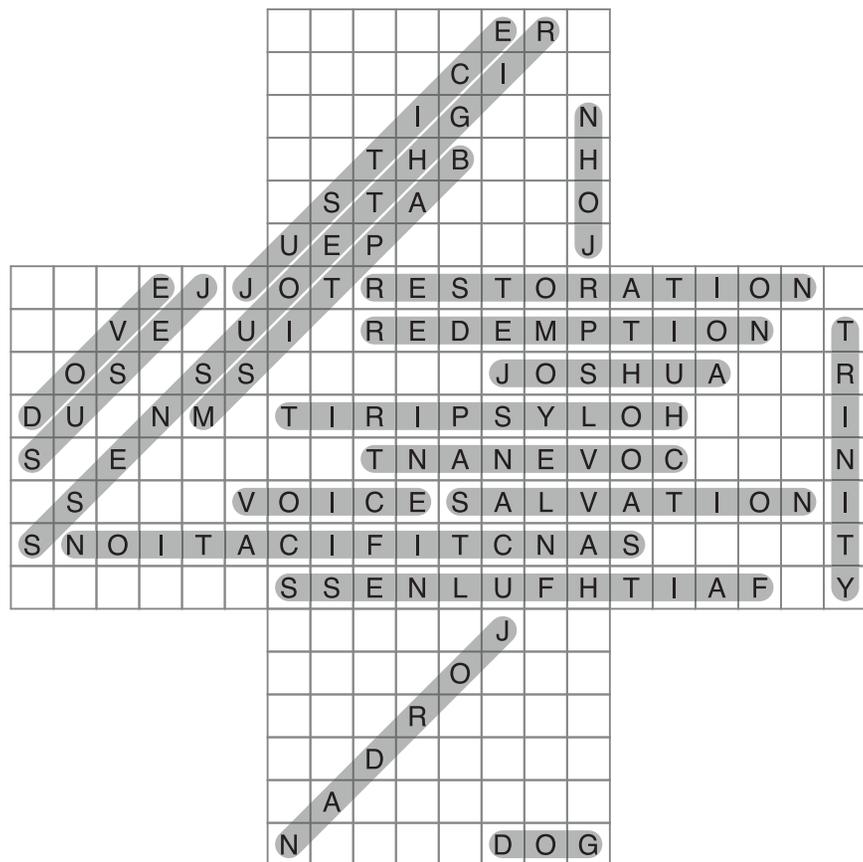


FRIDAY — ACTIVITY

Find the following words:

BAPTISM • COVENANT • DOVE • FAITHFULNESS • GOD
 HOLY SPIRIT • JESUS • JOHN • JORDAN • JOSHUA • JUSTICE
 REDEMPTIO • RESTORATION • RIGHTEOUSNESS • SALVATION
 SANCTIFICATION • TRINITY • VOICE



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Lambs at Pasture™

The Baptism of our Lord

INTROIT

Psalm 89:1, 26–28; antiphon: Liturgical Text; Psalm 89:20

Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in his hand.

I have found David, my servant;
with my holy oil I have anointed him.

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

He shall cry to me, "You are my Father,
my God, and the rock of my salvation."

And I will make him the firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.

My steadfast love I will keep for him forever,
and my covenant will stand firm for him.

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.

Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in his hand.

I have found David, my servant;
with my holy oil I have anointed him.

DAILY READINGS & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

An answer key is available for download at www.stluth.org/lap

MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 143:10

Alleluia. Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground! Alleluia.

HYMN OF THE WEEK: LSB #406 – To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord

CATECHISM CONNECTION:

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (pages 23–25)

COLLECT OF THE WEEK

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 Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

MONDAY — THE PSALM

Read Psalm 85

What is the psalmist asking for throughout this psalm? (verses 1, 4, and 6)

Restoration, that is, the forgiveness of sins.

What is God's steadfast love?

God's love is shown forth in His goodness, His loving-kindness, His mercy.

Jesus brings forgiveness and healing to you in order to shield you with His mercy and draw you near to Him on the Last Day. His sacrifice on Calvary's cross is the perfect offering for sin that you could never give.

Define folly. (verse 8)

Believing that there is no God and that man, or the imaginations of man (false gods), is the lord and master of all he can perceive or imagine.

TUESDAY — THE OLD TESTAMENT

Read Isaiah 42:1-7

Who is the "servant"? (verse 1)

Jesus Christ is the servant who was prophesied

What does God instruct His Servant to do? (verses 6-7)

Verse 6 — Be a light for the nations

Verse 7 — Open the eyes of the blind and bring out prisoners from the dungeon

Optional Reading & Discussion Question

Joshua 3:1-3, 7-8, 13-17

What does God promise Joshua? (verses 7-8)

God will exalt Joshua before Israel.

God allowed the people of Israel to cross the Jordan river on dry ground during a time when the waters are overflowed.

WEDNESDAY — THE GOSPEL

Read Matthew 3:13-17

What is the importance of Jesus being baptized?

Jesus is baptized so that poor sinners might be declared righteous and be saved.

Jesus stands in the river which separates the wilderness from the Promised Land and compels John to pour the dirty water over His head. He does not need this Baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, these waters of humility, but He submits to them for you. His Baptism is your Baptism. Nor do these waters sanctify Him, rather He sanctifies the water. For the water that falls off His back flows into all the fonts of Christendom, as a pure, holy, life-giving water, rich in grace (LC IV.3). Jesus makes baptism, Baptism.

What happened next? (verses 16-17)

The Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, finds a resting place on the shoulder of Jesus.

The heavens were opened, and God's voice is heard. It is full of friendliness and invitation. This voice declares that the One who is in the Jordan is not an apostle or a prophet or any man, but God's beloved Son.

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 96 (page 109)

THURSDAY — THE EPISTLE

Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

What does it mean to be "called"? (verse 26)

Vocation, your life responsibilities/duties

What does "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." mean? (verse 31)

Boasting in the Lord is telling others (confessing) about the Lord. You recognized that everything we have is a blessing (gift) from God and you are exclaiming what He has done for us, of what He is still doing, and of what He has promised to do. This boasting takes place in prayer, praise, and bold confession.

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 238 (page 203)

CATECHISM CONNECTION

What is the connection of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the Baptism of our Lord?

The Holy Trinity (the Son in the water, the Spirit as a dove coming down from heaven, and the voice of the Father from the opened up heaven) filled these waters with His abiding presence and purity. These waters that Christ our Lord was baptized in, they are the same waters in which you were baptized, by the word of Christ.