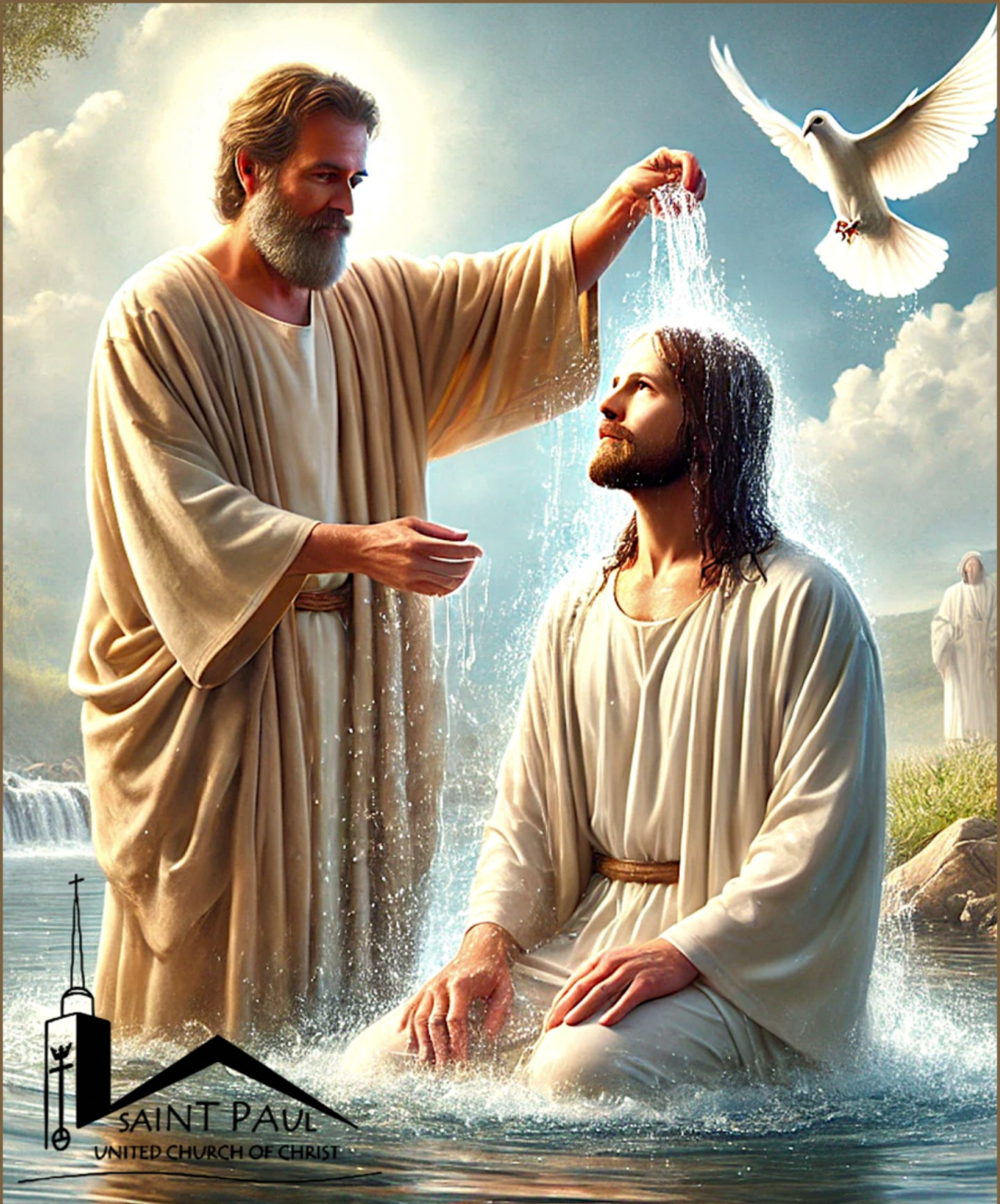


# BAPTISM OF CHRIST



# Welcome to St. Paul UCC

Sunday, January 11, 2026 ~ 9:00 am  
Baptism of Christ



## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Visiting Clergy</i> .....	Rev. Joan Mier
<i>Director of Music</i> .....	Dr. Tristan Frampton
<i>Organist</i> .....	Cynthia Johnson
<i>Liturgist</i> .....	Stephenie Bauza

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

*Fairest Lord Jesus*  
Hymn Tune: St Elizabeth  
Setting by Larry Shackley

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Today is a most special day—the day we remember the baptism of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is a moment God called Him the Beloved Son of God.

**People: We remember God's words spoken at Christ's baptism and how the Holy Spirit alighted upon him like a Dove—anointing Him for his ministry.**

Leader: A ministry that has reached out to God's people for two-thousand years and continues to reach out to us today. Let us feel the touch of the Holy Spirit now.

**People: Let us remember our own baptisms, the promises that we made to our Lord on this Baptism of Christ Sunday, so that we will feel ever united with Him.**

**ALL: Let this be a time of remembering and rejoicing, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## \*INVOCATION (Unison)

**On this day, we remember your baptism precious Jesus, how the Holy Spirit alighted upon you as a dove and the words spoken by God, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We pray that this same Spirit will be among us now as we, also, remember our baptisms. Let is be so according to your Holy Will. Amen.**

## PASSING THE PEACE

# \*OPENING HYMN

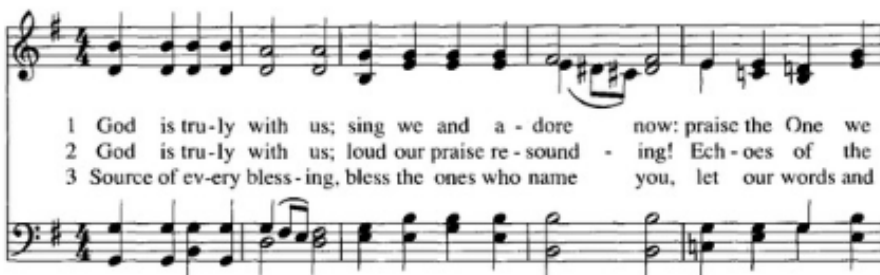
68

## God Is Truly with Us

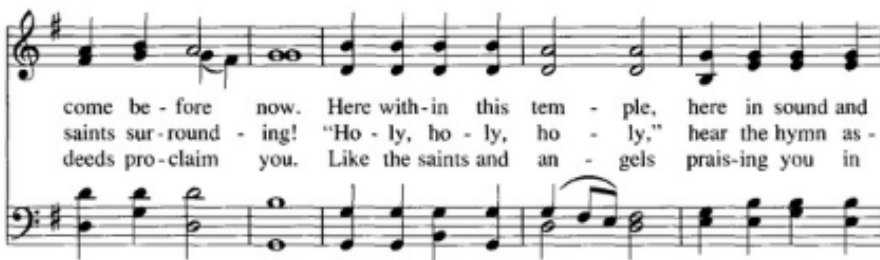
Matt. 1:23; 2 Cor. 9:8; Rev. 4:8-11

Gerhard Tersteegen, 1729

Transl. Frederick W. Foster and others; alt.



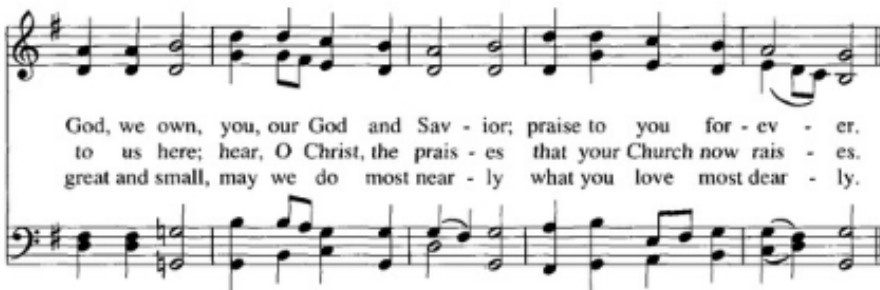
1 God is tru-ly with us; sing we and a - dore now: praise the One we  
2 God is tru-ly with us; loud our praise re - sound - ing! Ech - oes of the  
3 Source of ev-ery bless - ing, bless the ones who name you, let our words and



come be - fore now. Here with-in this tem - ple, here in sound and  
saints sur-round - ing! "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," hear the hymn as -  
deeds pro-claim you. Like the saints and an - gels prais-ing you in



si - lence, wor-ship God in deep-est rev - erence. You a - lone,  
cend - ing, an - gels, saints, their voic - es blend - ing! Bow your ear  
glo - ry, may your ser - vants sing your sto - ry. And in all,



God, we own, you, our God and Sav - ior; praise to you for - ev - er.  
to us here; hear, O Christ, the prais - es that your Church now rais - es.  
great and small, may we do most near - ly what you love most dear - ly.

Gerhard Tersteegen, an important German hymnwriter of the Reformed Church, began preaching at prayer meetings and gained a considerable following. He devoted his life to praying, preaching, visiting the poor, and writing and translating devotional material.

Tune: WUNDERBARER KÖNIG 6.6.8.6.6.8.3.3.6.6.

Joachim Neander, in A und Ω,  
Glaubund Liebesübung, Bremen, 1680

## **PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

Pastor: Today, on this Baptism of Christ Sunday, we will renew our baptismal vows to the Lord. I will present the questions and guide you in the answers if you so choose to reaffirm your baptismal promises. Then, we will enter into a time of silent prayer and reconciliation with our God. As I cannot put words into your mouth in regard to what you need to say to God, I can only welcome you into this sacred moment and then, afterward, I will offer the Words of Grace.

Silent Confession and Reconciliation

### **\*WORDS OF GRACE**

In our baptisms, we were welcomed into the Christian family, touched by the Holy Spirit, and embraced by God, the very giver of our lives. God always wants the very best for us, and the very best means that we stay in close communion with God. Whether it be in good times or bad times, God always invites us to come closer, speak truthfully, and listen for the whispers of God's grace-filled words and offerings of forgiveness. Thanks be to God. **Amen**

### **ANTHEM**

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

arr. Lloyd Larson

Sanctuary Choir

### **SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 42:1-9

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17

Stephenie Bauza

Stephenie Bauza

Rev. Joan Mier

### **SERMON**

Let It Be-Spirit of God

Rev. Joan Mier

### **PASTORAL AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.**

**Amen.**



## **REFLECTION ON GIVING**

In remembering our baptisms and reaffirming our vows made to our Lord, we, also, remember the commitments we have spoken to support Christ's church and to care for God's people. This is a time of commitment, a giving from our hearts and hands to the very heart of God. Amen.

## **COLLECTION OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC**

*I Know That My Redeemer Liveth, from Messiah*

by George Frideric Handel

Tristan Frampton, cornetto

## **\*DOXOLOGY (Tune: Old Hundreth)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Christ in whom God's grace we know**

**Praise Spirit, with us evermore**

**One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen**

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (Unison)**

In the name of the One who was called **Beloved Son of God**; in the name of the One who received Baptism by the Holy Spirit, we give our gifts of love to you O' Lord our God. We pray that offering these gifts in the name of Jesus and for His ministry, you will bless them and guide us with them, so all decisions made will be filled with your wisdom. Amen.

## **\*CLOSING HYMN**    *Mark How the Lamb of God's Self Offering (pages 6 & 7)*

## **\*COMMISSIONING**

Go forth beloved and baptized of Christ, continue to live out your devout promises made to your Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Live your lives in close communion with the divine and let others know of the many blessings that come from a life in Christ Jesus. Go forth feeling refreshed in the renewing of your baptismal vows this day. Let it be so. **Amen**

## **\*BENEDICTION**

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thess. 5:23) **Amen**

## **POSTLUDE**


*Chorale*

by Johannes Brahms


Setting by Bob Moore




## Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering




1 Mark how the Lamb of God's self - of - fering our hu - man  
 2 From this as - sur - ance of God's fa - vor Je - sus goes  
 3 Grant us, O God, the strength and cour - age to live the



sin - ful - ness takes on In the birth - wa - ters of the Jor - dan  
 to the wil - der - ness, There to en - dure a time of test - ing  
 faith our lips de - clare; Bless us in our bap - tis - mal call - ing;

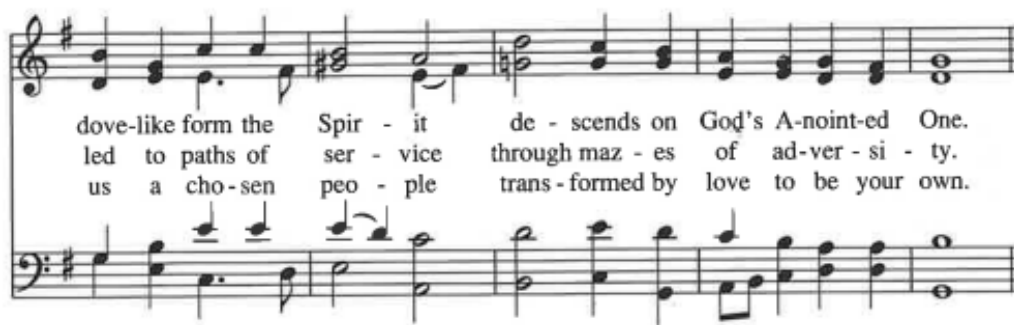


as Je - sus is bap - tized by John. Hear how the voice from heav - en  
 that read - ied him to teach and bless. So we, by wa - ter and the  
 Christ's roy - al priest - hood help us share. Turn us from ev - ery false al -



thun - ders, "Lo, this is my be - lov - ed Son." See how in  
 Spir - it, bap - tized in - to Christ's min - is - try, 'Are of - ten  
 le - giance, that we may trust in Christ a - lone: Raise up in





Tune: RENDEZ À DIEU 9.8.9.8.D.  
 Louis Bourgeois (c. 1510-c. 1561)  
 Trente quatre Psaumes, Geneva, 1551

TRÉS CHAMBER MUSIC TRIO  
**SAT JAN 17 3PM**

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 115 W B STREET | BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS



## SOUPER-BOWL OF CARING

Bring in your non-perishable food items  
 January 18 & 25 and February 1 & 8  
 for the Community Interfaith Food Pantry.

CANNED ITEMS NEEDED (preferably pull tops):

Tuna, chicken, ravioli, SpaghettiOs,  
 chili with beans, chunky soups!

Boxes are marked in the Welcome Center to  
 cheer on your favorite team with your  
 donations. Thank you for participating!

**MONDAY FUN-DAY!**

**4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month!**

**Chair Yoga 6-6:30pm**

**Yoga 6:30-7pm**

**Pickleball 6-8pm**



IF PICKLEBALL AND  
 YOGA ISN'T FOR YOU  
 - WE HAVE PUZZLES  
 OR YOU CAN BRING  
 YOUR OWN BOARD  
 GAME!

**St. Paul UCC**  
**115 W. B. Street, Belleville**  
 Enter on 2<sup>nd</sup> St. at the Activity Center door!  
 No cost - just a free will offering!  
 618-233-3303

Bring your  
 friends!

**All are welcome!**



**Seekers Adult Bible Study!**

Tuesdays @ 10:00 a.m.  
 Genesis Room

# VISITING CLERGY

JANUARY 11 - REV. JOAN MIER

JANUARY 18 - CRAIG BIELKE

JANUARY 25 - REV. JOAN MIER

FEBRUARY 1 - REV. DR. CHANCE BEELER



Weekly Offerings	1/3/2026
Operating	\$ 4,943.00
Building Fund	\$ 87.00
	\$ 5,030.00
<b>Giving YTD</b>	<b>\$ 355,170.04</b>
Weekly Budget	\$ 6,942.65
Budget to Date	\$ 361,017.89
Total Budget	\$ 361,017.89

## Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

December 28, 2025 91 + Online Participants

December 29, 2024 124 + Online Participants

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## For Your Prayers

Carol Hotz & Fred Hotz  
Tim Ritter  
Tim Ritter Jr., son of Sandy & Tim Ritter  
Lou Ann Niemann  
Ralph Eckart, brother in-law of  
Marlene Mueller  
Mike Llamas, brother in law of Mimi Llamas  
Jennifer Wick, daughter of  
Stephenie Bauza  
Gene Buxton  
Al Stahl  
Audrey Krummrich  
Rosie Keller  
Laura Sadler  
Janie Bloomer  
Jerry Pierce-Heisler  
Mike Foppe  
Bob Stone, brother of Kathy Birkner  
Alec Zaber  
Nancy Viehman  
The loved ones of Jerry Messick

**Please call the church for  
prayer requests:  
618-233-3303 [stpaulucc.org](http://stpaulucc.org)**

**Flowers, Music and Bulletin  
sponsorships are a lovely way  
to honor the memory, birthday  
or achievement of your loved  
one. To sign up, call the  
church office.  
Cost is \$35.00.**



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