

The American Lutheran Church of Windom

Living God's grace, we cultivate community to love and serve.



Sunday, January 10, 2021 9:00 AM
Baptism of Our Lord

906 Prospect Ave, PO Box 188
Windom MN 56101; Phone: 507-831-1794
E-Mail: winalc@windomnet.com
Website: www.alcofwindom.com

Sundays 9:00 am Worship & 10:30 am Virtual BAM-S
Wednesdays 5:30 pm WOW & 6:30 pm Virtual BAM-W

Pastors Sarah Tadé and Adam Roberts
Ministers: Everyone

WELCOME!

WE ARE HAPPY YOU ARE WORSHIPPING WITH US TODAY

If you are new to us or visiting from another church, please fill out a yellow postcard for us or email our ALC office winalc@windomnet.com if you would like more information on our Church or would like to know how to join.

We'd love to be in touch with you.

AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDING may be in progress during church services /events. Audio, video, and/or photos of the services/events may be posted or aired online for public viewing.

Please check out our ALC website, www.alcofwindom.com, YouTube Channel, and our Facebook page to view online services, events, and stay up-to-date on the latest information.

GATHERING MUSIC

Carol Vought, Organist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noisy Offering

GLOW Quilting

GATHERING:

P: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Prepare a way for the Lord!

C: Clear a pathway!

L: The valleys and mountains will be leveled,

C: Everyone will see it.

L: Prepare a way for the Lord!

C: Clear a pathway!

OPENING HYMN “*Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*” ELW #310

1 Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;
manifested by the star to the sages from afar, branch of royal
David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem: anthems be to thee
addressed, God in flesh made manifest.

3 Manifest in making whole weakened body, fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might; manifest in
gracious will, ever bringing good from ill: anthems be to thee
addressed, God in flesh made manifest.

4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, present in thy holy word;

grace to imitate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou; that we might become like thee at thy great epiphany, and may praise thee, ever blest, God in flesh made manifest.

"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-1885, alt. Public Domain

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: God of light,

C: You light a fire within us and ask us to shine, but we are quick to hide and make excuses. We shrink from challenges, avoid responsibility, and deny the goodness of your creation. We seek hollow praise and then don't believe it. Forgive us for hiding our God-given light and remaining self-absorbed.

P: Children of God, never fear, for you have always lived in the mercy of your creator. Hear the words of absolution and believe them: you are forgiven, may you know wholeness and reconciliation with God, Amen.

All: Amen.

KYRIE

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

L. Lord have mercy. **C: Lord have mercy.**

L. Christ have mercy. **L. Christ have mercy.**

L. Lord have mercy. **C: Lord have mercy.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *"Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God"*

(v 1-3)

ELW #458

- 1 Praise and thanksgiving be to God our maker, source of all blessing, prodigal creator. Baptized and made your own, now we come before you, and we adore you.
- 2 Not our own holiness, nor that we have striven brings us the peace which you, O Christ, have given. Baptized and set apart, strengthen us, O Savior, with grace and favor.
- 3 Come, Holy Spirit, come in visitation; you are the truth, our hope, and our salvation. Baptize with joy and pow'r; give, O Dove descending, life never ending.

"Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God" Text: H. Francis Yardley, 1911-1990; Frank J. Whiteley, b. 1914, alt. Text © 1969 H. Francis Yardley and Frank J. Whiteley Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies #SAS020594

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of truth, Through John you challenged your people to repent. Move us also to put aside the things that get in the way of truly serving you, for the sake of Jesus our savior. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3: 1-22

Pew Bible p. 834

Reader: Dana Wallace

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene,² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.⁵ Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth;⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?”¹¹ In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.”¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?”¹³ He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.”¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,

¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn

with unquenchable fire.”¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.¹⁹ But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother’s wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done,²⁰ added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened,²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

The Word of the Lord/ **Thanks be to God.**

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CHILDREN’S SERMON

Pastor Adam

MESSAGE

Pastor Adam

SONG OF THE DAY *“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*

ELW #742

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry ev’rything to God in prayer! Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear-- all because we do not carry ev’rything to God in prayer!
- 2 Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged-- take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our ev’ry weakness-- take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3 Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge-- take it to the Lord in prayer. Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer. In his arms he’ll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886 Public Domain

APOSTLES’ CREED

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

“Please share a greeting with those around you with a wave of your hand.”

OFFERING

We give, because God gives to us! Our ministries share God's love. As you leave the sanctuary, there will be an opportunity to place your offering in the offering plates located at the back of the church.

OFFERING PRAYER

You taught us that whoever has two coats can share with those who have none. Bless these gifts which we offer and multiply them so that no one needs to go without basic necessities, and so that all may thrive in your love. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Almighty God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *“Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized”*

ELW #304

- 1 Christ, when for us you were baptized, God's Spirit on you came, as peaceful as a dove, and yet as urgent as a flame, as urgent as a flame.
- 2 God called you, "My beloved Son"; you are God's servant true, sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n, God's holy will to do, God's holy will to do.
- 3 Straightway and steadfast until death you then obeyed the call to serve with free and willing heart, to give your life for all, to give your life for all.
- 4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord; your cross on us be signed, that likewise in God's service we may perfect freedom find, may perfect freedom find.

“Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized” Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984, alt. Text © 1985 Church Pension Fund, admin. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-718031

DISMISSAL

Go in Peace. Serve the Lord! / We will! Thanks be to God!

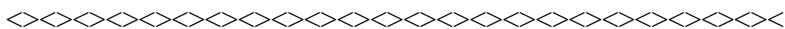
POSTLUDE

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WELCOME to worship at American Lutheran Church! In the scripture reading, John the Baptist prepared those in the wilderness for Jesus' coming. Once baptized, people would need to decide... were they ready for change or resistant to it?

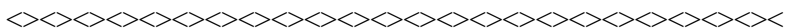
JOIN US NEXT WEEK for Sermon at Nazareth Luke 4:14-30.

RADIO SPONSORSHIP for today's worship service is given by Joyce Wilkin in memory of great-grandson, Collin Schulze whose birthday was January 10th.



Attendance: Wednesday, Online format; Sunday, 72;

Offering: \$4,446.37; **Thank you to all...** We met our financial commitments for 2020!! The generosity of our members allowed us to repay all that was borrowed from our Operating Fund and end with a positive balance.



Because ALC is committed to the care of each other we ask that you:

- Wear a face covering unless you are 5 years old or younger or your prohibited by a health condition
 - Keep a distance of 6 feet from others not in our family group.
 - Be seated from front to back, and dismiss from back to front, as directed by an usher.
 - Leave the singing to song leaders.
 - Stay home when not feeling well.
- Thank you for doing your part!

TODAY'S NOISY OFFERING is designated for "GLOW Quilting Ministry". GLOW makes quilts during the months of January through April for the Sharing Center, Christmas Cheer Box, Lutheran World Relief and anyone in need. This is one mission in action activity that the women of ALC do year after year. Please place your coins in the containers found in the Narthex. Thank You!

ANNUAL MEETING: The American Lutheran Church's annual meeting will be held at 10am on January 24th after worship. Please consider attending this meeting. If you are unable to attend in person, please contact the office for information regarding a ZOOM link and password. This meeting will not be recorded and published for viewing later.

THE WINDOM ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS TO TRANSPORT YOUNG STUDENTS TO AND

FROM SCHOOL, EACH SCHOOL DAY. These students do not receive bussing services at this time, and are too young to walk alone. Their parent's work schedules do not allow them to provide their child's transportation. If you would be willing to help these families and the school, please contact the Windom Elementary School office as soon as possible.

SHARING CENTER UPDATES: The Sharing Center could use personal health care products. If you're out shopping and have a couple extra bucks and would like to buy them shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, etc., they would really appreciate it.

HELP WANTED: The American Lutheran Church of Windom is seeking a part-time youth coordinator and Christian education coordinator to help with our Bible And Me (BAM) Sunday school program and also our teenage youth groups. Christian Ed is 10 hours a week and Youth & Family is 8 hours a week. Apply for one or both. An application form is available in the church office or visit: www.alcofwindom.com.

GLOW SEWING DAYS have begun! Join us January 19th at 9 am in the fellowship hall. We'll be making quilts, baby care kits, fabric kits, personal care kits, and school kits for Lutheran World Relief. Come for an hour or all morning! No experience necessary! If you have any questions you may contact Kathy Hiley at 831-4109.

GLOW BIBLE STUDY Thursday, January 21st at 2 PM. Please join us in the ALC Meeting room or via Zoom. Contact the church office 831-1794 to be added to the Zoom Bible Study email list to receive the zoom link. This month's study is from the January "Gather" Magazine Bible Study "Journeys with Angels", page 24 Session One, Looking Up. Have questions; contact Carolyn Torkelson, 831-5986. Thank you!

FEELING ALONE? You are not the only one!! Quarantine is not fun and isolation doesn't help anybody's spirits. It is just the time we are in. Call a friend, reach out to others, and pray for God is near. Your church staff is also here for you. Don't hesitate to call or reach out!

John and Melanie Shamp will start leading a **TEEN BIBLE STUDY** starting on Sunday, February 7th at 4:30pm in the Youth room. Snacks will be provided and FUN will be had!

SHETEK REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR SUMMER 2021! Early Bird deadline- February 1. Sign up before February 1 to get the biggest discount on camp this summer!

All that we have belongs to God. "The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it" (Psalm 24:1).