

PRAYERS for January 8, 2023 – The Baptism of the Lord

Worship Assistant: On this Sunday that we remember the Baptism of our Lord, let us praise the name of the Lord and pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Worship Assistant: Heavenly Father, You are in truth the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. We honor You and commit ourselves to Your guidance, Your power, and Your mercy. You are ours; we are Yours. You are our Father; we are Your children. How can we ever sufficiently thank You for bestowing on us the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ? We have nothing to offer You but our repentant hearts. Take us into Your keeping on this earth and receive us in heaven when our time has come.

Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: Eternal God, day after day and year after year, Your loving eyes are on Your people. You grant us strength and the ability to perform our daily tasks and to meet the challenges that rise up to test us. Though we are not deserving of Your loving care, we cannot live without it. Help us continue to strive to be like You and to show love and kindness in our relationships with others. Be with the givers and the receivers at the Real Life Center this week as Your work on this earth is revealed. Give discernment and encouragement to the pastors, missionaries, especially Dr. Buba and Christine, and spiritual caregivers around the world. Empower them to shepherd Your flock with care.

Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: Holy God, You revealed Your Son as He was baptized by John in the waters of the Jordan, and You anointed him with the power of the Holy Spirit. Sustain all Your baptized children with the joy of Your love, Your strength, and Your peace. Help each of us remember that we received an identity at our own baptism, and remind us every day of not only who we are, but of whose we are.

Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: God of Might and Glory, let Your voice speak into the depths of our hearts and into the hearts of all those who are struggling. Because of Your redeeming grace, we are so thankful that we can approach You and call on You in prayer. We know that You give strength to the weak, hope to the sick and injured, guidance to the lost, and peace to the dying. Enfold in Your arms today all those who are in need of Your strength and healing. We pray especially for friends and family members who are on our prayer list and all those whose names we speak out loud or say silently in our hearts.

(Wait at least 20 for names.) Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: Gracious Father, we ask You now and forever to give us strength and to bless Your people with peace. There is dissension and unrest in our country and in our world right now. We ask You to restore order where chaos surrounds us. Be with world leaders and encourage them to see that Your presence and Your peace make acts of war unnecessary. Give them wisdom and understanding so that everything they do is in accordance with Your will. Put Your hand on all who must take up arms in defense of liberty, safety, and peace. Bring them home and bring an end to the conflicts that cause the hatred and discord.

Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen