

Vasa Lutheran Church

Nicodemus

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist-Anne Anderson

Sunday, January 25, 2026

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \dagger one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

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.

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.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN LORD JESUS CHRIST, BE PRESENT NOW

ELW 527

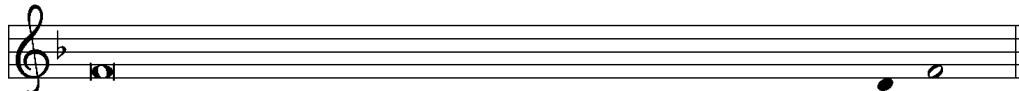
GREETING: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



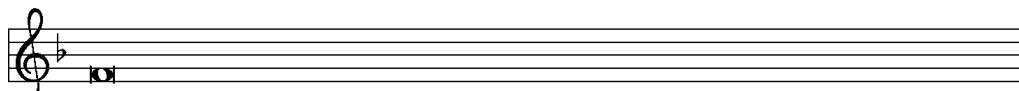
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



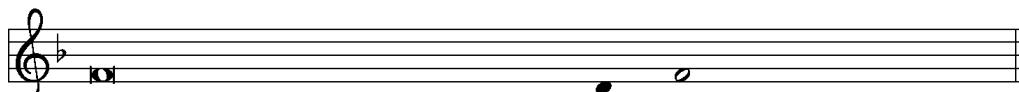
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



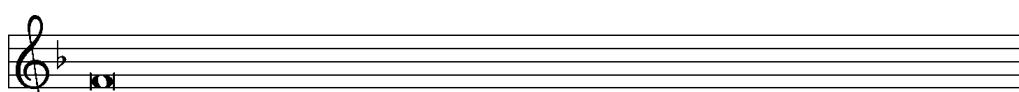
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



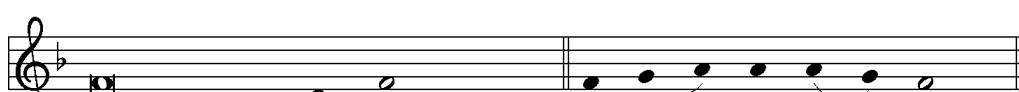
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



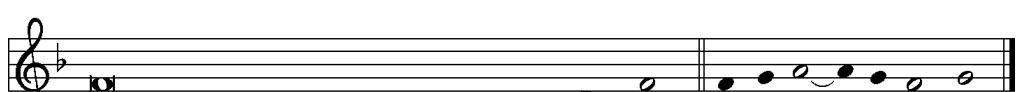
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.



Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,



we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.



Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;



you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.



For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,



you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,



in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Birthing God, **You gave us new life when we were born of water and Spirit. Help us live into that new life, refreshed and renewed for your work. Amen.**

PSALM 139:13-18

P: For it was you who formed my inward parts;

C: you knit me together in my mother's womb.

P: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

C: Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

P: My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

C: Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.

P: In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,

C: when none of them as yet existed.

P: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!

C: How vast is the sum of them!

P: I try to count them-- they are more than the sand;

C: I come to the end-- I am still with you.

GOSPEL READING: John 3:1-21

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2 He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." 3 Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." 4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6 What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' 8 The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." 9 Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" 10 Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 11 "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

17 "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18 Those who believe in

him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. 19 And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. 20 For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. 21 But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

L: Word of God, word of life,

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN

GOD LOVED THE WORLD

ELW 323

SERMON

HYMN

BORNING CRY

ELW 732

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**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 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 THE CONGREGATION

Each petition will end with the words: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Give us the courage to follow in the footsteps of Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying...

**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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share God's peace with one another.

GENEROSITY MOMENT

SENDING HYMN THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN EVERY AGE

ELW 729

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you:

C: Wherever he may send you;

P: May he guide you through the wilderness:

C: Protect you through the storm;

P: May he bring you home rejoicing:

C: At the wonders he has shown you;

P: May he bring you home rejoicing:

C: Once again into our doors. Amen.



Wendy Anderson, Jay
Mikaelsen, Scott
Sorenson, Lorrie
Samuelson, Lynda
Rosener Sack, Terri
Fredin, Terri Mandelkow,
Connor Michalicek
(Rosann Pearson's
grandson), Roger
Guttromson, Eileen
Anderson

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

Parish Pulse:
January 18th
Participating in Worship: 49
+ **20** Live Streams

Total Offerings:
January 18th
\$395.00

Worship Assistants Today

Usher: Duane Hanson
Lector: Barry Skog
Hospitality: Audrey Rosener

Worship Assistants Next Week

February 1
Usher: Please sign up!
Lector: Katie Featherstone
Hospitality: Please Sign Up!
Communion Asst.: TBD

MUSIC FOR JANUARY 25, 2026

LORD JESUS CHRIST, BE PRESENT HERE

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Text: attr. Wilhelm II, 1598–1662; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878,
alt. Music: Cantionale Germanicum, Gochsheim, 1628

GOD LOVED THE WORLD

Text: Gesangbuch, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.
Music: Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.

BORNING CRY

Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN EVERY AGE

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Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: William Knapp, 1698–1768

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We the Vasa Congregation,

Called by God, commit to:

Worshipping together,

Growing in faith,

Serving others, and

Welcoming and Loving All!