



Sermon Study Guide for January 11, 2026

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: The Baptism of Jesus

Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist to fulfill all righteousness. Jesus got into the waters of Baptism for us, just as he hung on the cross for us too, so that we could live free all because of what he did and continues to do for us.

Getting Started: (Sharing with each other)

1. What's the first thing you think of when you think of Baptism?
2. When was your Baptism and what do you know about it?
3. What are some identities you wrestle with?

In the Word: Read Matthew 3:13-17

4. Jesus tells John to Baptize him to "fulfill all righteousness" why is John hesitant to Baptize Jesus?
5. What righteousness did Jesus fulfill when he was baptized? In other words, why did Jesus have to be baptized the way sinners are?
6. In Isaiah 42:1-4 it says: **"Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on the earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope."** This scripture is talking about God's chosen servant, who is Jesus. What does this say about who Jesus is and his identity? Anything here that makes you think of Jesus' Baptism?

7. Jesus consecrated the waters of Baptism for us and through him his identity is now our own, as sons and daughters, children of God. How might you knowing your true identity change the way you think and the way you go about your day in your mind and heart?

Pulling it all together: Read Romans 6:1-11

8. Our identities can get in the way of our relationship with God and it is important to understand our real identity in Christ. What is an identity that you need to give up?
9. The world tells you your identity is based on your performance in your role (Parent, Spouse, Job, etc.) Where in your life do you base performance as your identity and worth?
10. Our Identity in Christ is free because of what Jesus has done for us. What's a way you can better and more freely rest in who Jesus says you are?
11. At Church we make the sign of the cross, to remember our Baptism, remember who we are, who we belong to, the title and identity that God has bestowed on us. Who is someone in your life that needs to hear and be reminded of their true identity in Christ? How can you do that with a gentle spirit in Christ's love?

Prayer: God, thank you for sending Jesus to the waters of Baptism and ultimately to the cross in our place. Thank you for claiming us, adopting us as one of your own in Baptism and loving us unconditionally through your son Jesus. Help us be reminded of who you say we are a not what the world lies and says we are. Help us focus on you in all things and help us bring the freeing truth of our identities in you to others around us so they may experience the full peace and rest of being one of your children too. We pray all these things in Jesus name. Amen.

Next Week: The third Sunday of Epiphany we are going to talk about the Lamb of God (Jesus) and John's Disciples going to follow him!