

Baptism of Our Lord (Observed), January 10<sup>th</sup> 2020  
Zoom Service 10:30 AM  
Immanuel Lutheran Church

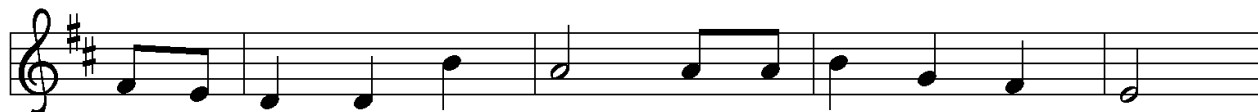
Prelude Baptized and Set Free, ELW 453



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.  
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.  
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,  
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.  
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.  
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.  
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door  
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:  
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:  
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.  
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.  
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.  
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956  
Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner  
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## Announcements

### Greeting

May peace be to this portal to our assembly, and to all who enter here.

By wisdom a house is built and through understanding it is established;

through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures. (*Proverbs 24:3-4*)

## Inscription – The Chalking of the Door

*Following an eastern European tradition, a visual blessing may be inscribed with white chalk above the main door*

*20+CMB+21*

*The numbers change with each new year. The three letters stand for either the ancient Latin blessing *Christe mansionem benedicat*, which means, “Christ, bless this house,” or the legendary names of the magi (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar). The sign of the cross is made.*

*The inscriptions will be made as leaders and assembly recite the blessing. What is the way you will “mark” the doorway to our zoom assembly?*

The magi of old known as

C Caspar,

M Melchior, and

B Balthasar

followed the star of God’s Son who came to dwell among us

20 two thousand

21 and twenty-one years ago.

✠ Christ, bless this house in which we gather,

✠ **and remain with us throughout the new year.**

## Prayer

Let us pray:

O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star. We pray that you bless this worship space and all who enter here with your gracious presence.

**May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; through Christ our Lord.**

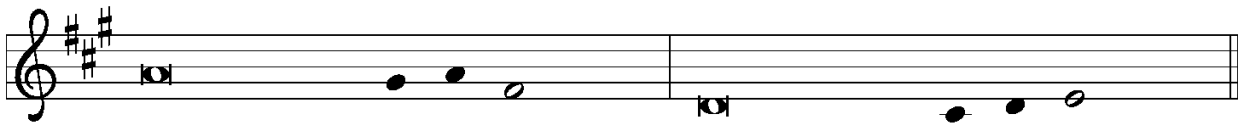
**Amen.**

## Meeting Announcement

### Reading from the Old Testament, Genesis 1:1-5

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

## PSALM: Psalm 29



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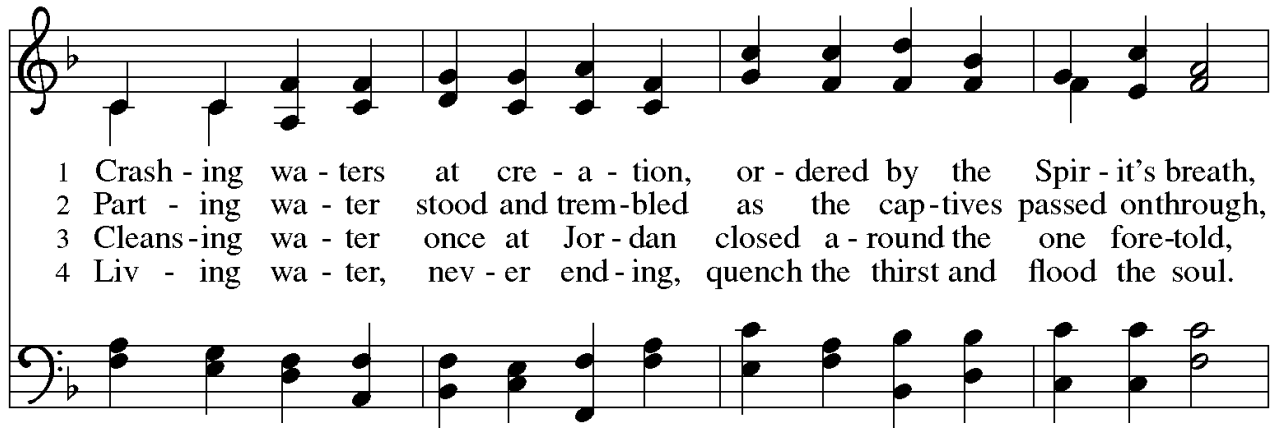
- <sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the | Lord, you gods,  
ascribe to the Lord glo- | ry and strength.
- <sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the Lord the glory | due God’s name;  
worship the Lord in the beau- | ty of holiness.**
- <sup>3</sup>The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;  
the Lord is upon the | mighty waters.
- <sup>4</sup>**The voice of the Lord is a pow- | erful voice;  
the voice of the Lord is a | voice of splendor.**
- <sup>5</sup>The voice of the Lord breaks the | cedar trees;  
the Lord breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;
- <sup>6</sup>**the Lord makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**
- <sup>7</sup>The voice | of the Lord  
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.
- <sup>8</sup>**The voice of the Lord | shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.**
- <sup>9</sup>The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.  
And in the temple of the Lord all are | crying, “Glory!”
- <sup>10</sup>**The Lord sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**
- <sup>11</sup>O Lord, give strength | to your people;  
give them, O Lord, the bless- | ings of peace.

## GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

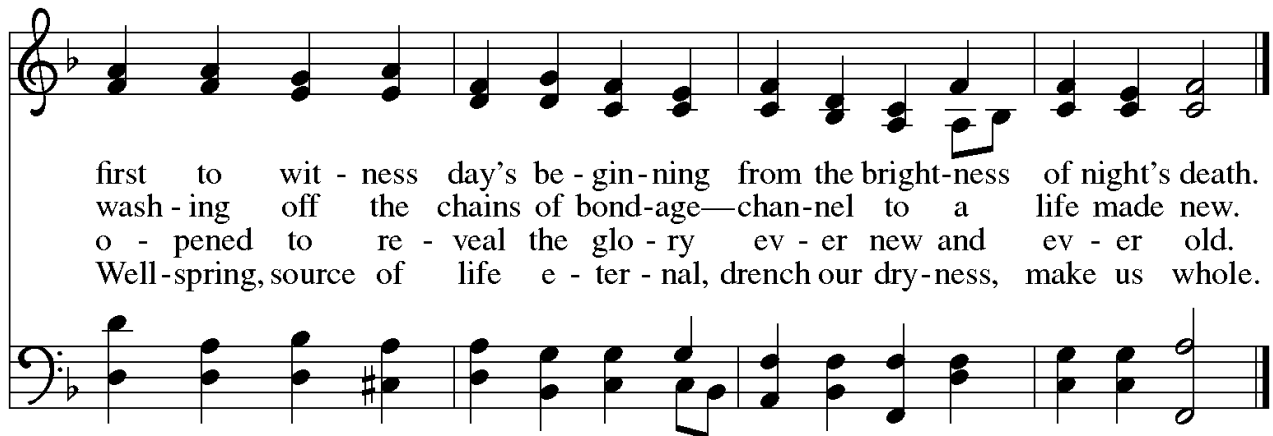
<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

## Sermon

### HYMN: Crashing Waters at Creation, ELW 455



1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the Spir - it's breath,  
2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem - bled as the cap - tives passed on through,  
3 Cleans - ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the one fore - told,  
4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.



first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright - ness of night's death.  
wash - ing off the chains of bond - age — chan - nel to a life made new.  
o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.  
Well - spring, source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness, make us whole.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: STUTTGART, attr. Christian F. Witt, 1660–1716; adapt. Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

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### Affirmation of Baptism

Dear friends, as we gather at the river remembering Jesus' baptism we give thanks for and remember the gift of our baptisms into Christ.

**KATHY:** Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. As we celebrate the new year, and live into our congregation's calling as we take steps to call a new pastoral leader, uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

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

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

if so answer "I do and I ask God to help and guide me."

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?  
if so answer “we do and we ask God to help and guide us.”

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

*(You are invited to pour or lift up some water in a bowl)*

Let us pray as we give thanks for the gift of baptism:

Blessed are you, holy God.

You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the river of life.

You led your people through the river Jordon and called them to life in covenant.

Your Son was baptized in the river Jordan to begin his mission among us.

Through this water remind us of our baptism.

Create us all anew that we may serve this needy world.

Stir up in us the gift of your Holy Spirit:

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 both now and forever. **Amen.**

*(You are invited to make the sign of the cross on your forehead, either with or without water, in remembrance of your baptism.)*

**KATHY:** Let your light so shine before others that they may see you good works and glorify your father in heaven!

*(Please find a way to share your “light” with others as we conclude this liturgy... suggestions may include holding up a cell-phone flashlight, holding a candle, making your “this little light of mine” gesture or twinkle fingers, or putting the “halo” filter on zoom!)*

### **Prayers of the People [KATHY]**

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need, responding to each petition muted or un-muted with the words ‘Your mercy is great’.

Let us pray for the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they call us to proclaim the good news of the nearness of the reign of God. We pray for our bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, pastor Kim, our president Scott, our council, call committee, our pastoral candidate and family, and the reopening team. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God's goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the nations of the world and their leaders. We pray for the United States in the midst of civil unrest and turmoil and as we face the evil of white supremacy; for our elected leaders and their families, and for all dealing with new and lasting trauma. We pray for prophets who like Jesus and John proclaim uncomfortable and revelatory truths, and for those lured in by hatred and violence, that hearts and lives may be changed by the good news of God's love for all the beloved creation. And we pray for courage and strength for these days as we follow Jesus' example, striving for justice and peace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for relief from the pandemic. Bring meaningful work to those furloughed. Guide and watch over all first responders and essential workers. Surround with your presence family and friends who are anxious for those on the front lines of crisis. Inspire healthcare workers and medical researchers as we rejoice in the arrival of vaccines. Be a powerful presence with those in quarantine, those who feel isolated, and with all students, teachers and staff in academic communities. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the sick and those who provide medical care, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer, especially Steve Andes, Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Babs Deacon, Laura Burdick, Mid Carlson, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Pat Helm, Jim Jung, John and Nancy, Judith Kratochvil, Gordon Larson, Ernie LeVon, Kevin McDaniel, Elaine Nelson, Veronica Repasz, Darryl Simchak, Alyssa Steinberg, George Stewart, Leslie Thais, Scott Weidler, and those whose names we call out to you here, muted or un-muted: . . . *A brief silence.* Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

And now, siblings, for what else shall we pray, silent or spoken aloud? *A longer period of silence.* Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray in thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, that their witness may inspire us in our baptismal vocations. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## Peace

### **Offertory Anthem: Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day arr Richard Shephard**

We worship God with our offerings. We give thanks for those who support Immanuel's life and mission. [We invite you to do that online](#) or by mail, and with your presence, prayer, and talents.

### **Offertory Prayer**

And now, as we unmute ourselves for the Great Thanksgiving we pray together:

**Come Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to all be blessed.**

**Feed us with your living bread, that all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **Prayer at the Table**

Blessed are you, O holy God:

you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our night,  
revealing to us your mercy and power.

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.

Remembering, therefore,  
his preaching and healing,  
his dying and rising,  
and his promise to come again,  
we await that day when all the universe



will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

And for this we pray: **Come, Lord Jesus!**

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,  
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,  
we may be light for the world,  
revealing the brilliance of your Son.

And for this we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**Amen**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**A Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.**

**Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Communion**

Come for all things are now ready; the gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**This is the body of Christ, given for you.**

*All communing may receive their bit of bread from God's hand, and may share with others in their household also using these words.*

**This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.**

*All communing may drink of the cup they have prepared, and may share with others in their household also using these words.*

*For those fasting, receive this prayer of blessing in God's presence:*

May God who loves you be truly present with the Spirit of grace, mercy and joy, uplifting and blessing you in the promise of your baptism.

### **Table Dismissal**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

## **Benediction**

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you;  
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ☩ keep you in peace.

**Amen**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

## **Coffee hour/Announcements**

### **TODAY AT IMMANUEL**

**12:30 pm Congregational Council Meeting**

### **THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL**

**No Midweek Gathering on January 13<sup>th</sup>**

so we can attend the LCMNU Anti-Racism Event.

**REGISTER BY MONDAY, JANUARY 11**

#### **DISMANTLING WHITE SUPREMACY IN THE CHURCH: A CONVERSATION WITH REV. LENNY DUNCAN**

WED, JAN 13, 2021  
7 PM - 8 PM CST ON ZOOM  
\*REGISTRATION REQUIRED\*  
Register by 1/11 at [bit.ly/lcmduncan](https://bit.ly/lcmduncan)

WRITER. WITNESS. AGITATOR.



Lenny is the author of "United States of Grace" & "Dear Church". Born on 62nd and Race in West Philly, he now lives in the Pacific Northwest. Lenny is a nationally recognized writer, speaker, preacher, thinker, and agitator who has centered most of his theological work in the task of dismantling White Supremacy in Christian community. Lenny is just another Black queer writer trying to survive America. He loves hip hop, tattoos, Jesus, liberation, and most likely you.

## **Coffee and Connections Check in!**

9:30 am Thursday on zoom Look for link on the Midweek Gathering email

Start this day with a cup of coffee or tea and settle in for a check-in and conversation space hosted by Linda Edlund and Pastor Kim.

## **CALL ACTIVITIES!**

**Pre-Call Meeting Zoom Tutorial hosted by Sara Krentz & Scott Romans**

7:00 pm Thursday on zoom

**Pre-Call Meeting Zoom Tutorial hosted by Sara Krentz & Scott Romans**

10 am Saturday on zoom

## **Zoom Meet and Greet with the Pastoral Candidate**

2:00 pm Saturday on zoom

*see the email and newsletter items for a link to the google form to submit a question*

## **NEXT SUNDAY January 17th**

**Worship led by our pastoral candidate, and call meeting and vote immediately to follow**

## **LOOKING AHEAD AT IMMANUEL**

### **Budget Informational Meeting**

Sunday, January 24 following worship

### **Book Discussion on *How to be an Anti-Racist* by Ibram X. Kendi**

Tuesday, January 26

### **Congregational Annual Meeting**

Sunday, January 31 following worship

## **COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES**

**January 12, 6 pm – Isabel Wilkerson**, author of *The Warmth of Other Suns* and *Caste* will be speaking at the University of Chicago's MLK commemoration. See the newsletter for the registration link for this free event that will be livestreamed on the UofC facebook page and youtube channel.

**January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2-4 HEROS MLK Workshop**, with breakout rooms on areas such as Affordable Housing, Local Education, Local History, Civic Engagement and Beginning Your Anti-Racism Journey. See the newsletter to register, or talk to Audrey Moy, one of the organizers, for more information.

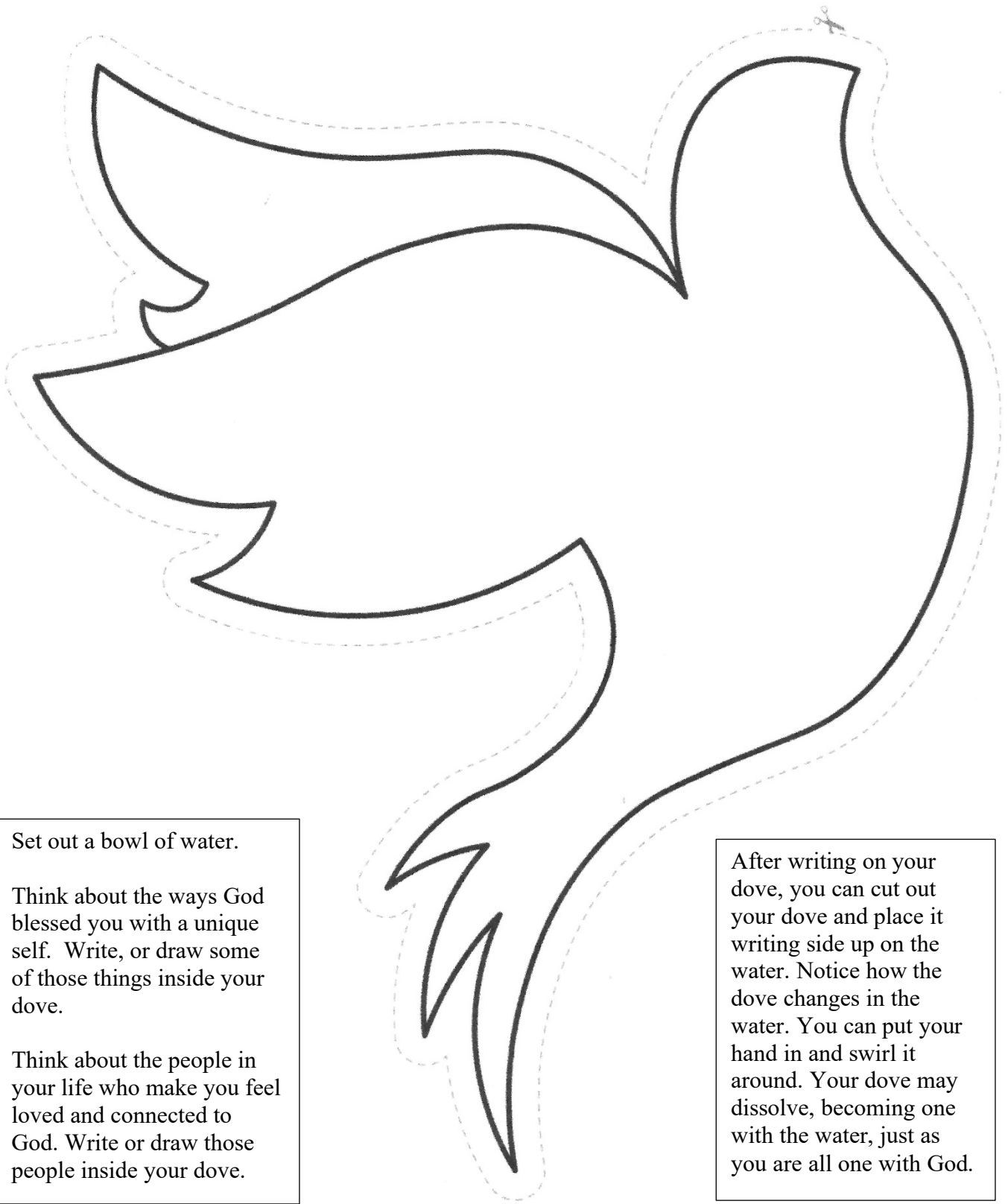
### **Interfaith Action of Evanston Walk for warmth (on wheels) on Jan. 18, 2021**

**DONATE:** <https://interfaithactionofevanston.networkforgood.com/projects/119434-action-team-s-fundraiser>

On MLK's National Day of Service, January 18, Walk for Warmth on Wheels will raise funds for operating the Emergency Overnight Shelters and heighten community awareness of people in Evanston who are homeless.

### **GoFundMe page for Swedish Covenant Meals through Prairie Grass Café is still open.**

Now more than ever we give thanks for our front line medical workers. God's work, our hands!



Set out a bowl of water.

Think about the ways God blessed you with a unique self. Write, or draw some of those things inside your dove.

Think about the people in your life who make you feel loved and connected to God. Write or draw those people inside your dove.

After writing on your dove, you can cut out your dove and place it writing side up on the water. Notice how the dove changes in the water. You can put your hand in and swirl it around. Your dove may dissolve, becoming one with the water, just as you are all one with God.