

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions, Jan. 10-15, '22

Mon 1 Kings 10:1-9 *Concerning the name of the LORD* is religion, not politics or commerce; the Queen connected the dots from Solomon's wealth to the LORD's favor (9). From distant Arabia she had come to see for herself where Solomon stood with God—and when Solomon answered her religious questions, she caught the drift and praised the LORD—an epiphany for her.

Tues Matthew 2:1-12 Astronomers from Iraq arrived at Herod's palace with a religious question he couldn't answer—simply because he was out of sync with God and aggressively hostile to God's plan for saving humans from hell and Satan. God easily outmaneuvered him and granted audience to gentiles who had traveled far to find and worship Jesus. God is gracious.

Wed Acts 13:46-49 God had placed Hebrews at the head of the line, but when they turned up their noses at the Bread which God put on their plates, they were sent away empty (Mary understood this: Luke 1:53). So when God shifted gentiles to the head of the line (46), *they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord*—that He loved and wanted to adopt them (48).

Thurs 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Saul had gone sour (ch. 15), so God picked a young man who qualified by being born in Bethlehem and by serving as a humble shepherd. But the factor that positively, decisively qualified David was the Father's gift of His Holy Spirit (13). [An auxiliary thought: since Jesus shared David's DNA, perhaps He too was "ruddy, with bright eyes, and good looking." Above all, Jesus was certainly gifted with the Holy Spirit.] Thanks be to God!

Fri Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 John didn't let folks mistake him for God's Anointed, for Jesus surpassed him in power and divine responsibilities (15-17). God settled it once and for all in a ceremony that will never be matched—*for the heavens opened, the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form* on Jesus, and the Father spoke clearly and decisively that Jesus was the Anointed One He had promised to Jews . . . and to Gentiles too (21-23). Amen!

Sat Titus 3:4-7 sounds like a symphonic arrangement of John 3:16 - - that God loved humans enough to accomplish what sinners could not accomplish. Way back in Eden God was faced with the fact that His children had become sinful - - and lest He dump His standards into the trash, He determined that somewhere, sometime, someone would have to live straight and even die to get sinners straight with His standards. Thus at great personal sacrifice God sent His own Son to fix what sinners had broken, which Jesus did with His holy life and innocent sufferings and death. God's Son set our record straight, His Spirit regenerated us, and the Father adopted us as His dear children. Praise God!

January 9, 2022

Baptism of Our Lord

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Paul Seger

Acolyte: Seth Bernthal

**WE WERE BURIED WITH HIM THROUGH
BAPTISM**



1449 34th St. NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881
winterhavenlutheran.org

Sam Rodebaugh, Pastor (414) 534-7279
Neil Bernthal, Teacher (863) 967-5145
Katie Naumann, Teacher (253) 230-4184

PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 29

¹ Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. ² Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness. ³ The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters. ⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. ⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. ⁶ He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. ⁷ The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. ⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. ⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, "Glory!" ¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. ¹¹ May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

OPENING PRAYER

P Pastor

C Congregation

HYMN: TLH #129 "Hail, Thou Source of Every Blessing"

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **A - - - men.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the**

PRAYERS & the BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C **♪ Amen, amen, a – men.**

HYMN: TLH #301

"He that Believes and is Baptized"

✠ Announcements ✠

Call Issued - At a Special Voters' Meeting last Sunday, the voters of Immanuel issued a pastoral call to

✠ **Jan. 9:** Orlando Service 8a
✠ **Jan. 16:** Council & Trustees
✠ **Feb. 6:** Annual Voters' Mtg.

Pastor Luke Bernthal of St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Mt. View, CA. He sent this response: "Dear Members of Immanuel, I have received the call to serve as pastor of your congregation and have begun the process of prayerfully and carefully considering it. Please keep me in your prayers and ask the Lord to give me clarity as I seek with His help to determine where He would have me serve best in His kingdom at this time. My prayers are with you as well during this time of transition for your congregation. In Christ, the Lord of the Church, Pastor Luke Bernthal"

The voters also issued a temporary vacancy pastoral call to Pastor Emeritus Vance Fossum of Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC. The call is to serve on a two weekend per month basis until a full-time Pastor accepts the call to Immanuel. He has since **accepted** this call. His first two Sundays at Immanuel are planned for January 30 and February 6.

Pastor Is Moving following the service next Sunday, January 16th. If any members of Immanuel would be able to assist loading the moving truck on Saturday, January 15th, your help would be greatly appreciated. If anyone is able/willing to assist, we can plan on a 10 am time. Thanks!!

Bible Class and Sunday School are currently on hiatus for Christmas/New Years. The current plan, with Pastor Rodebaugh leaving, is to extend that hiatus until a new full-time pastor arrives. In the interim, for the non-Orlando Sundays during Pastor Vance Fossum's vacancy service, he intends to conduct Bible Class. Stay tuned for more details.

Last Week: WH – 37

Offering = \$1,300.75

General = \$1,295.75 | ILC Scholarship = \$5

Cleaner (1/15): Ream | **Acolyte (1/16):** Grant Bernthal

SERMON – Romans 6:1-14 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹² Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. ¹³ Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Baptism Makes You Dead and Alive

- I. A baptized person is dead to the service of sin
- II. A baptized person is alive to the service of God

OFFERTORY

C *♩* Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

HYMN: TLH #298:1,2,4,6 “Baptized into Thy Name Most Holy”



– OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS –
Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:



OFFERING HYMN: TLH #441:1 “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

C *♩* We give Thee but Thine own, Whate’er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C *♩* A - - - men.

INTROIT *Ps. 2:7-12; Is. 42:1*

P Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

C I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

P Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

C You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

P Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

C Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling,

P for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.

GLORIA PATRI *Latin for “Glory be to the Father”*

C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

VERSE OF THE DAY *Mk. 1:11*

P Alleluia. You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia.

THE KYRIE

Latin for "O Lord"

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

TLH #237:1

C ♪ All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended. God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!

P Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ♪ A - - - men.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 43:1-7 But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ² 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. ³ 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. ⁴ Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. ⁵ Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the

east, and from the west I will gather you. ⁶ I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

GOSPEL READING – Luke 3:15-22 As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶ John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸ So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹ But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰ added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison. ²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."



CONFESSIO OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.