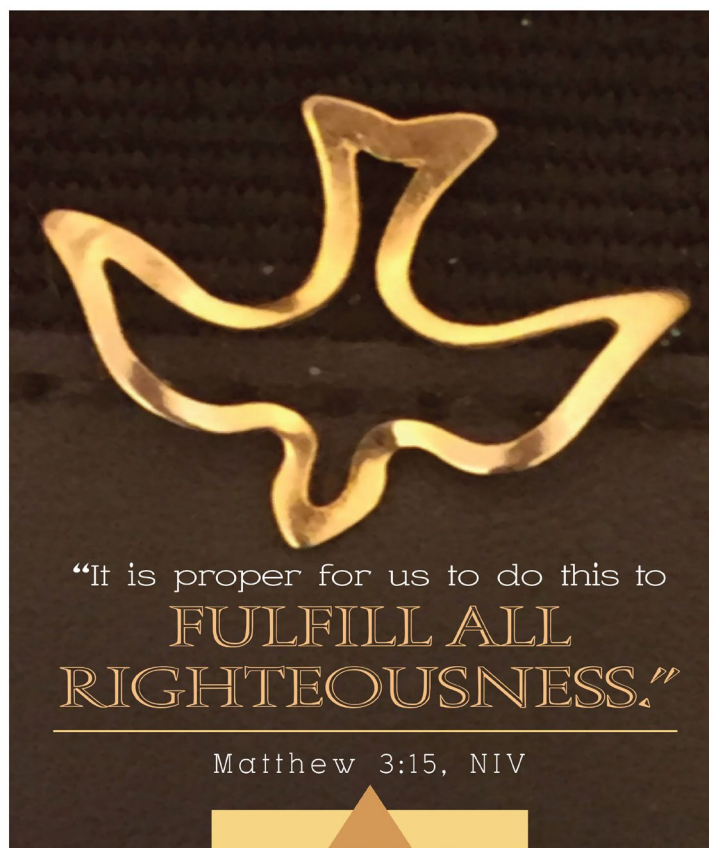


***St. John Lutheran Church & School***  
***Berlin, Wisconsin***  
***The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod***



***The Fifth Sunday in Lent***  
***April 6, 2025***

**Serving Us Today:**  
**Pastor Rob Schrader**  
**Organist: Amamda Tetzlaff**  
**920-361-9935**  
**[www.stjohnberlin.org](http://www.stjohnberlin.org)**

***Large Print Bulletin***

**As We Gather...** There is a hymn that refers to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, calling it an "old, old story" ("I Love to Tell the Story" by Arabella Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911). The fact that God's plan of salvation began thousands of years ago, and that the Bible is the record of events in ancient history, does not mean that old equals irrelevant. Today, God says through His prophet Isaiah, "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old" (Isaiah 43:18). But before you throw away your old Bible, your old catechism, or your old hymnal, listen up! "Behold, I am doing a new thing; . . . do you not perceive it?" (v. 19). In the pattern of the exodus of old and the deliverance from the Babylonian captivity of old, and as "the old rugged cross" of Christ made His resurrection from the dead possible, the "new thing" of God's doing today is all about freeing you from the slavery of sin, death, boredom, worry, and fear; re-creating you "that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness" (explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed, Small Catechism); renewing your life today by the forgiveness of your sins and in the sure and certain hope of new bodies for old in the new creation that awaits, as that old hymn concludes,

And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,  
'Twill be the old, old story That I have loved so long.  
I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory  
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and His love.

**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP HELPS...** Please know we have two children's worship bulletins available for young non-readers and older children. Both bulletins have activities that go along with the

weekly theme. We also have activity bags for children hanging on the rear wall of the church for use throughout the worship service. If needed we have a cry room/nursery (with changing table) behind the organ in the southwest corner of the church.

## **Confession and Absolution**

### **702 My Faith Looks Up to Thee**

**1 My faith looks up to Thee,  
Thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine.**

**Now hear me while I pray;  
Take all my guilt away;  
O let me from this day  
Be wholly Thine!**

**2 May Thy rich grace impart  
Strength to my fainting heart;  
My zeal inspire!  
As Thou hast died for me,  
Oh, may my love to Thee  
Pure, warm, and changeless be,  
A living fire!**

**3 While life's dark maze I tread  
And griefs around me spread,  
Be Thou my guide;  
Bid darkness turn to day,**

**Wipe sorrow's tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray  
From Thee aside.**

**4 When ends life's transient dream,  
When death's cold, sullen stream  
Shall o'er me roll,  
Blest Savior, then, in love,  
Fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above,  
A ransomed soul!**

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–87 Text: Public domain

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their  
Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is  
not in us.

**C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will  
forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## **Service of the Word**

### **Introit**

*Psalm 3:3–6; antiphon: v. 8*

Salvation belongs to the LORD;  
your blessing be on your people!

**But you, O LORD, are a shield about me,  
my glory, and the lifter of my head.**

I cried aloud to the LORD,  
and he answered me from his holy hill.

**I lay down and slept;**

**I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.**

I will not be afraid of many thousands of people  
who have set themselves against me all around.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Salvation belongs to the LORD; your blessing be on your people!

**Kyrie**

**LSB 152**

**Lord have mercy upon us,  
Christ have mercy upon us.  
Lord have mercy upon us.**

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**CAmen.**

**New Member Welcome**

***after new members profess their faith...***

P: Hearing your profession of faith, I, as a representative of St. John Lutheran Church, install you as members of our congregation in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**C: We pledge to love you as our Christian brothers and sisters, support you in body and spirit, and share the Gospel with you. We thank God for bringing you to join our church! Welcome to our congregation and praise the Lord!**

### **Old Testament Reading**

*Leviticus 1:3–9*

<sup>3</sup>"If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer a male without blemish. He shall bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the LORD. <sup>4</sup>He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him. <sup>5</sup>Then he shall kill the bull before the LORD, and Aaron's sons the priests shall bring the blood and throw the blood against the sides of the altar that is at the entrance of the tent of meeting. <sup>6</sup>Then he shall flay the burnt offering and cut it into pieces, <sup>7</sup>and the sons of Aaron the priest shall put fire on the altar and arrange wood on the fire. <sup>8</sup>And Aaron's sons the priests shall arrange the pieces, the head, and the fat, on the wood that is on the fire on the altar; <sup>9</sup>but its entrails and its legs he shall wash with water. And the priest shall burn all of it on the altar, as a burnt offering, a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the LORD.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **Epistle**

*2 Corinthians 5:14–17*

<sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; <sup>15</sup>and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## **Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 3:13–17*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup>and behold,



a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Children's Sermon**

### **738 Lord of All Hopefulness**

- 1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**
- 2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**
- 3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, Your arms to embrace:  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**
- 4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–53 Text: © Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005513

## **Sermon      “Fulfilling All Righteousness”**

*Stand*

### **Nicene Creed**

**C I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation  
came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures**

**and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory  
to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.**

**Prayer of the Church**

**Offering**

*Stand*

**Service of the Sacrament**

**Preface *LSB 160***

**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 Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

## **Sanctus    LSB 161**

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **The Words of Our Lord**

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### **Lord's Prayer**

**C 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.**

**Pax Domini**

***LSB 163***

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

**Agnus Dei    *LSB 163***

**C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace.**

### **Distribution Hymns**

#### **427 In the Cross of Christ I Glory**

**1 In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.**

**All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.**

**2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me;  
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.**

**3 When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way,  
From the cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.**

**4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure  
By the cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure,  
Joys that through all time abide.**

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872 Text: Public domain

## **730 What Is the World to Me**

**1 What is the world to me  
With all its vaunted pleasure  
When You, and You alone,  
Lord Jesus, are my treasure!  
You only, dearest Lord,  
My soul's delight shall be;  
You are my peace, my rest.  
What is the world to me!**

**2 The world seeks to be praised  
And honored by the mighty  
Yet never once reflects  
That they are frail and flighty.  
But what I truly prize  
Above all things is He,  
My Jesus, He alone.  
What is the world to me!**

**3 The world seeks after wealth  
And all that mammon offers  
Yet never is content  
Though gold should fill its coffers.  
I have a higher good,  
Content with it I'll be:  
My Jesus is my wealth.  
What is the world to me!**

**4 What is the world to me!  
My Jesus is my treasure,  
My life, my health, my wealth,  
My friend, my love, my pleasure,  
My joy, my crown, my all,  
My bliss eternally.  
Once more, then, I declare:  
What is the world to me!**

Text: Georg Michael Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732; tr. August Crull, 1845–  
1923, alt. Text: Public domain



## **Post-Communion Collect**

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **Benediction    LSB 166**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**C Amen.**

## **425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**

**1 When I survey the wondrous cross**

**On which the Prince of Glory died,**

**My richest gain I count but loss**

**And pour contempt on all my pride.**

**2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast**

**Save in the death of Christ, my God;**

**All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.**

**3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all!**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Text: Public domain

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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**Attendance Last Week: 252**

**General giving last week: \$6719.35**

**Budget giving needed: \$7500.00**

### **Calendar of Activities this week at St. John**

8 Tuesday      Board of Education      6:00 pm

8 Tuesday      Board of Elders      6:30 pm

**9 Wednesday Lent Service      6:30 pm**

**13 Sunday      Palm Sunday Worship Service/HC      9:00 am**

13 Sunday      Sunday School      10:15 am

13 Sunday      Adult Bible Class      10:15 am

**DOOR COLLECTION FOR HUMAN CARE:** Today a free will collection will be taken at the door. All funds collected will be used by the St. John Human Care Committee to assist in the various ministries they are involved in.

**ASLEEP IN JESUS:** It has pleased Almighty God to call from this veil of tears to Himself the soul of His servant Doria Disterhaft.. Doria entered eternal life with her Lord and Savior on Tuesday, March 18th and received Christian burial from St. John on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.

**THE ST. JOHN LWML** is hosting the Zone 12 **Spring Rally on April 26<sup>th</sup>** we would love for you to join us for this event starting at 11:00am. We will also need some help with food and setup/cleanup. Please see the LWML article in the April newsletter for more information. The signup sheet is in the back of church.

**EASTER EGG HUNT:** There will be the traditional Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at the School.

**THE LENTEN SUPPER ON WEDNESDAY APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>** will be served by the Church Council. This week it's TACO NIGHT! Serving starts at 5:15 pm and goes until 6:15. Please join us for our Weekday Lenten service after supper at 6:30 pm.

**RADIO CHURCH CHANGE:** Due to some programing alterations at the station, our time slot on 93.1 The Wave has been moved to 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings and will contain an abbreviated form of our service. Please pass this information along to anyone you know who might like to listen to our church service.

**DONATIONS NEEDED FOR CONFIRMATION CAMPING TRIP:**

Pastor Rob is taking the Confirmation students camping April 25-27. We need your help to give our students a fun trip that will also be beneficial for their faith. On the back table is a sign-up sheet for donations we'll be needing; if you're able, please stop in the back and sign-up to bring something. You can drop off your donation at the church any time before the 25<sup>th</sup> (the office is open from 9:00-12:00 Mon-Thurs and pastor may be there at other times depending on his schedule). Cold donations can be placed in the refrigerator in the church basement.

**OLD BLUE AND RED HYMNALS (TLH):** We have quite a few old blue and red THL hymnals in the basement. If you would like to have one (or more!) please see Trustee Keith Krause or ask Cathy in the Office to help you find one.

**FREE FUNERAL PRE-PLANNING PRESENTATION:** Barbola and Barbola-Hempel Funeral Chapels will be hosting a free pre-planning presentation on *Wed., May 7*. There will be presentations in 3 different locations for convenience.

10 a.m. Barbola-Hempel Funeral Chapel (Poy Sippi)

2 p.m. Redgranite Lions Hall

6 p.m. Barbola Funeral Chapel (Berlin)

Pick a time and RSVP by phone to 920-361-2755 or email [barbolafc@yahoo.com](mailto:barbolafc@yahoo.com). Refreshments will be served.

**SCRIP NEWS:** Scrip has added another Berlin business, Bays Beards & Cuts. The gift cards are \$25 and have a 20% rebate.

We are looking for volunteers to assist in selling Scrip after Sunday services. Please contact Julie Snow 920-745-0977 or the school office if you can help.

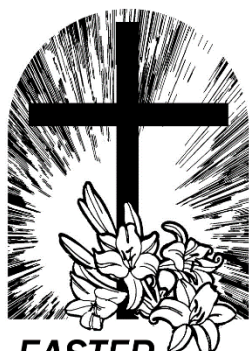
**LIGHTBULBS TO GIVE AWAY:** We have LOTS of USED 200 watt incandescent light bulbs looking for a home. They came out of the Sanctuary when we put in the new LED bulbs. If you are interested in having some, talk to any Trustee.

**GET MORE OUT OF THE SERMON:**

On the wood box underneath the "Hearing Loop" sign in the Narthex are a stack of sheets used by our confirmation students to take notes on the sermon. The sheets ask three basic questions that will help you focus on what the sermon is about, learn more, and grow in your faith. Please give it a shot to get more out of each sermon!

**CHURCH SERVICE AVAILABLE ANYTIME ON OUR WEBSITE:** New weekly service will be available starting Friday afternoon. GO TO: [www.stjohnberlin.org](http://www.stjohnberlin.org).

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**EASTER  
LILLIES**

St. John Altar Guild would like to carry on the tradition of banking the Altar and the cross with masses of Easter Lilies or Spring plants to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

If you would like to share your Easter flower, in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. **Deadline for signing up and having your dedication in the Easter morning bulletin is Palm Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.** Anyone signing up after that will have their dedication appear in the bulletin the week following Easter, when we will reprint all of the flower memorials.

**You may bring your plant to the church on Saturday, April 19, between 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM.** You may take your flower(s) home following the service on Easter morning. **Please LABEL your flower with your name so you can identify it to take home!**

If it would be more convenient for you to bring your flower at another time, please feel free to set it in the Altar Guild workroom. You should check with Cathy in the office (920-361-9935) or a committee member to make sure the church will be open when

you want to bring it. Also, a reminder, the church is always open at least thirty minutes before a service begins.

Altar committee ladies for the month of April are Robin Henriksen (920-361-2863), Deb Wissell (920-361-0791) and Joyce Parsons (920-369-6828.) If you have any questions or concerns please contact one of these ladies. Thank you for your help in beautifying the church at this special time.

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**Sermon Notes – 4-6-25 – Fulfilling All Righteousness**

-Why did Jesus have to get baptized?

-“John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” (Matthew 3:14)

-“Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all \_\_\_\_\_.” (Matthew 3:15)

-Jesus’ baptism is not for his own individual righteousness; instead, his baptism is for a corporate, a universal, an all-encompassing righteousness.

-What does this mean for us?

-We’re among those who needed to go to be “baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing our sins.”

-That’s a big problem! John said: “Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the \_\_\_\_\_.” (Matthew 3:10)

-But Jesus was baptized “to fulfill ALL righteousness.”

-On our own, we are continually unrighteous. But through Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_, we’re made continually righteous!

-How does this work?

-Jesus took our place – the place of \_\_\_\_\_ – and received from John the baptism that sinners receive.

-“I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!” (Luke 12:50)

-He was \_\_\_\_\_ with us, he was standing where we stood, and, in a cosmic sort of way, he was receiving what we deserve to receive – the baptism of the cross, the baptism of fire.



-“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his \_\_\_\_\_?” (Romans 6:3)  
-Jesus’ baptism makes our baptisms work. If he had not been baptized for judgement, we could never have been baptized for righteousness. If he had not been baptized for death, we could never have been baptized for life.

-When he was baptized, Jesus entered into the most polluted, horrific, disgusting water.

-We should sit here in \_\_\_\_\_ today that Jesus was baptized.

-We should sit here in thankfulness today.

### **Holy Week Worship Schedule**

#### **Maundy Thursday service/Communion**

**Thursday, April 17 6:30 pm**

#### **Good Friday Services on Friday, April 18**

**Afternoon Service 1:00 pm**

**Evening Service 6:30 pm**

#### **Easter Sunday April 20**

**Sunrise Service with Communion 6:30 am**

**Easter Breakfast between services  
in lower level**

**Morning Service with Communion 9:00 am**