

# Baptism of Our Lord

January 11, 2026

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE LIVE AND WORSHIP ON THE UNCEDED TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE KWIKWETLEM FIRST NATION, WHICH LIES WITHIN THE SHARED TERRITORIES OF THE TSLEIL-WAUTUTH, KATZIE, MUSQUEAM, SQUAMISH AND STÓ:LŌ NATIONS. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE CARED FOR THIS LAND SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL AS WE SEEK TO JOURNEY TOWARDS A MEANINGFUL RECONCILIATION.

Liturgy: All Creation Sings Setting 12

## Gathering

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

### Welcome & Announcements & Land Acknowledgement

#### Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity,

☩ one God,  
the source of living water,  
the giver of new life,  
our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

P: We praise you, O God, for water—

for the Fraser River  
and the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam mountain reservoirs;  
for the rain that nourishes animals and plants,  
and the water we drink and bathe in.

We praise you, O God, for water.

C: **We praise you, O God, for water.**

P: We praise you, O God, for the water of the Bible—

Noah's flood that cleansed the earth,  
the Red Sea that opened up to free the Israelites,  
the Jordan River that healed Namaan's leprosy.

We praise you, O God, for water.

C: **We praise you, O God, for water.**

P: We remember the stories of Jesus and water—

how he was baptized in the Jordan River,  
how he calmed the Sea of Galilee,  
how he drank from Jacob's Well,  
how he healed the sick man at the pool of Beth-zatha,  
and how he washed the disciples' feet in an upper room  
the night before he died.

We praise you, O God, for water.

C: **We praise you, O God, for water.**

P: We praise you, O God, for this font,

for through this water  
we have been welcomed into the family of Christ,

washed clean and forgiven,  
and refreshed in the Spirit.  
We praise you, O God, for baptism.

**C: We praise you, O God, for baptism.**

**P:** O God, through the gift of water  
you sustain this earth.  
you save us from death.  
you grant us health and well-being.  
And so we praise you,  
today, tomorrow, forever.  
Amen, and amen.

**C: Amen, and amen.**

### **Gathering Hymn W&P 127 – Song over the Water**

*Refrain:* God, you have moved upon the waters,  
you have sung in the rush of wind and flame;  
and in your love you have called us sons and daughters:  
make us people of the water and your name.

- 1 Come fill our waiting hearts  
with the spirit of Jesus,  
let us shine with your light and peace. *Refrain*
- 2 Give us a thirst for love,  
give us a hunger for justice,  
make us one with the mind of Christ. *Refrain*
- 3 You are the breath of life,  
you are the hope of the hopeless,  
come and fill us with light and peace. *Refrain*
- 4 Come, open ev'ry heart,  
come now and wake us to wonder,  
make us vessels of light and peace. *Refrain*

*Leader*

- 1 Waters of the sea, waters of the earth:  
Renew us!  
Waters of the skies, waters of our birth:  
Renew us!
- 2 Rivers of the earth, gentle flowing streams:  
Renew us!  
Spirit of our hopes, spirit of our dreams:  
Renew us!
- 3 Waters of the clouds, waters of the wind:  
Renew us!  
Waters that will be, waters that have been:  
Renew us!
- 4 Mighty blowing storms, gentle falling rains:  
Renew us!

Water for the vine, water for the grain:  
Renew us!

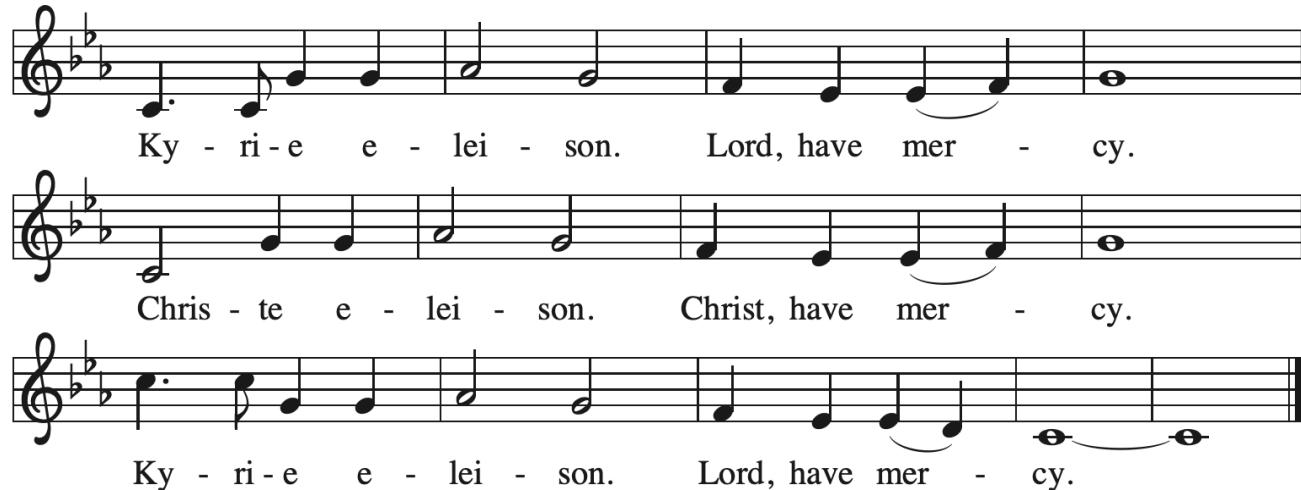
*Refrain:* God, you have moved upon the waters,  
you have sung in the rush of wind and flame;  
and in your love you have called us sons and daughters:  
make us people of the water and your name.

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## Greeting

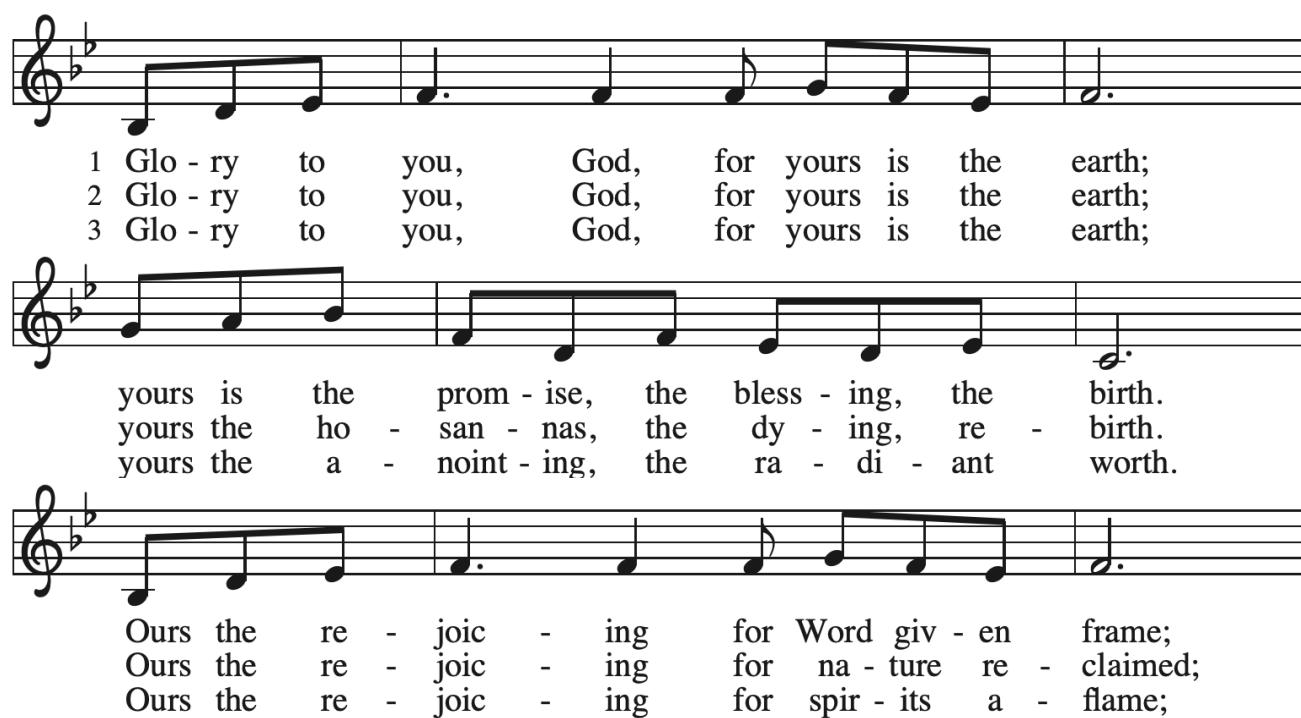
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the new life through the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
C: **And also with you.**

## Kyrie



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.  
Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.  
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

## Song of Praise



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.  
Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.  
 Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;  
 yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

## Prayer of the Day

### Word

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

### Children's Time

#### 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.*

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.  
 He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
 or make it heard in the street;  
 a bruised reed he will not break,  
 and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
 he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
 He will not grow faint or be crushed  
 until he has established justice in the earth;  
 and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

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:  
 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,  
 to open the eyes that are blind,  
 to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
 from the prison those who sit in darkness.

I am the Lord, that is my name;

my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.

See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 29

Refrain:



The voice of the LORD is up - on the wa - - ters.

L: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,  
    ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;  
    worship the Lord in holy splendour.

C: **Refrain**

L: The voice of the Lord is over the waters;  
    the God of glory thunders,  
    the Lord, over mighty waters.  
The voice of the Lord is powerful;  
    the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;  
    the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.  
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
    and Sirion like a young wild ox.

C: **Refrain**

L: The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.  
The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;  
    the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.  
The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl,  
    and strips the forest bare;  
    and in his temple all say, 'Glory!'

C: **Refrain**

L: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;  
    the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever.  
May the Lord give strength to his people!  
    May the Lord bless his people with peace!

C: **Refrain**

## Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43

*Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews 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.*

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 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. 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; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 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. 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. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

P: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Verse

P: The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

*Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.*

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

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day    Down By the Jordan

Down by the Jordan, a prophet named John was baptizing,  
Preaching a message the people found bold and surprising:

"God will forgive! Show that you'll change how you live!  
Surely God's new day is rising!"

There by the river, the crowd came with great expectation:  
"Are you God's Chosen One, sent here to rescue our nation?"  
"No!" John replied. "He who is mightier than I  
Judges and offers salvation."

Jesus, you went to be baptized along with the others,  
Taking your place among sinners, God's lost sons and daughters.  
Then with great love, God's Spirit came as a dove!  
Your work began in those waters.

Here in the Church, we are baptized and filled with God's Spirit.  
Freed and forgiven, we're welcomed with joy! Can you hear it?  
This is God's sign! This is how God says, "You're mine!"  
Let's take the good news and share it!

Tune: *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, Stralsund, 1665 ("Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty") Text: Copyright © 2000 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Included in *Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor* (Upper Room Books, 2009) and *Worship and Song* (Abingdon Press, 2011).

## Prayers of Intercession

*After each petition, the pastor will say "God of light and life" and the congregation will respond "hear our prayer."*

## Sharing of the Peace

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.  
C: And also with you.

*All are invited to share a sign of peace with those around them, as we recognize the image of God in each other.*

## Special Music – The Choir – *Shepherds, Go Tell!* by Natalie Sleeth

## Meal

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

## Offering and Offering Prayer

### The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.  
C: And also with you.  
P: Lift up your hearts.  
C: We lift them to the Lord.  
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.  
P: It is indeed right, our duty and joy...

*The pastor continues, concluding...*

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and  
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Thanksgiving at the Table

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

### Invitation to Communion

## Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Communion is distributed

**Directions for Communion:** Any adult or child who believes that Christ is present in this meal is welcome to participate. At the Pastor's direction, you are invited to advance to the communion rail through the centre aisle, commune and then exit back to your pews through the window aisles, depositing your used wine/juice vessel in the repository tray at the head of each window aisle. Please note that grape juice is offered in the three centre rings of the tray, and serving of the common cup of wine follows the serving tray. A common cup is also available if you prefer, and a gluten-free option is also available in lieu of bread. Just make your preferences known at the time of service. If you choose to remain in your pew to take communion, once all group communing at the rail has ended, please raise your hand to make yourself known and the pastor will come around with bread, followed by the communion assistants with individual glasses of wine and grape juice.

## Hymns Sung During Communion

### ELW # 456 – Baptized in Water

### At the Feast by Peter Schuler

Voice

D/F# E m      E m      C M7      D      E m

1. As we come to the table our souls are yearning  
2. As we kneel at the table we feel you near us  
3. As we rise from the table in your sal - va - tion

For a sav - iour, who  
As a - mong us, you  
Gift of Je - sus, who

D      C      B m      A m7      G      B 7/F#

seems so far.      In the an - ti - ci - pa - tion      of your re - turn - ing  
come to dwell.      In the bread and the wine and the Ho - ly Spi - rit  
shines as the day.      We will car - ry your light to eve - ry na - tion

Em D G G7 C

God of com - fort, — pre - pare our hearts. At the feast \_\_\_\_ in eve-ry  
 God is with us, — Em - man - u - el. At the feast \_\_\_\_ in eve-ry  
 God of glo - ry, — O guide our way. At the feast \_\_\_\_ in eve-ry

D Em7 D/F# G G7 C

sea - son \_\_\_\_ We come bro - ken, — we go re - stored. May we al - ways \_\_\_\_ live eve-ry  
 sea - son \_\_\_\_ We are fed by \_\_\_\_ your liv - ing word.  
 sea - son \_\_\_\_ Saved by grace \_\_\_\_ and not re - ward.

D A m7 C/D G

mo - ment \_\_\_\_ in com - mun - ion \_\_\_\_ with you, Lord.

**ELW # 454 – Remember and Rejoice**

**ACS # 957 – Take Me To The Water (Chant)**

1 Take me to the wa - ter, take me to the wa - ter,  
 2 I . . . love . . . Je - sus, I . . . love . . . Je - sus,  
 3 He's . . . my . . . Sav - ior, he's . . . my . . . Sav - ior,  
 4 Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah. Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah.

take me to the wa - ter to be bap - tized.  
 I . . . love . . . Je - sus, oh, yes, I do.  
 he's . . . my . . . Sav - ior, oh, yes, he is.  
 Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah to be bap - tized.

Text & Music: African American spiritual. Arr. © 992 Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted and streamed under OneLicense #A-710776.

**Communion Blessing & Prayer after Communion**

## **Farewell and Godspeed to Jason Wood**

### **Celebration and Affirmation of Baptism**

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: **Amen.**

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.  
Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,  
the powers of this world that rebel against God,  
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: **I renounce them.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: **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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: **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.**

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:  
to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

C: **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

C: **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence both now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

*Those watching online are invited to dip their fingers in the bowl of water they have prepared and make the sign of the cross on their forehead or the forehead of someone with whom they are worshiping, as those present are invited to come to the font. All are welcome to sing along with the Baptism Celebration Song.*

### **Baptism Celebration Song Waters of Life by Jason Wood**

#### **Verse:**

Wash me clean  
Make me new  
Come and make my life transformed and fresh in You  
Call me child  
Call me friend  
Pour on me this love that never ends

#### **1st Chorus:**

And I am forgiven  
I am blessed  
I am plunging in an ocean-depth of joy and rest  
Drown my senses  
Fill my cup  
I am safe, I am held, I am loved  
In the waters of life

#### **Verse:**

Wash me clean  
Make me new  
Come and make my life transformed and fresh in You  
Call me child  
Call me friend  
Pour on me this love that never ends

#### **2nd Chorus:**

'Cause I am forgiven  
I am blessed  
I am plunging in an ocean-depth of joy and rest  
Drown my senses  
Fill my cup  
I am safe, I am held, I am loved  
I am seen, I am sought, I am enough  
I am called, I am chosen, and the best is yet to come  
Won't You wash my sin, wash me in  
The waters of life

© Jason Wood 2025

## Sending

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

### Sending 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 ELW # 451 – We are Baptized in Christ Jesus

### Dismissal

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

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 11, 2026

**To open hyperlinks, right-click your mouse while on the link and select *Open Hyperlink* or *Control-Click***

**Flowers** have been placed on the altar in thanksgiving for own baptisms, by which we are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit and named God's beloved children. Help us always to reflect the grace shown to us by our baptisms, and to live out this good news in all we say and do.

**Movie Night Today!**: Our next Movie Night is today **Sunday, January 11 at 4pm**. We will be watching "Wake Up Dead Man", the brand -new film in the "Knives Out" murder mystery series. As always, we will meet at Peter Schuler's home to watch the movie, followed by a potluck dinner and discussion. All are welcome!

**Next Sunday – Missional Munch**: Next **Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>** we gather for a light lunch together after which we will take the opportunity to reflect further on our draft guiding principles document. Please plan on attending as you are able, as this document will be brought forward at our Annual Congregational Meeting which we hope to adopt at our upcoming February's AGM.

**Next Sunday – Being Lutheran Today**: Starting next **Sunday, January 18th**, GSL presents a 6-week adult education series "*Being Lutheran Today- An Adult Confirmation Refresher*". Sign up today, or contact the office to secure your spot! Dinner and child minding included.

**Blanket Exercise at Como Lake United**: Como Lake United Church will be hosting the *Blanket Exercise* on **Saturday morning, January 17 and Sunday afternoon, January 25**. They are holding open six spots for registrants from our congregation for each day. The Blanket Exercise is a powerful way of engaging in education around the history of Settler/Indigenous relations in Canada. Several of us have experienced it in different forums and have been affected deeply. Please see the poster that follows for further information. Sign up on the sign-up sheet to secure a spot on your preferred day. **Today is your last chance to sign-up.**

**CLAY is coming to Nanaimo!**: CLAY (national youth gathering) will take place in Nanaimo from August 19-22, 2027. 2027 will be taking place in Nanaimo, BC on August 19 – 22, 2027! This gathering takes a bunch of volunteers to make happen. Please consider how you might be able to help out. An info session will be hosted at our church on **Monday, January 19, 2026 at 7 pm**. See poster that follows for more details.

**Christian Unity Luncheon**: We are participating with All Saints RC, St. Laurance Anglican and Como Lake United Churches in hosting another Christian Unity Luncheon on **Saturday, January 24 from 11:30 am to 2 pm**. This is part of our celebration of the annual *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*. If you are able to contribute soup for the day, please sign up on the sheet on the Ushers Table. See all the details for the day on the following poster..

**2026 Donation Envelopes**: Boxes of Donation Envelopes for 2026 are now in your mail slots. If you didn't get a box but would like one, or if you received a box but no longer require one, please let the office know your preference and it will be done. Thank you!

**A Note from Your Outreach Team**: Your Outreach Team would like to thank everyone who contributed food items to the SHARE Food Bank. Your donations were delivered on Monday January 5. GSLC collected 124 pounds of food. Also, a thank you to those who contributed cash donations. Your support and kindness has helped to make a difference in the fight against hunger in our community. Together we can!

**BE THE CHANGE: Songs of Reflection and Empowerment**: THE SANCTUARY ON 6<sup>TH</sup> is hosting the Rainbow Chorus's (Anita McDonnell and Kris Mathiasen are members) concert on **January 26 at 7 pm** in New Westminster. Tickets purchases can be made online or at the door. See the poster that follows for all the details.

**Singing in the Lutheran Tradition: A LTS Course:** Our Saskatoon Seminary is hosting a Zoom Based Course exploring Lutheran Hymnody and its role in shaping faith. It will run **Mondays, 5:00–8:00 pm | Jan 5–Feb 13 & Mar 9–Apr 20**. This course is open to everyone. For more information and to register contact Colleen Walker, Registrar at [colleen.walker@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca](mailto:colleen.walker@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca)

#### **New Years Messages:**

- Message from the [Lutheran World Federation](#)

**2026 LWF Peace Messengers Training:** If you are an ELCIC member between the ages of 18 and 30 years, consider applying for the LWF Peace Messengers Training offered by Lutheran World Federation to empower and equip young people to act as peace multipliers and create more peaceful and just societies. For information click [here](#).

#### **'Every Square Foot Counts' – Educational Opportunities for Congregations:**

- The next session of the webinar series will be on **January 15, 2026** at 7:30 pm (ET). This session will feature *Charitus*, the ELCIC's investment and financial stewardship partner. Register for the January 15 workshop [using this link](#) (Previous registrants do not need to register again.)
- This month's blog post is "**Tell Your Story: Communication Strategies for Church Building**," which invites congregations to reflect on how their buildings are seen and understood by their neighbourhoods. Read post [here](#).

**ignYte Return it Express Account:** You're invited to support our ignYte Youth Ministry with your recyclables. See the instructions on the bulletin board.



**Downstairs Daycare: Green Apple Daycare** has spaces available for ages 3 – 5 years old. Please contact us at [greenappledaycare@hotmail.com](mailto:greenappledaycare@hotmail.com) or 604 –318 –3417 for information and to set up a tour. Or visit their [website](#).

#### **WIDER CHURCH NEWS:**

- **Invitation to join ELCIC Task Forces:** The ELCIC is seeking passionate, committed members from across Canada to join one of three task forces shaping our church's ongoing work in justice, inclusion, and faithful witness. For more information see the most recent congregational newsletter.
- **ELCIC Volunteer Opportunities:- Ecumenical Justice Committees:** The ELCIC is seeking representatives for two ecumenical committees: Project Ploughshares Management Board & The Commission on Justice and Peace of the Canadian Council of Churches. For more information, please contact Rev. Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop at [pgehrs@elcic.ca](mailto:pgehrs@elcic.ca).

#### **COMPASSIONATE JUSTICE & CREATION CARE:**

- **Justice Updates:** The following are updates on some significant issues of our time:
  - [16 Days: United in the Fight Against Digital violence](#)
  - [Anglicans and Lutherans Reaffirm Support for Refugees](#)
  - [A Decade of Strengthening Communities Through a Rights-Based Approach](#)

## Concern, Prayers for Venezuela

The ELCIC joins with [The Lutheran World Federation \(LWF\)](#) and stands in solidarity with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela and with the communities affected by the situation in the country that has been deteriorating for months. ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer offers the following prayer:

**God most mighty, God most merciful, you are our refuge and strength. We come before you with heavy hearts, lifting up the people of Venezuela following the U.S. military action on January 3. Bring calm where there is fear, clarity where there is confusion, and restraint where there is anger or despair. We pray for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela and its Bishop, Gerardo A Hands Colmenares. Let the church be a living sign of your grace and a place of refuge, truth, accompaniment, and hope for all who suffer. Where systems oppress and voices are silenced, raise up pathways of accountability, reconciliation and peace. Guide us all in the way of building peace built on justice, equality, and recognition of every human life as sacred. We entrust Venezuela, its people and your church into your loving hands, trusting not in our own strength but in your steadfast love made known in Jesus Christ, who is our peace, and whose name we pray. Amen.**

To read the statement published by LWF on January 3, please click on the button below:

[LWF Statement](#)

A gentle reminder that in consideration of those who have severe sensitivities and allergies, the church has been designated a fragrance-free zone. Your understanding and cooperation is greatly appreciated.

### This Week At Church (Note 1)

This Sunday ..... Bible Study at 9:30 am (Zoom or in-person)  
*Baptism of Our Lord* worship service with Holy Communion and Sunday School  
at 10:30 am (view it [here](#))  
Confirmation Class at 1 pm  
*Movie Night* at Peter Schuler's viewing *Wake Up Dead Man* at 4 pm

Tuesday ..... *Woodworking & Crafters Group* at 10 am  
GSW Circle Meeting at 1 pm

Wednesday ..... *Lectio Divina Prayer Gathering* over Zoom at 1:30 pm

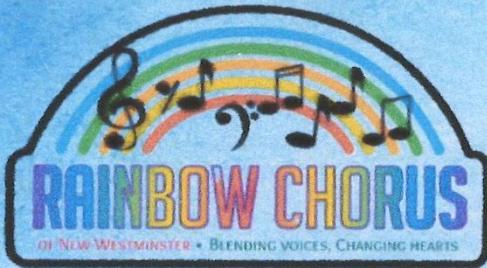
Thursday ..... Choir Practice at 7 pm

Next Sunday ..... Bible Study at 9:30 am (Zoom or in-person)  
*Second Sunday of Epiphany* worship service with Holy Communion at 10:30 am  
(view it [here](#)) immediately followed by  
*Missional Munch* reviewing updated Guiding Principles  
*Being Lutheran Today* – An Adult Refresher Course at 5 pm

**Note:** Most events are in-person events except those noted “on Zoom” or “Online”. The links to these online events are accessible through our website [here](#). Our Sunday morning worship service is offered in-person, live-streamed and via on-line recording posted to our website shortly after the service is over, unless otherwise noted.

### Last Week at Church

<u>Financial Information for:</u>	<u>January 4<sup>th</sup></u>	
Total Offerings:	\$	2,600.00
General	\$	2,375.00
<u>Designated Gifts:</u>		
- Offering Envelopes	\$	150.00
- Memorial Fund	\$	55.00
- Special Initiatives Fund	\$	20.00



**PRESENTS**

# BE THE CHANGE: *Songs of Reflection and Empowerment*

**PIANIST:**  
**JAMES DEKKER**

**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR:**  
**FRANK ZIEGINSON**

**MC:**  
**WAN-TING MOI**



**SANCTUARY ON 6<sup>TH</sup>**  
*beheld. belong. believe.*

**JAN 25  
2026**

**CORNER OF QUEENS AVE & 6 ST  
NEW WESTMINSTER**

**7:00 PM [DOORS OPEN 6:30]**



**Tickets available**

**Adults: \$25 online (\$30 at Door)**

**Senior/Student \$20 online (\$25 at Door)**

**VIP \$55 (VIP Patron Event Entry: 6pm)**

[www.rainbowchorusnewwestminster.com](http://www.rainbowchorusnewwestminster.com)

# CLAY 2027

## Youth gathering

### Info sessions

Come and learn how you might get involved in the planning for CLAY 2027, in Nanaimo, BC!

**Three different info sessions available:**

**Monday, January 19, 2026**

**7 pm PST**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
1504 Sprice Ave.  
Coquitlam, BC**

**Wednesday, January 21, 2026**

**7 pm PST**

**St. Paul's Anglican Church  
29 Church Street  
Nanaimo, BC**

**Sunday, January 25, 2026**

**4 pm PST**

**Lutheran Church of the Cross  
3787 Cedar Hill Rd  
Victoria, BC**

**for more information please contact**

**Deacon Gretchen Peterson  
at [gpeterson@elcic.ca](mailto:gpeterson@elcic.ca)**

# Blanket Exercise Workshop

**Cecelia Reekie** is a proud member of the Haisla First Nation. She believes deeply in the power of personal storytelling to raise awareness and foster understanding of Indigenous cultures and the history of Indigenous Peoples in Canada. Speaking from the heart, Cecelia thoughtfully weaves together her diverse life experiences to create meaningful and engaging cultural workshops. She currently serves as a Cultural Presenter with the Langley School District, where she shares her knowledge and perspectives with students, educators, and the wider community.

Join us for this special Blanket Exercise Workshop with facilitator, Cecelia Reekie.

*There are currently two dates available, and seating is limited.*

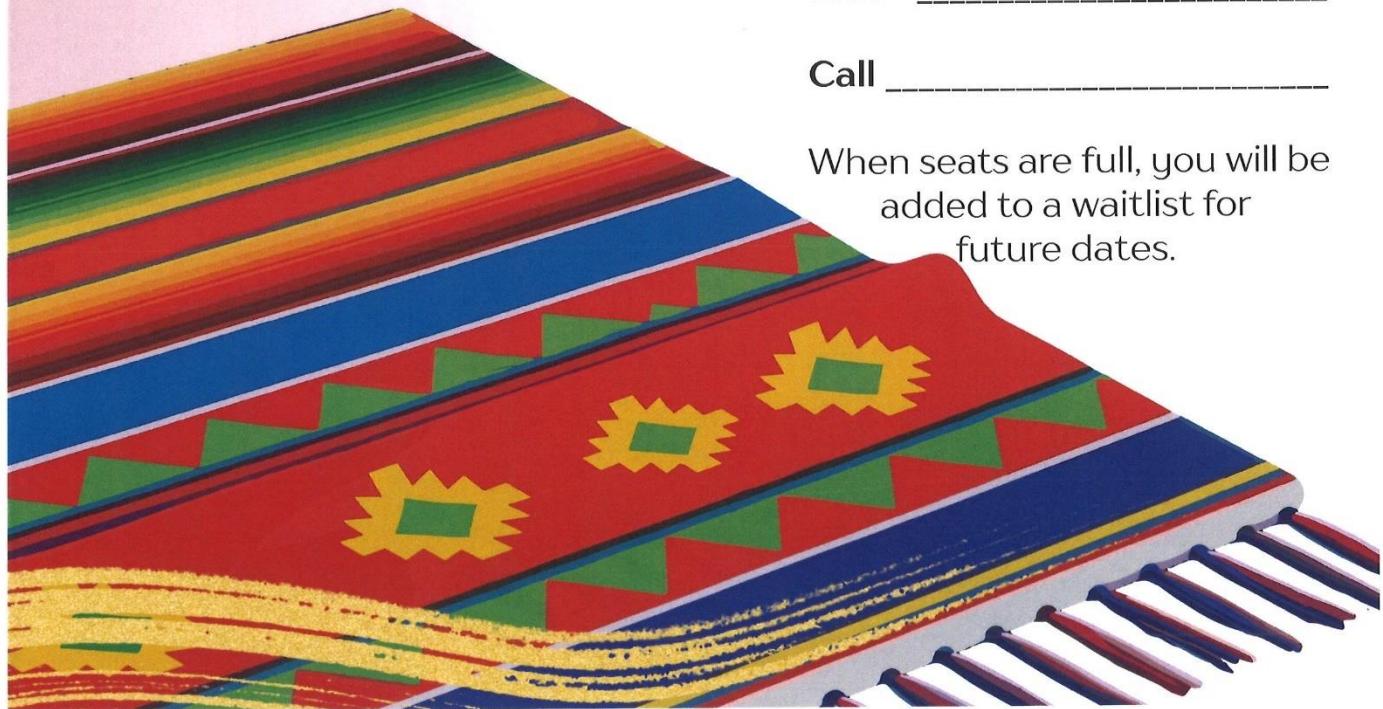
**Como Lake United Church**  
535 Marmont Street, Coquitlam

**January 17, 2026 at 10 am**  
**January 25, 2026 at 1 pm**

To RSVP contact:  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Call \_\_\_\_\_

When seats are full, you will be added to a waitlist for future dates.



# “Be The Light”



## CHRISTIAN UNITY LUNCHEON

Come and enjoy a short contemplative ecumenical service followed by lunch, friendship, and table sharing

JAN 24, 11:30 AM  
2026 TO 2 PM

St. Laurence Anglican Church  
825 St. Laurence Street,  
Coquitlam

# Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

We welcome you to worship today. It is our prayer that you sense the joy that is present in Jesus Christ. God loves and values each of you without conditions attached. We bring our joys and needs before God, trusting in God's presence.

1504 Sprice Avenue, Coquitlam, BC, V3J 2P6

Phone: 604-936-2939

goodshepherd@telus.net    www.gslcc.ca

Find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube  
@GSLCoquitlam

Pastor Eric Krushel Cell: 604-220-5450  
Office: 604-936-2939

General Office Hours				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00

We always recommend phoning before stopping by.



Good Shepherd  
Website



 **DONATE  
NOW**