



ST. JAMES

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2437 Niagara Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14304

www.saintjameslutheran-niagarafalls.org

Office: (716) 731-4057

Pastor Randy Kaminska: (716) 225-3591

OUR MISSION:

We are called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus through worship, witness, and ministry to our members and community.

Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025

Welcome to St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church. If you are visiting and you have no church of your own, we invite you to make this your church home, but above all, we invite you to come and worship with us at any time. We worship every Sunday at 9:15 am. If you would like to speak directly to Pastor Randy, please call his cell.

Prelude

Announcements

Hymn#11.....Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to his temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen All that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do
If with his love he befriend you.
- 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen Sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!

Greeting

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Living Hope

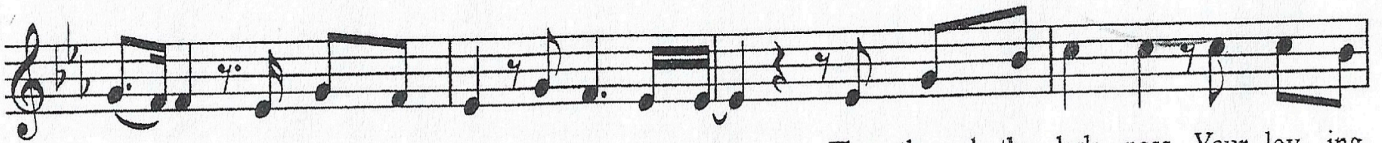
P: Almighty God, you know us better than we know ourselves. You know our every sin, what we have done and what we have failed to do. We come to You with humble hearts, confessing our sin and seeking Your mercy.



1. How great the cha - sm that lay be -



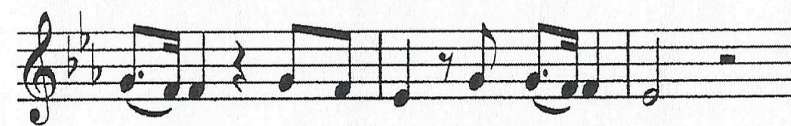
tween us. How high the moun - tain I could not climb. In des - per - a - tion I turned to



heav - en and spoke Your name in - to the night. Then through the dark - ness Your lov - ing -



kind - ness tore through the shad - ows of my soul. The work is fin - ished, the end is



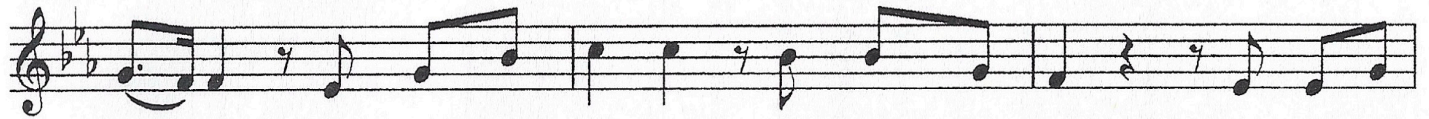
writ - ten. Je - sus Christ, my liv - ing hope.

P: Let us take a moment of reflection to consider our Transgression.

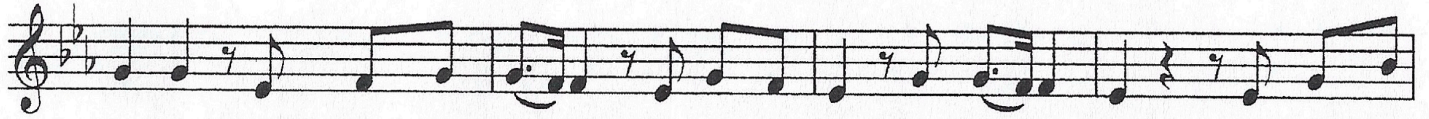
P: Most merciful God, you have given your only Son to die for us. Have mercy on us, and for his sake grant us forgiveness.



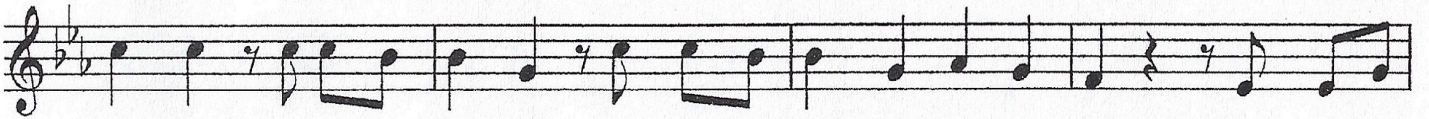
2. Who could im - ag - ine so great a



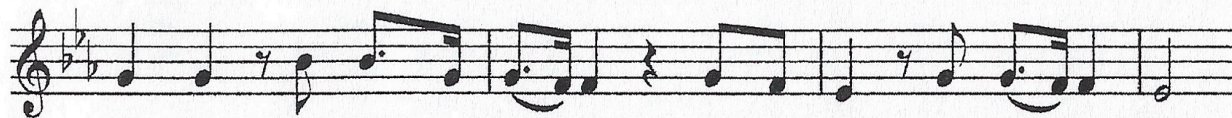
mer - cy? What heart could fath - om such bound - less grace? The God of



ag - es stepped down from glo - ry to wear my sin and bear my shame. The cross has

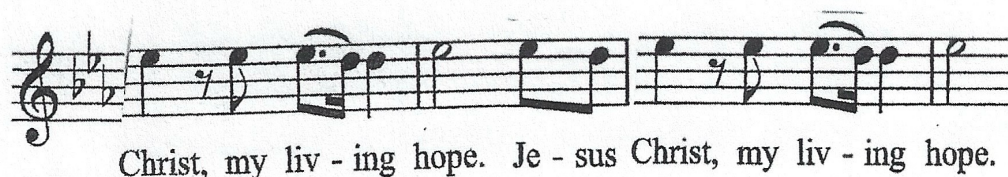
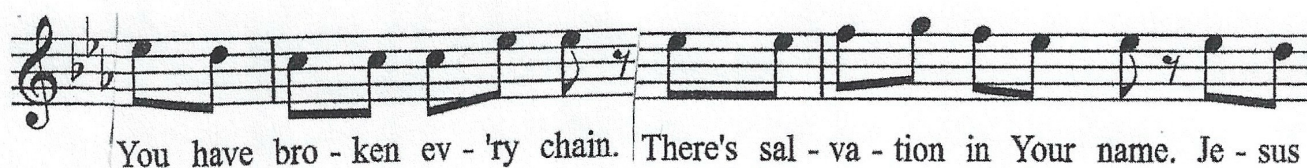
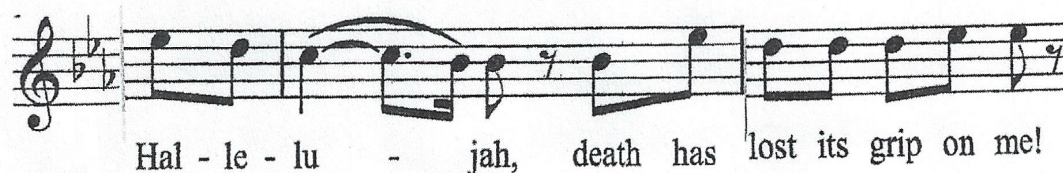


spo - ken; I am for - giv - en. The King of kings calls me His own. Beau - ti - ful



Sav - ior, I'm Yours for - ev - er. Je - sus Christ, my liv - ing hope.

P: 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, by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins!



(Repeat)

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 dead, and the life everlasting. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 5:12-20 [21-32]

¹²Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. ¹³None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. ¹⁷But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy ¹⁸they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰"Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." [²¹And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach. Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council, all the senate of the people of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. ²²But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, ²³"We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." ²⁴Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. ²⁵And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." ²⁶Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people. ²⁷And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and

forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”]

Psalm 148 (ESV)

¹Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

²**Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!**

³Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!

⁴**Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created.

⁶**And he established them forever and ever; he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,

⁸**fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word!**

⁹Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

¹⁰**Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!**

¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

¹²**Young men and maidens together, old men and children!**

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.

¹⁴**He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints, for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!**

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4-18

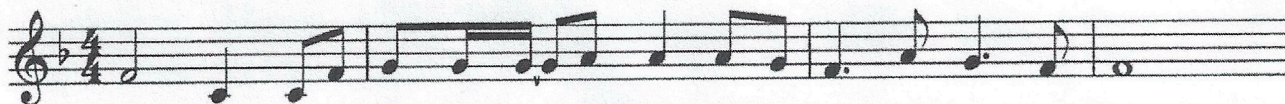
⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen. ⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” ⁹I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus (EH-fuh-suhs) and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira(thai-uh-TAI-ruh) and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea(lay-o-dih-SEE-uh).” ¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. ¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.”

Gospel Acclamation

Thy Word

Words and Music by
Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith

CHORUS



Thy Word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my path.



Thy Word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my path.

Verse 1 - Soloist

*When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way, still You're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear, as long as You are near. Please be near me to the end.*

Chorus – Congregation

Verse 2 – Soloist

*I will not forget, Your love for me, and yet, my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide, and hold me to Your side, I will love You to the end.*

Chorus – Congregation

Gospel: John 20:19-31

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even

so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.” ²⁴Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.” ²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Children’s Message

Hymn#161.....Thine Is The Glory

1 Thine is the glory, Risen, conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave clothes Where thy body lay.

Refrain

Thine is the glory, Risen conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the vict'ry, Thou o'er death hast won!

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee, Risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee, Scatters fear and gloom;
Let his Church with gladness Hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth; Death hath lost its sting! (*refrain*)

3 No more we doubt thee, Glorious Prince of life;
Life is nought without thee; Aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conqu'rors, Through thy deathless love:
Bring us safe through Jordan To thy home above. (*refrain*)

Sermon....."Bravery"

Hymn# Insert.....Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Sunday, April 27, 2025

Ellie Grace Fleming

Born on November 15, 2024

Parents are Adam & Rachelle Fleming

Sponsors are Rebecca Haseley and Nathan Haseley

P: In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

R: I present Ellie Grace to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

CHARGE TO PARENTS AND SPONSORS

P: In Christian love you have presented this child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring her to the services of God's house, and teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As she grows in years, you should place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in communion with the Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

P: Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

R: I do.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

P: Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

R: I do.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

BAPTISM

P: Ellie, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Ellie: the spirit of

wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

C: Amen.

(The minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized as the following words are spoken:)

P: Ellie, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

(A lighted candle is given to the sponsors of the baptized, as the following words are spoken:)

P: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P: O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the father and mother of this child. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for this child. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with this child the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

PRESENTATION AND WELCOME

Elder: Through Baptism God has made Ellie a member of this priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

C: We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and worker with us in the kingdom of God.

Offering: *As a guest or visitor, we acknowledge your presence as the only offering expected today.*

Hymn Insert**"Baptized in Water"**

Offertory ♪ Give Thanks

Give Thanks

*Words and Music by
Henry Smith*

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One; Give
thanks be - cause He's giv - en Je - sus Christ, His Son. Give Son. And
now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich" be - cause of
what the Lord has done for us; Give thanks.

Offertory Prayer:

P: Holy God, we give you thanks for all that we have: ourselves, our time and our treasures, all that first belonged to you and has been gifted to us, your children. Accept our offerings as a sign of our devotion to you, and make us truly grateful for the many gifts we have received. In Jesus' holy name we pray. **C: Amen**

Prayers of the church

Prayer Response:

P: Lord, in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

Lord Listen To Your Children

Words and Music by
Ken Medema



Lord, lis - ten to Your chil - dren pray - ing; Lord, send Your Spir - it in this place.



Lord, lis - ten to Your chil - dren pray - ing; Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Benediction

PASTOR - 1 VERSE
ALL - AS BELOW

As You Go On Your Way

As you go on your way may Christ go with you. May He go be-fore you to
show you the way. May He go be-hind you to en - cour - age you, Be -
side you to be- friend you. A - bove you to watch o-ver, With - in you to give you
peace. *PASTOR* As you go on your way may Christ go with you. *ALL* As you
go on your way may Christ go with you. *PASTOR* As you
go on your way may Christ go with you.

Hymn#158.....Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!

Now is the triumph of our King:
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

2 The Lord of Life is ris'n this day;
Bring flow'rs of song to strew his way;
Let all the world rejoice and say:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

3 Praise we in songs of victory
That Love, that Life, which cannot die,
And sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

4 Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,
And sing today with one accord
The life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God!

Lessons for Next Week

Acts 9:1-22; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:[1-7] 8-14; John 21:1-14 [15-19]

Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It

For you know that you were redeemed...with the precious blood of Christ. 1 Peter 1:18-19

1. Re - deemed, how I love to pro - claim it! Re - deemed by the
2. Re - deemed, and so hap - py in Je - sus, No lan - guage my
3. I think of my bless - ed Re - deem - er, I think of Him
4. I know I shall see in His beau - ty The King in whose

blood of the Lamb; Re - deemed through His in - fi - nite mer - cy,
rap - ture can tell; I know that the light of His pres - ence
all the day long; I sing, for I can - not be si - lent;
law I de - light; Who lov - ing - ly guard - eth my foot - steps

Chorus
His child, and for - ev - er, I am.
With me doth con - tin - ual - ly dwell. Re - deemed, (re - deemed,) re -
His love is the theme of my song.
And giv - eth me songs in the night.

deemed, (re - deemed,) Re - deemed by the blood of the Lamb; Re -

deemed, (re - deemed,) re - deemed, (re - deemed,) His child, and for - ev - er, I am.

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby
MUSIC: William I. Kirkpatrick

REDEEMED
9898 with Chorus

Baptized In Water

Music by
Michael Saward

Words by
Gaelic Tune and
Dale Grotenhuis

VERSE

C G/B Am Dm G Dm7 G C/E C

1. Bap tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
 2. Bap tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
 3. Bap tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

3 Em Am Em F Gsus G C/E C G/B Am F C/G

blood of Christ, our King; Heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing His
 tomb with Christ, our King; One with His ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ, our King; Born of one Fa - ther, we are His

6 Am G C G/B Am G7 C

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 chil - dren, joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

8:

Let Us Remember in Our Prayers (*St James Member)

*John Milleville	*Steve Stumpf	Cassie Stumpf
*Jan Voelker	*Connie Washburn	Greg Milleville
*Mark Voelker	Rob Cornelius	Denise Joy
*Roger Siegmann	Sharon Gates	Kate Hughey
*Bill Salisbury	Deliah Licht	Sabine Miskey
*Beth Wruck	Alfred Swift	Mary Beth O'Brien
*Marina Posa Vickers	Linda Arnold	

Also Remember in Our Prayers

Those in nursing homes and shut-ins

*Morrie Johnson	*Elly Milleville
*Judy Brown	*Bill Rafter, Sr.

Organizations and Community

Stephen Ministry

*Young Life"

Our area public and parochial schools

All Emergency Services personnel

*Scott Milleville

Michael Joh DeVantier

David Nedell

The members of our armed forces

The men and women serving at the N.F. Air Base

Matthew Reddy (Niagara Falls)

Eric Graca (South Korea)

Justin DeVantier (Niagara Falls)

Michael Coulter (Korea)

Edmond Moloney (Virginia)

Joshua Drasgow (Washington State)

Keith Coleman (Okinawa)

