

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church-
Missouri Synod

1308 Whitley Rd.
Keller, TX 76248

**Sunday School &
Adult Bible Class**
9:30am

Sunday Worship
8:00am, 10:45am

CHURCH OFFICE
(817) 431-2345

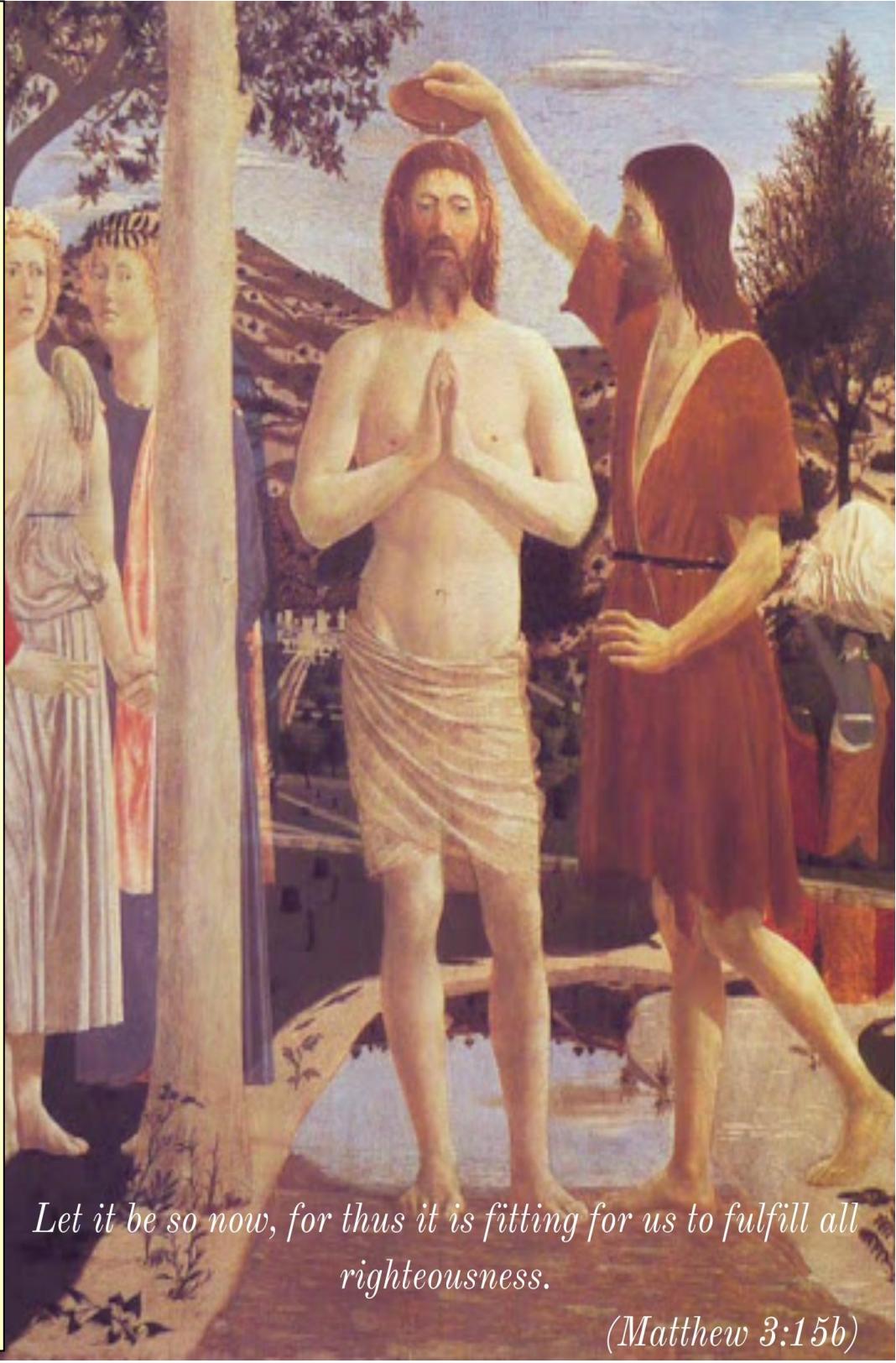
Rev. Thomas Chryst
Senior Pastor

Rev. Brennick Christiansen
Assistant Pastor

CLASSICAL ACADEMY
(817) 431-5486

www.messiahkeller.org

www.mlcatexas.org



*Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all
righteousness.*

(Matthew 3:15b)

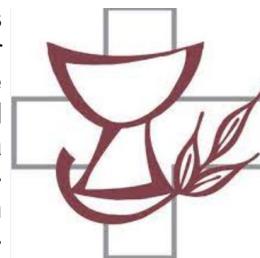
FOR OUR VISITORS....



Welcome! We encourage you to follow along with either the printed service, or with the hymnal. The page numbers for the hymnal are posted at the front of the sanctuary and on the next page. We realize it can take a while for newcomers to become familiar with our liturgy, so please feel free to ask someone near you for assistance—he or she would be happy to help.

We love children in our church! But if your little one gets fussy you may use the **cry room** that is located at the north end of the hallway behind the sanctuary on your right. You are able to see and hear the worship service from there. We also have "**Quiet Bags**" available for children to use during the service. Please ask an usher or elder if you need assistance. The Quiet Bags are returned after the service.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in our services today. In this supper, our Lord Jesus Christ graciously feeds the humble sinner with His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Scripture clearly teaches that anyone who eats and drinks the body and blood of Christ without discerning that body and blood receives a judgment rather than a blessing from God (1 Cor. 11:29). Therefore, out of a Christian concern for souls, we require a thorough instruction in the teachings of the Lutheran Church before participating in this Sacrament. Participation at the altar is also a testimony of unity of faith with all others who partake (1 Cor. 10:17). Since unity at the altar presupposes unity in doctrine and confession (Acts 2:42), we kindly request that **only those who are in confessional fellowship** with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod participate. This includes active members in good standing of all sister Missouri-Synod congregations.



We recognize that **Closed Communion** is a sensitive issue for many and have a brochure to explain it more thoroughly. It is available in the narthex or from an usher. If you have any questions or concerns, you are welcome to speak with our pastor. However, **we welcome** both children and adults who are not communicant members of the Lutheran Church to come to the altar during communion for a pastoral blessing. Please indicate the request for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.



Follow the QR code to visit our "**Virtual Guestbook**" and tell us about yourself and your visit with us.

Divine Service—Setting Two—LSB 167

Hymns:
344, 407, 590

Hymns During Distribution:
404, 346, 602

Sermon Title:
“The Baptism of Jesus”

Scripture:
Matthew 3:13-17

Prelude:

“Rolling Jordan,” by J. William Greene (based on the tune CHRIST, UNSER HERR, from LSB 406)

PUER NOBIS (“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”) –
Nicolas Lebègue

ELVET BANKS (“To Jordan Came the Christ Our Lord,”
LSB 407 tune) – J. Wayne Kerr

Postlude:

“Passepied,” from *Water Music*, by George Frideric Handel

[10:45AM]: Opening Hymn—LSB 345
Choir only st.2 & 4

[10:45AM] Anthem: “Go and Tell John,” by
Lloyd Pfautsch

Hymn of the Day—LSB 407
St.3: Women and children, St.5: Men



The Triune God Is Manifested and Reveals Himself to Us in Holy Baptism

The Baptism of our Lord is an “epiphany” of the one true God in the flesh and blood of Jesus. He is the chosen servant of the Lord, anointed with the Spirit for the rescue of God’s people to “bring forth justice to the nations” (Is. 42:1). Thus, He makes all things new, and He is given “as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations” (Is. 42:6). In the waters of the Jordan, He takes His place with sinners and takes all the sins of the world upon Himself. He undergoes the Baptism of repentance in order to “fulfill all righteousness” for us (Matt. 3:15). He submits Himself to the curse of sin and death in order to redeem us. We are baptized with a Baptism like His, thereby dying and rising with Him, so that “we will also live with him” (Rom. 6:8). Indeed, all of us who are baptized into Christ Jesus are anointed with His Spirit and named by His Father as beloved and well-pleasing sons and daughters.

Serving in God’s House Today

Organist: Miguel Ruiz		8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
Altar Guild: Debbie Goedecke Carol McGrath Sydelle Numsen Brenda Thowe	Head Elder:	David Phillips	Jim Ward
	Head Usher:	Eric Weber	Durand Crutchfield
Counters: Corrine Latham Kenneth Pedersen	Acolytes:	Jaxon Kirby Joseph Kirby	Christian Hernandez Dalton Jacobs
	Crucifer/ Altar Assistant	Ethan Salgado	Evan Munoz

The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given by Judy Klingbeil to the glory of God and in memory and honor of her parents and sister.

Introit *Psalm 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a*



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

Why do the nations rage*
and the peoples plot in vain?

**The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,*
against the LORD and against his anointed,
saying,**

“Let us burst their bonds apart*
and cast away their cords from us.”

**He who sits in the heavens laughs,*
the Lord holds them in derision.**

Then he will speak to them in his wrath,*
and terrify them in his fury, saying,

“As for me, I have set my King*
on Zion, my holy hill.”

I will tell of the decree.*

The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today
I have begotten you.

**Ask of me, and I will make the nations your
heritage,***

and the ends of the earth your possession.

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

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

Serve the LORD with fear,*
and rejoice with trembling,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.*

Blessèd are all who take refuge in 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 my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.*

Collect of the Day

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.

SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY—JANUARY 18TH

Next Sunday we will observe Life Sunday, which marks the
beginning of Life Week.

A word about this year’s theme, from the Lutherans for Life website:
“I praise you Lord for I am fearfully and wonderfully made”
(Psalm 139:14).

This Word of God reveals the care and intention that God takes in the
creation of each and every human being. It teaches us that from the
very first moments of our conception, God’s hands are upon us,
carefully and lovingly crafting each one of us through our fathers and
mothers. And while each person is created by God with their own
unique characteristics and personalities, the care that God takes in
creating each person shows us that every person, from the moment of
fertilization on, is precious to God regardless of their age, size,
condition, or ability.

Life Week 2026

**Fearfully and
Wonderfully
Made**

Lutherans For Life

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY 01/11 - 8:00AM - DIVINE SERVICE—STREAMING LIVE
 - 9:30AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL—STREAMING LIVE
 - 10:45AM - DIVINE SERVICE

MONDAY 01/12 - 9:30AM - BRAILLE WORKSHOP

TUESDAY 01/13 - 9:30AM - JOY GROUP BIBLE STUDY
 - 7:00PM CONFIRMATION III

WEDNESDAY 01/14 - 6:30PM - SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY 01/15 - 5:30PM - CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

FRIDAY 01/16

SATURDAY 01/17 - 7:00AM - MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

DAILY BIBLE READINGS: January 11-24

11: Ezek. 33:1-20 Rom. 3:1-18	15: Ezek 37:15-28 Rom. 6:1-23	18: Ezek. 40:1-4; 43:1-12 <i>Ezek. 40:5-42:20;</i> <i>43:13-27</i> Rom. 8:18-39	21: Joel 1:1-20 Rom. 10:1-21
12: Ezek. 34:1-24 Rom. 3:19-31	16: Ezek. 38:1-23 Rom. 7:1-20	19: Ezek. 44:1-16, 23-29 Rom. 9:1-18	22: Joel 2:1-17 Rom. 11:1-24
13: Ezek. 36:13-28 Rom. 4:1-25	17: Ezek. 39:1-10, 17-29 Rom. 7:21-8:17	20: Ezek. 47:1-14, 21-23 Rom. 9:19-33	23: Joel 2:18-32 Rom. 11:25-12:13
14: Ezek. 36:33—37:14 Rom. 5:1-21			24: Joel 3:1-21 Rom. 12:14-13:14

Catechesis for the week of January 12

Scripture: Matthew 6:33

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

What is confession?

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.



HYMNS

407 1, 2 “*To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord*”
609 1, 4 “*Jesus Sinners Doth Receive*”
938 “*In Peace and Joy I Now Depart*”

READINGS

Mon: The Slaughter of the Holy Innocents - Matthew 2:16-23
Tue: The Boy Jesus in the Temple - Luke 2:41-52
Wed: John the Baptist Prepares the Way of the Lord - Matthew 3:1-12
Thu: The Baptism of Our Lord - Matthew 3:13-17
Fri: OT Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7
Sat: Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Sun: Gospel Reading: John 1:29-42a

Please keep in your prayers...

We continue to pray for our members and loved ones battling cancer: Tim Speight, Rob Bentley, Randy Gay, Denny Knutson, Joan Beach, Linda Pancake, Rick Swender, Wayne Kirkland, Ken Blume, Carolyn Blume, Gaelina Strader, Sarah Jarrett, Mike Vandergriff, Rev. Ernie Bernet, Janie Peter, David Grissom.

...also those with other illnesses and trials: Jaana Phillips, Abby Carpenter, Tom Phillips, Rudi Milbitz, Peggy Wahlstedt, Janet Hazelhurst, Ron Klingbeil, Lief Stratmoen, Karen Shrum, Duane Gosch, Vikcky Krolczyk, Dennis Nietenhoefer, Matt Hinde, Lee Masoian, Alli Burk, Amy Lyon, the Lewis family, Bruce Lage, Jaden Chisholm, Chelsea Lage, Grant Smith, William Johnstone, Marlene Eaton, Kris Carter, Wes Liles, Mary Lowry, Patsy Smith, Shelby Renfro, Connie Worley Ramsey, Brooke Lage, The Lowry Family, Sandy McDougal, Jacob Brewer.

...and those who are unable to worship with us regularly: Carolyn Blume, Susan Copen, Don & Marilyn Curry, LaVina Goedecke, Ron and Barbara Busse, Ronald and Brenda Patterson, Marvin Wilken.

.....all of our college students in and out of state: Ashley Brewer, Jacob Brewer, Colby Carter, Seminarian David Christensen, Maranda Crutchfield, Dorian Crutchfield, Paul Hedman, Ethan Johnson, Cole O'Dell, Ryan O'Dell, Clara O'Neil, Daniella Osorio, Helena Phillips, Aidan Richmond, Davis Richmond, Mia Salgado, Max Tonniges, Charlie Umayam, Audrey Weber, Emily Weber, Morgan Chryst, Matthew Palmer.

We remember all those serving our country, particularly our members and loved ones in the military: Carly Schwarzenburg, Jesus Aranda, Hannah Kajer, Nicolas Towers, Tony Bourassa, Tyler Burk, David Cantrell, Cassie Gessling, Joseph Kajer, Seth Kirch, Andrew Latham, Andrew Lowry, Hannah Pinkston, Brandon Towers, Frank Wilde, Chaplain Peter J. Williams.

We also pray for...

- Our Braille ministry, that the Word will continue to reach the blind or visually impaired around the world.
- Messiah's educational ministry, especially our Academy, Preschool, Sunday School, and our Catechumens.
- Fellow Messiah members, married couples and children, young couples, singles, Pastor Chryst, and Pastor Christiansen.
- The voters, church council, and leaders of Messiah Church and School as they deliberate on the work the Lord has given His people to do.
- Our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world being persecuted for their faith.
- The spread of the Gospel around our nation and world and the work of our missionaries and relief workers.
- Rev. Dr. Michael Paul and his work in Taiwan.
- The Swaddling Clothes ministry and those who come seeking assistance.
- Those studying at seminary, including David Christensen (4th Year), Tanner Sawall (4th Year), Abram Egger (1st Year), and Vicar Peter Williams, as they prepare to serve in the Holy Ministry.
- Prayers for peace in the Middle East and Ukraine.

Pastor Chryst: pastor.chryst@messiahkeller.org
Pastor Christiansen: pastor.christiansen@messiahkeller.org
Director of Parish Music: miguel.ruiz@messiahkeller.org
MLCA Office: schooloffice@mlcatexas.org
MLCA Preschool: schooloffice@mlcatexas.org
School Board Chair: schoolboardchairman@mlcatexas.org
Board of Trustees: trustees@messiahkeller.org

Financial Director: jinel.munoz@messiahkeller.org
Financial Secretary: financial.secretary@messiahkeller.org
Church Office: churchoffice@messiahkeller.org
Church Office Administrator: linda.pinkston@messiahkeller.org
MLCA Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:30am—3:30pm.
Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm



MLCA is hiring! MLCA is in **immediate need** of a permanent teacher for Grades 6-8 **for the current school year.** This is a full-time position. Please contact Mrs. Smith at alison.smith@mlcatexas.org for more information!



SPRING PASTOR'S CLASS will begin Thursday, February 12th. Class meets from 6:00-8:00pm. This class is for those interested in becoming Lutherans and joining MLC, but is also open to current members of our church. Please let Pastor Chryst or the church office know if you would like to join this class.

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS will be mailed out upon request and/or placed in your mailbox in the preschool hallway. All other statements will be sent out via email. You may email Veronica at financial.secretary@messiahkeller.org if your email address has changed, or if you would like a printed copy,



The Quarterly Voters Meeting will be held January 25th immediately following the late service in the Fellowship Hall at 12pm. All voting members and members of Messiah are encouraged to attend. We will tend to regular quarterly business as well as the annual election of officers and board members. Please contact Chris Goodwin at cjgood123@gmail.com for questions.



GIVING ENVELOPES are ready for those who are not exclusively online givers, and can be found on the table in the Narthex.



TEXAS RALLY FOR LIFE Join Lutherans from around Texas on Saturday, January 24, 2026, for a Matins prayer service and Bible study from 9:00am to 11:00am at St. Paul

Lutheran Church in Austin. Come early for coffee and fellowship, stay after for lunch, and join in the Texas Rally for Life march to our state capitol at 1:00pm. For more information, contact Pastor Ross Davis at ross.davis@stpaulaustin.org.

Website: <https://www.stpaulaustin.org/>

Website: <https://www.texasrallyforlife.org/>

A Life Thought in the Church Year for January 11 (Baptism of our Lord): Jesus was baptized to “fulfill all righteousness” (Matthew 3:15), that all whom God created and gave breath to (Isaiah 42:5) might be baptized into His death and resurrection and have everlasting life (Romans 6:4-5). Living in that new life in Christ and dying to sin (Romans 6:7-8) means that we are to cherish all life the way God does, caring about our neighbor’s physical life and wellbeing, as well as their everlasting life in Christ.



Stewards Under the Cross for January 11 – The Baptism of Our Lord—Matthew 3:15 – “But Jesus answered him, ‘Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all

righteousness.’” The reason God sent His Son into the world is to fulfill all righteousness for us, to do what we could not do. Here, Jesus plunges Himself into our sins and soaks them up in His Baptism, so that in our Baptism we might be cleansed and renewed. The whole of Jesus’ life, everything He did and said, was one great offering to the Father in our stead to fulfill all righteousness for us.



EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS... Issues, Etc. is a podcast and radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public

Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: Stranger Things: Season 5, The Top Biblical Archeology Stories of 2025, The Parable of the Prodigal Son, The Baptism of Our Lord, The Epiphany Season and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: 8:00am: 95 10:45am: 97 Total: 192

Sunday School: **99 OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK: \$13,117.59** (including online giving to Gen. Fund)

WEEKLY OFFERINGS NEEDED TO FUND THE CURRENT YEAR BUDGET: **\$ 19,549.00**

You may use this QR code for your convenience if you would like to give to Messiah. It will direct you to our Vanco System for electronic giving.

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.
Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
“I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the LORD; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to carved idols.
Behold, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
I tell you of them.”

Epistle: Romans 6:1-11

What shall we say then? Are we to continue
in sin that grace may abound? By no means!
How can we who died to sin still live in it?
Do you not know that all of us who have
been baptized into Christ Jesus were
baptized into his death? 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.

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. 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. For one
who has died has been set free from sin. Now if
we have died with Christ, we believe that we
will also live with him. We know that Christ
being raised from the dead will never die again;
death no longer has dominion over him. For the
death he died he died to sin, once for all, but
the life he lives he lives to God. So you also
must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive
to God in Christ Jesus.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to
John, to be baptized by him. John would have
prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by
you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus
answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is
fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he
consented. And when Jesus was baptized,
immediately he went up from the water, and
behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he
saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and
coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from
heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with
whom I am well pleased.”