

Baptism of Jesus Sunday ***January 11, 2026***



St Andrew's & Unity ***Lutheran Church***

San Mateo & South San Francisco, CA

9:00am

11:00am

www.standrews.org

www.unityssf.org

Portions of the Liturgy are from Sundays and Seasons.com & OneLicense - Copyright 2025
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #46371.

GATHERING

Prelude

Linda Underwood

Welcome

Pastor John Kuehner

Call to Worship

Unity Choir and/or Mission Bells

Reflection, Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice, you call us to life in community, but we often defer to our own interests at the expense of others. We sometimes bend truth where honesty is needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The former things have passed away, and God now declares a newness. Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the love and acceptance found with Christ, and forgives our shortfalls in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Remember and Rejoice

ELW 454

1 Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by floods of grace.
 2 In life, in death, we trust in God's most ho - ly name,
 3 We pledge our - selves a - new to flee the lures of hell,
 4 God, bless us by your grace; re - mind us of your care.
 5 Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by floods of grace.

We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.
 for - ev - er traced by wa - ter sign, and sealed by Spir - it flame.
 to cling to Christ's com - mu - ni - ty, in jus - tice, peace to dwell.
 Re - new - ing Spir - it, fill us now, in - spire our work, our prayer.
 We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.

Prayer of the Day

O God our Creator, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him Christ and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9

God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.

¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ² He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street; ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth, and the coastlands wait for his teaching. ⁵ Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶ I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸ I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. ⁹ See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Call and Response Reading: Psalm 29

¹ Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters. ⁴ **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.** ⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon; ⁶ **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.** ⁷ The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes. ⁸ **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.** ⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, “Glory!” ¹⁰ **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.** ¹¹ O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Judeans from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God’s inclusive forgiveness in Jesus’ name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter’s preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel Verse

P: The Gospel according to St. Matthew C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel – Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord
Sermon

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**
Pastor John Kuehner

Hymn of the Day *Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized* ELW 304



1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spir - it on you
2 God called you, "My be - lov - ed Son"; you are God's ser - vant
3 Straight-way and stead-fast un - til death you then o - beyed the
4 Bap - tize us with your Spir - it, Lord; your cross on us be



came, as peace - ful as a dove, and yet as
true, sent to pro - claim the reign of heav'n, God's
call to serve with free and will - ing heart, to
signed, that like - wise in God's ser - vice we may



ur - gent as a flame, as ur - gent as a flame.
ho - ly will to do, God's ho - ly will to do.
give your life for all, to give your life for all.
per - fect free - dom find, may per - fect free - dom find.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.

Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

Text © 1985 The Church Pension Fund, admin. Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the
power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right
hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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

Response to each petition

A: God in your mercy,

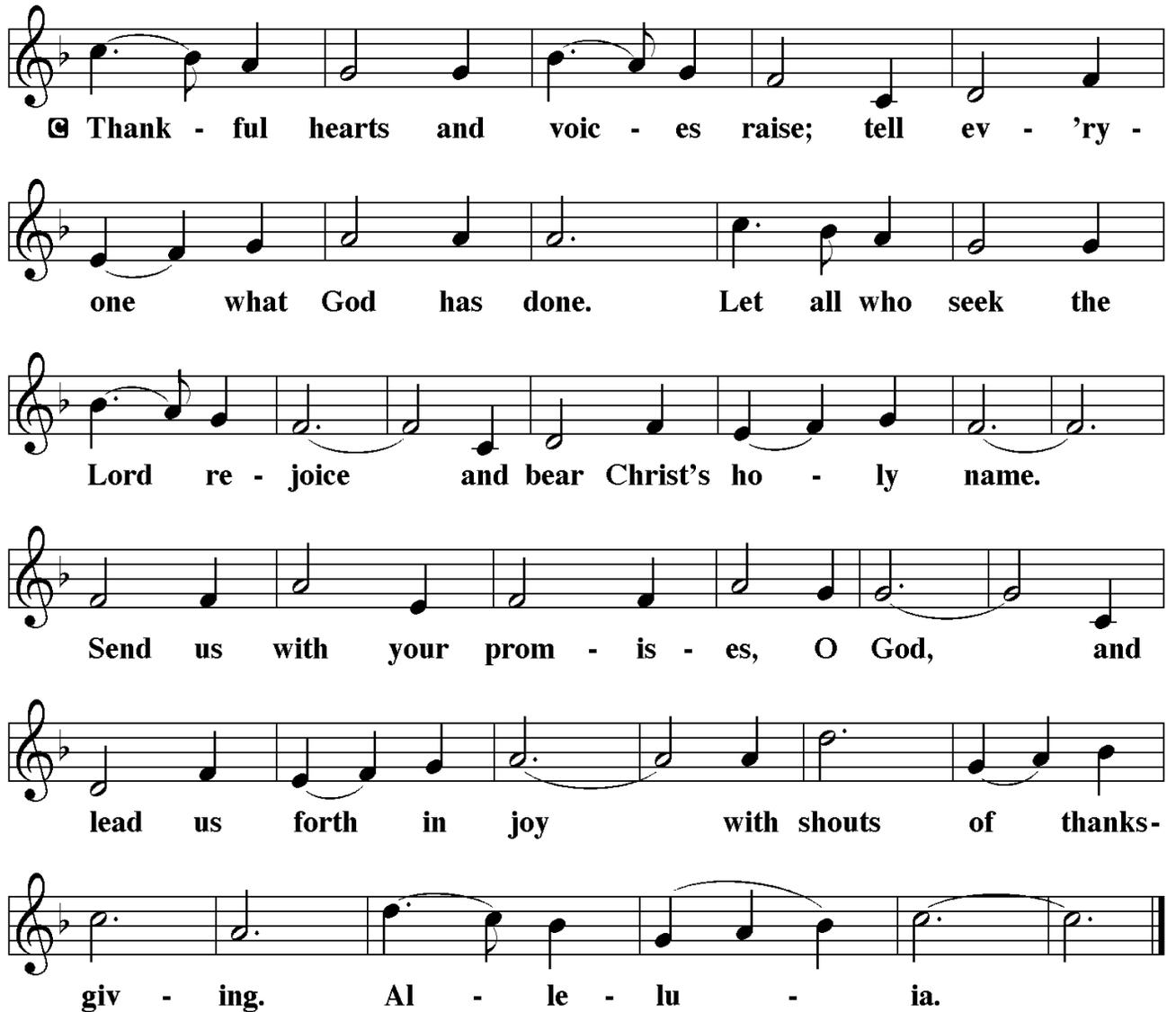
C: hear our prayer.

Offering Time and Reflection

*We believe that we are freed in Christ
to serve and love our neighbor.*

*How do we respond to God's call to serve and love our
neighbors? We faithfully steward the gifts God has so
abundantly given to us. It is about how we use all that God
has entrusted to our care — our time, our talents and our
treasures — to love God and our neighbors, both inside and
outside of the church walls and our homes.*

Offertory Response



☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

MEAL

Offertory Prayer

Holy Communion

P: God be with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: And also with you.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy

see screen



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

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.**

SENDING

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

P: May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth
and tuned your heart for praise
✠ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve* *ELW 551*

(Turn to final page)

Dismissal

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

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Linda Underwood

Sending Hymn

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

ELW 551

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains four lines of lyrics. The second system contains four lines of lyrics. The third system contains four lines of lyrics. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with clear phrasing and dynamics.

1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel

Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
joy like seed and, all our days, to
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -

to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

Text © 1993 Delores Dufner. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**Notice: Annual Congregational Meetings
after worship**

**Unity Lutheran
January 25**

**St. Andrew's Lutheran
February 1**