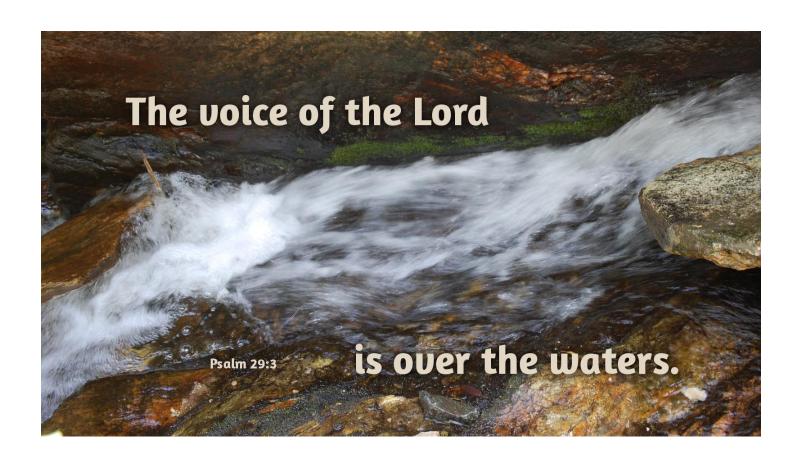
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Meyersville, Texas January 7, 2024

The Baptism of Our Lord



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A North American Lutheran Church 1764 Meyersville Road Meyersville, TX 77974-4143

CHURCH OFFICE: 361-277-8653

stjohnevlutheran@juno.com (Pr. John's Cell: 361-243-0373) iboor1@juno.com

Ministers - The People of St. John Pastor - The Rev. John Boor Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

The Baptism of Our Lord January 7, 2024

Greeters This Week: M'Liss Moore Greeters Next Week: Trish Hood Reader This Week: Dwight Jander Reader Next Week: Trish Hood Acolyte This Week: Kaleigh Newman Acolyte Next Week: Gracie Diebel

Altar Guild This Month: Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden Altar Guild Next Month: Carol Ann Sagebiel & LeAnn Jander

Communion Assistant This Month: Brian Wendel **Communion Assistant Next Month**: Jeff Zengerle

Busy Bags are available in the Narthex for all children to enjoy.

MISSION STATEMENT

We the members of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Meyersville, strive to be witnesses for Christ, a Christian family striving to be models and examples to others, loving one another and trying to be friendly to all; acknowledging that we are sinful, but being patient, faithful, giving, caring, forgiving, and forgiven believers.

Worship Notes Regarding Today's Service:

For those of you who would prefer to remain in your cars, we will continue to broadcast the service on FM 101.5. You can follow the service in the bulletin as the liturgy, the organ music, hymns with the lyrics by our song leaders, and Pastor John's message will be on the broadcast. Thank you!

HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to commune with us if, as a baptized Christian, you believe that you are a sinner and in need of God's forgiveness; that the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in the Sacrament; that this is more than a symbolic act, but a way God proclaims forgiveness to us who are repentant.

May your participation increase your faith and strengthen your love for God and one another.

(For those attending, please fill out a tan communion card.)

The Service begins with the first notes of the prelude. Please prepare for worship with silent meditation at this time.



PRELUDE RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL ANNOUNCEMENTS PRAISES AND CONCERNS

Stand as you are able

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L In the name of the Father, and of the \(\mathbb{H}\) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

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

- L Most merciful God,
- C We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.
- L Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ♣ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

OPENING HYMN:

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

WOV #646

¹We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain: Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

²Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again; king forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.

Refrain: Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

³Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a deity nigh; prayer and praising, gladly raising, worshiping God Most High.

Refrain: Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

⁴Myrrh is mine; it's bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Refrain: Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

⁵Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and sacrifice; heav'n sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies.

Refrain: Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

GREETING

L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L Let us pray,

Heavenly Father, in Jesus' baptism you declared him to be your beloved Son and set him apart as your agent of grace for your creation. May we who are baptized into his life also be sent as agents of grace in your world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

At the Baptism of Jesus a new era began for God's people. Through the waters of Baptism, new life is granted. We who are washed in the waters are drowned to our old selves and raised to new life in Him. This is one of the few places in Scripture where we see the entirety of the Trinity revealed simultaneously: the Father speaks, the Son is baptized, and the Spirit appears as a dove.

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Responsive Reading Psalm 29

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

⁷The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire; the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁸The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.

⁹And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as King forevermore.

¹¹The LORD shall give strength to his people; the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Second Reading: Romans 6:1-11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We 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. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We 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. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Stand as you are able

GOSPEL VERSE

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:4-11

L The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (Sung)

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." ⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

L The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ. (Sung)

Please be seated

MESSAGE

¹In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.

Refrain: Give me Jesus, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

²Dark . . . midnight was my cry, dark . . . midnight was my cry, dark . . . midnight was my cry, give me Jesus.

Refrain: Give me Jesus, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

³Just about the break of day, just about the break of day, just about the break of day, give me Jesus.

Refrain: Give me Jesus, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

⁴Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Jesus.

Refrain: Give me Jesus, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

⁵And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing, give me Jesus.

Refrain: Give me Jesus, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

Stand as you are able

Let us confess our faith through the Apostles' Creed

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace!

Each petition ends with "...Lord, in your mercy," The congregation responds with "Hear our prayer."

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

L The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

L Let us share the peace.

OFFERING (Please use the yellow envelopes for cash/coin offerings & include your name.)

Stand as you are able

OFFERTORY

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
And give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

- L Merciful Father,
- C We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- L The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- L Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- L It is indeed right and salutary.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
- C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

L Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
That all those who believe in him should not perish,
But have eternal life.
We give thanks to you for the salvation
You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
That we may receive our Lord
With a living faith as he comes to us
In his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

L In the night in which he was betrayed
Our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying;
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
And gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
Shed for you and for all people
For the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Father remember us always and teach us to pray;

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

- L Come for the Lord's Table is ready.
- 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.

HOLY COMMUNION (For those attending, please fill out a tan communion card.)

- L May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen

POST COMMUNION

C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Let us pray;

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

L Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

THE DOXOLOGY: LBW #565

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

POSTLUDE



Colossians 3:17

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."



"Our hope is not in the new year...but in the One who makes all things new."

~ Author Unknown

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 1/07 The Baptism of Our Lord

9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Adult Study

10:15 a.m. Worship with Communion 3:00 p.m. Take down Christmas décor

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE TODAY!!!

Mon 1/08 Office Closed

Tues 1/09 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. Worship Committee Mtg.

Wed 1/10 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Office Hours

10:00 a.m. Comm. Service @ Yorktown Manor

12:30 p.m Women's Bible Study

1:30 p.m. Quilters

Thurs 1/11 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Office Hours

1:00 p.m-4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours

Fri 1/12 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office hours

Next Sun. Second Sunday after Epiphany

8:00 a.m.Property Team Meeting9:00 a.m.Confirmation Class9:00 a.m.Sunday School9:00 a.m.Adult Study10:15 a.m.Worship

Have a Blessed Week!



Welcome Visitors! We would like to extend a special welcome to all visitors. If you are looking for a church home, we pray you would consider St. John's.

Prayer request cards are available in the pews and can be filled out and handed to an usher during the first hymn for your request to be included in the day's prayer. If you have a private prayer request please fill out the appropriate side and give to the pastor.

December 31, 2023 General \$10,645.00, MOM – Samaritan's Purse \$550.00, Sunday School \$37.00, Cemetery \$25.00, Building \$3,080.00

Total: \$14,337.00

Attendance: Worship –57, Sunday School - 6 Children, 3 Teachers; Adult Study - 6

Sunday School continues throughout the year. We'd love to see all the children every Sunday at 9a.m.!





Office hours will be posted in the weekly bulletins. If you would need immediate assistance outside of office hours, text or call Meliss at 361-649-0413. If you'd like to receive your monthly church newsletter via email, call or text the church office at 361-277-8653

Mission of the Month for January The Boys' and Girls' Club of Cuero

The Boys and Girls Club of Cuero is a wonderful place for children to become members and to learn and grow in a healthy, safe environment. Our programs continue to enrich our youth. We have implemented a new online educational reading and math curriculum called Exact Path. Our members are progressing fantastically with this new initiative. We have many safety policies in place to ensure our club environment is secure. We appreciate the wonderful community and generous donors that support our organization. Our annual play, Gospel Brunch, and golf tournament continue to help raise funds for our daily operations.

For the month of January the collection is trash bags and cleaning rags.



Committee Annual Reports

Just a friendly reminder. All annual reports from committees will be due by Sunday,
January 7, 2024. Thank you!

Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting will be held on January 21, 2024 after worship service. Please make plans to attend. Thank You!



We need you to say YES! The Worship Team is "blowing the dust off" the reenactment of the "Living Last Supper." Please see the article in January's newsletter for more information and contact Johnny Jank and simply say, "How can I help?"



+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole



Taken from Facebook Cowboy Tough Cole Strong: Hi everyone!! It's been a long time! I hope you are all doing well! We are all doing good. Cole is healthy as a horse and doing well. He continues to amaze me with his drive to continue his therapy diligently. He is still waling on the Lokomat and uses the Armeo robotic arm machine twice weekly as well as working hard at home with me and his nurses. God definitely blessed him with a hardheadedness that he may or may not have gotten from his mother. For those of you who didn't' know last

weekend was the 6th annual Cowboy Tough Cole Strong Team roping benefit. It was an awesome weekend with a very well run 3day team roping thanks to Justin Shelton as well as two days of silent auction items including some delicious homemade goods and fall décor. We also had a gun raffle board that is still going on until we fill all the squares on the board for a nice rifle and as always shirts for sale with Cole's logo. For those of you who know Cole this is one of his favorite events of the whole year. He so looks forward to it each year. So a special thank you to Justin and all those who helped him as well as all the donors and sponsors. You all make this a wonderful event each year. Also want to send out a special thank you to Amy Burnet for announcing and keeping the books all weekend and to Shelly Marbach and Penny Pence for all their help with the shirts and silent auction. Special thank you to Britney Lesikar and KC Hats for donating her services throughout the weekend also. She does an amazing job. Special thank you to all who donated and or purchased the silent auction items and t-shirts as well. We sincerely appreciate all of you. This year was really special with one of Cole's brothers winning one of the trophy saddles! All in all it was an amazing and blessed weekend. Asking for continued prayers for Cole's health and healing as well as his and our faith. Also asking for prayers that Cole will be granted a meeting with the Governor soon to fight for changes in state funded care for the handicapped. I'll post later with more details. Thank you all and God Bless. And as always thank you all for your continued prayers for Cole - keep praying! +Please pray at 12:00 PM daily for Cole+ At his request, these are the prayers he has on his list: Healingphysical, emotional & spiritual To help family stay strong Patience ~ Stay positive ~The drive to keep trying (perseverance)

Our Military and their families:

Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Fort Hood

Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Florida

Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, stationed overseas (location unknown)

Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force

Michael Petrash II - 1st LT, United States Army

Andrew Washington, L CPL - USMC, Pensacola, FL

Jacob Redmond - USMC, San Diego, CA

Koltyn Mayhall - USMC, North Carolina

Zach McBrayer - U.S. Air Force, San Antonio



PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have a prayer request or wish to be on the prayer chain, please contact Mary Wagner (361)275-9500 or Pastor John (361)243-0373. We ask that you would update the prayer request regularly. If we do not have an update, in an effort to keep our list current and up to date, we will presume the situation has improved and remove the request after 30 days. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Please Pray for: Hunter Jacob, Cole Ohrt, Mrs. Stiles, Ryon Preslar, Joy Meadows, Rylan Caskey, Evelyn Diebel, Dorothy Fay Diebel, Marlene Fromme, Debbie Webb, Steve Cusack, Laura Whitson, Pat Hays, Robert Moeller



Nursing Home:

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Marjorie Ideus

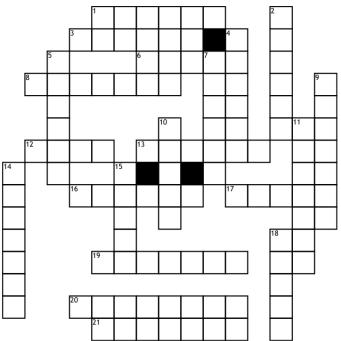


SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

You have been absolved from sin and come to grace... in order to live a different life now and to abstain from sins. To be baptized and yet to remain in sin makes no sense.

~Martin Luther~ Sermon on Baptism

Jesus is Baptized



<u>Across</u>

- 1. Name of the river where Jesus was baptized?
- **3.** Everyday we should talk to God through _____
- 6. Live a life of ______.8. God's holy light was
- 12. Who baptized Jesus?
 13. John didn't feel _____
- baptize Jesus.

 16. Communicate with God through
- **17.** The _____ is our roadmap.

- **19.** Father, Son and Holy Ghost?
- 20. Baptism announced the beginning of Jesus'
- beginning of Jesus' _____ 21. John was sent to ____
- the way of the Lord.
- 2. John was kin to Jesus and
- was his _____.

 4. Going to _____ is a way of being faithful.
- 5. Accepting God as our means that we can have an eternal relationship with him.
- How old was Jesus?
 What book tells us the baptism story?
- 10. Jesus knew that God
 ____ him even though he was
 eventually sent to the cross.
 11. Jesus Jed a ____ life
- 11. Jesus led a _____ life.
 14. Jesus gave us an ____
 to follow.
- 15. The _____ is symbolic of Jesus' blood, which cleanses us of our sin.
- 18. God's _____ confirmed to John that he was who he said he was.



JESUS' BAPTISM

Keep up with St. John online St. John Meyersville

https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville

Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org to view weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters. For those on church premises wishing to worship in their vehicles, tune in to FM 101.5 at 10:15 a.m. Sunday mornings. If you'd like to receive your monthly church newsletter via email, call or text the church office at 361-277-8653.