

The People of God Gathered to Worship As  
**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WEST SALEM**

**January 12, 2025**  
**Baptism Of The Lord**

**Closing Hymn**

*To God Be the Glory*  
**#485 Presbyterian Hymnal**

**Benediction**

**Song of Sending**

*Lord Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing*  
**v. 1 #538 Presbyterian Hymnal**

Pastor: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

**The Postlude**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Prayer Requests**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: People of God, we are Called Through the Water!

**People: The Waters of God have parted to show the way!**

Leader: People of God, we follow Christ through Death into Life!

**People: No Longer do we fear the grave, death has lost it's sting!**

Leader: So let us sing the Praises of our triumphant God!

**People: Let us Praise the LORD!**

**Opening Hymn**

*The First Nowell*  
**v. 1,3,6 #56 Presbyterian Hymnal**

**Prayers of the People 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.**

**Passing of the Peace**

Let us greet one another as forgiven sinners  
with the peace of Christ:

*"May the Peace of our LORD Jesus Christ be with you!*  
***And also, with you."***

## Hymn of Illumination

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God  
v. 1 #288 Presbyterian Hymnal*

## First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7 – See Insert

## A Moment with the Children – Getting Through The Water

## Second Scripture Reading

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22– See Insert

## Prayer Of Illumination

Sermon – The Baptism of the LORD    Pastor Dan McCurdy

## Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, we are a sinful people. We struggle to be who you call us to be, we constantly fall short of your expectations, and we find ourselves all too often becoming more who the world expects us to be. We have not done what we are called to do, and often we do the things we are called to avoid. We expect arrogance from those we follow, failing to see that even you knew when to walk the path of humility. LORD, we believe, help our unbelief, and hear us as we raise our silent prayers up to you.**

## Moment of Silent Confession

## Assurance of Pardon

## Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son  
And to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen, Amen.**

## Affirmation of Faith

*(The Apostles Creed)*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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.**

## Presentation of Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts

The Gifts of God are all around us, our lives and our homes, our talents and our joys, our family and friends, and the greatest gift of all was the Salvation promised, the life of Christ seeking to end our division from God and each other. When we give, we do not do so to purchase anything... for the gifts of God were already given. Instead, we give in imitation of our LORD, offering what we have to support others, and to be ourselves the gift that God gives the World, so let us worship God with our Giving.

## Offertory

## Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## Prayer of Dedication

**Gracious God, our gifts are small next to all that you have given us. Take our gifts, LORD, and make them holy, so that they may help to feed the hungry, grow the church, and share your Light with a world lost in darkness. Amen.**

## **First Scripture Reading**

**Isaiah 43:1-7**

**<sup>1</sup>But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. <sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my sight and honored and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup>Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."**

## **Second Scripture Reading**

**Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22**

**<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John 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 strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>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." <sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>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."**

**Nursery Available – 4k and under only  
Not staffed**

**Coffee and Cookies  
Fellowship time in the Fellowship Hall  
9:30-10:00 am**

| January 12, 2025 Worship Team             |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>Liturgist</b>                          | Jane Foner                       |
| <b>Musicians</b>                          | Caroline Sells<br>Greg Meeuwesen |
| <b>Sound Room</b>                         | Lily Oldenburg                   |
| <b>Choir &amp; Handbells<br/>Director</b> | Vicki Arndt                      |
| <b>Usher</b>                              | Ron Seeger                       |

**Tithes and Offerings**

Donations can be mailed to:

**Presbyterian Church of West Salem  
PO Box 861  
West Salem, WI 54669**

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***Tabitha Circle***  
***Bring your crafts, sack lunch and join us!***  
***The first and third Monday of each month***  
***11:30-2:30 pm***

***Exercise Group***  
**Tuesdays and Fridays**  
**9:00 to 10:00 am**  
**Fellowship Hall**

***The ongoing mission of The Presbyterian Women is to support the Salvation Army and WINN (What I Need Now) by collecting needed items (lists are on tables and Lamplighter. All items can be placed in the purple tote at the back of the sanctuary. Money donations are accepted as well.***

***Handbell Rehearsals***  
***No rehearsals til February 6th***

***Choir Rehearsals***  
***None on January 16th***  
***Thursdays***  
***7:30 pm***

**Sunday School**  
**9 am**  
**Sunday Bible Study**  
**9-9:45 am**  
**Galilee Room**  
**Youth Group (Jr. High through High Schoolers)**  
**6-7 pm at Church**  
**Confirmation Classes**  
**9:15 am in Chapel**

**Community Dinner**  
**January 22nd**  
**5pm – 6pm**  
**Fellowship Hall**

**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**February 9th after Service**

**Blood Drive**  
**January 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**11:30am-4:30pm**