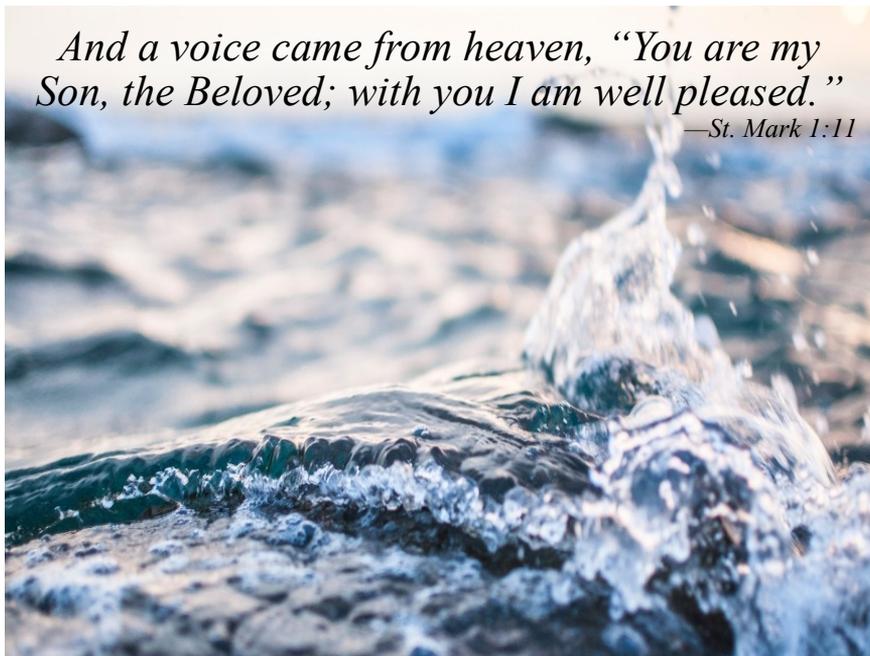


First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Baptism of Our Lord

January 10, 2021 ~ 11:00 AM

And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."
—St. Mark 1:11



Our Identity

- ◆ We are a diverse, welcoming, loving, grace-filled community.
- ◆ We are a safe place of acceptance and forgiveness.
- ◆ It feels good to be here.

The Rev. Matthew L. Miller, Pastor

320 South State Street , PO Box 308

Lexington, NC 27292

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www.flclex.org

HOLY COMMUNION

ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE!

✠ ✠ GATHERING ✠ ✠

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P** In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

- P** 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, 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. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

(We pause for reflection.)

- P** Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through ✠ Jesus Christ our Lord.
C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
P 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.
C Amen.

✠ ✠ 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: Psalm 29 (*read responsively*)

¹Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

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

⁴**The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD
flashes forth flames of fire.

⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare;
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**

^{11a}May the LORD
give strength to his people!

^{11b}**May the LORD
bless his people with peace!**

SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” ³Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

P The holy gospel according to St. Mark the first chapter.

C 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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

The Rev. Matthew L. Miller

APOSTLES' CREED

P Together, living in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C 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 power of 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they proclaim the forgiveness of sins, let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God's goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made, let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

For the nations of the world and their leaders, for laborers busy both day and night, and for peacemakers amid strife, that God inspire all people to use their strength wisely, let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

For the sick and those who provide medical care, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer especially those on our prayer list and those we name aloud or silently in our hearts: _____ that God shower compassion, let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

For the congregation gathered here, for students returning to school, for those seeking renewal in their daily work, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace, let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, that their witness inspire us in our baptismal vocations, let us pray.

☩ Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

☩ Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY 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.

✠ ✠ MEAL ✠ ✠

GREAT THANKSGIVING

☩ The Lord be with you.

☩ And also with you.

☩ Lift up your hearts.

☩ We lift them to the Lord.

☩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give our thanks and praise.

☩ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

☩ Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and Earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

☐ Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

☑ Amen.

THE 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus. Come and be fed.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.
We will be using the pre-packaged communion you
have received upon arrival.*

TABLE BLESSING

☞ May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

☛ Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

☞ Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name.

☛ Amen.

✠ ✠ SENDING ✠ ✠

BLESSING

☞ 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!

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS

Visit our website www.flclex.org and you'll find a **GIVE ONLINE** button in the center of the homepage photo. Clicking on that link will generate the electronic offering portal. It is very easy to use!

You may text the word **MYOFFERING** to **(502) 650-9147**. You'll receive easy instructions as you proceed.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

2021 Offering Envelopes are available in the Narthex. If you'd like to pick yours up today, someone will happily get them for you!

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Let us remember in prayer:

CHURCH FAMILY:

Bill and Patsie Baker
Amy Hollar Cormier
Jean Conrad Darstein
Mary Huneycutt
Katie Lemly
Jon Lough
Ronnie Moretz
Willie Ruth Pless
Gracie Shepherd
Jody Shepherd
Ron Sink
Sylvia Sink
April Thompson
Terry Triplett
Deborah Wertman
Jarrett Whitley
Jan Willette

LOVED ONES, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS:

Tonya Adams (*Friend of David Smith*)
Susan Avery and Family (*Friends of Christi Nebrich*)
Charles Baker (*Bill Baker's father*)
Jim Bailey (*Carol Leonard's brother*)
Ron Barton (*Beth Huber's brother*)
Nancy Beck (*Judy Conrad's sister*)
Mary Berrier (*Connie McMillan's cousin*)
Jesse Both (*Laura Tanley's nephew*)
Mary Brink (*Niece of Pauletta Conrad*)
Gene Bullock (*Tracy Miller's uncle*)
Anne Burkhart (*friend of Pam Mabry*)
Tessa Burns (*Bob Redwine's niece*)
Mike Byrd (*Friend of Bob Sink*)
Johnsie Canny (*Emma Apple's sister*)
Jim Carrier (*Tracy Miller's dad*)
Rita Caudle (*friend of Sabrina Conrad*)
Adam Cheely (*Michelle Eppinga's son*)
Edward Clancy (*friend of Bing Sudarmono*)
Ken Clodfelter
Jessica Crabb
Don and Jackie Craft (*Rebecca Moretz' parents*)
Amy and Wes Cups
Maureen Darcy (*friend of Connie Beck McMillan*)
Robert Dasch (*Father of Keith Dasch*)
Paul DeLaney (*Friend of Laura Tanley*)
Marina Dunaway and family (*friends of Karen Riggs*)
Debbie Sheppard Everette
Delores Farrell (*Dalane Kitzman's sister*)
Danny Fine (*Lynn Smith's brother*)
Patrick Foley (*Bleasha Carroll's brother-in-law*)
Debra Gainey (*The Kitzman's neighbor*)
Marlon Gaskins (*Friend of Scott and Deb Wertman*)
Rick Gransee
Ross Gray (*Friend of Danny and Carol Leonard*)
The Greer Family (*Friends of Karen Riggs*)
Kathy Harwood (*Beth Lemly's sister-in-law*)
Ronald Hensley (*friend of Mary Huneycutt*)
Angelica Hernandez (*coworker of Bill Nebrich*)
Barbara Sue Herring (*Friend of FLC*)
James Hewett (*friends of Bill and Christi Nebrich*)
Reuben Hufham (*Emma Apple's brother-in-law*)
Bob Hughart (*Bryan Hughart's father*)
Jeff Hutcherson (*Husband of Karen Rigg's*

coworker, Jill)

Caleb Hutcherson (*Son of Karen Rigg's coworker, Jill*)
Ken Jacobs (*Friend of Cindy Schoonmaker and FLC*)
Damon Jones (*brother of clothing closet volunteer, Teresa Smith*)
Betty Jordan (*friend of the Carlsons*)
Steve and Fern Kennedy (*friends of Pam Mabry*)
Karen Kernstine (*friend of Sabrina Conrad*)
John Kleine (*Nancy Carlson's brother-in-law*)
Terry Kohler (*Wertman family member*)
Jack Kunz (*Nancy Carlson's father*)
Mary and Charles Lee (*friends of FLC*)
Nichole Leonard (*friend of Patti Grant*)
Aleigha Lockhart and Family (*Neighbors of the Nebrichs*)
Hazel Lovelace (*Jim Lovelace's mother*)
Maria (*Abbi Thompson's friend*)
Mandy Marshall (*Debbie Triplett's daughter*)
Miranda and Children (*Friends of Sabrina Conrad*)
Deb McGraw (*friend of Patrick Harris*)
Joetta McQueen
Larry Michaels
Bruce Moody (*Friend of Bill and Christy Nebrich*)
Claire Murphy (*Rebecca Moretz' cousin*)
Dawn Mushrush (*Bleasha Carroll's sister*)
Robert Phelps (*friend of FLC*)
Libby Puckett (*friend of Connie Beck McMillan*)
Mark Remissong (*Frank and Pat Mills' son-in-law*)
Craig and Lisa Royal (*friends of FLC*)
Lynn Scoggins (*brother-in-law of Beth and Katie Lemly*)
Angie Shaw (*friend of April Thompson*)
David Smith (*Nephew of Bob Sink*)
Jimmy Steele (*friend of Mary Huneycutt*)
Marilee Strasser (*friend of Bill and Patsie Baker*)
Denny Swimley (*brother-in-law of Scott and Deborah Wertman*)
Jackie Taylor (*Lorraine Carlson's sister*)
Sherry Taylor (*Dan Smith's cousin*)
Marie Thomason (*Sarah Whitaker's grandmother*)
Sarah Vestal (*friend of Beth Huber*)
Glenn Visbeen (*friend of John Leonard*)
Mary Louise Wilkerson (*Friend of FLC*)
Devone Wohl (*Dalane Kitzman's sister*)
Nathan Wohl (*Dalane Kitzman's nephew*)
Kara Wood (*Mary Nebrich's teacher*)

The families of those who have passed to life eternal:

Expectant Parents: