

## Wednesday

Read Luke 3:17 *John's vision*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What good wheat would you like to offer in this new year? What transformation would you like to see because of it?*
2. *What would it be like to have the worst of the world, of life, burned away, never to return?*

**Prayer Focus** Your Holy Spirit is an unquenchable fire, Savior. You are the one in charge of sorting things out, of clearing away wasting thoughts and habits. You are the one who can burn our away the old and leave us new and ready to be with you, to be yours.

## Thursday

Read Luke 3:21 *John baptizes Jesus*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Jesus was baptized along with others, in community with us. What does his baptism mean to you, today?*
2. *Prayer opens the heavens in this passage. What prayers do you offer today as you remember that you share your baptism with Jesus?*

**Prayer Focus** The power of heaven does not hold you back, Redeemer. You opened wide heaven's doors and made a way for us to hear and live and join with you in its blessings. Thank you.

## Friday

Read Luke 3:22 *God's blessing on Jesus*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What was pleasing to God in that moment?*
2. *What can you do to welcome and follow the Holy Spirit in this season?*

**Prayer Focus** God called you Beloved, Jesus. Help us to remember in our hearts that God also calls us "beloved." We commit ourselves today to live as people who really believe in that name and rejoice to share it with others.

## *The Gift of God's Spirit*

**Pastor's message:** Psalm 29; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

**Message Notes:** *Baptism of our Lord Sunday*

## Small Group Format

### Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *Where is your favorite place to be in nature?*

### Opening Prayer

### Song (optional)

### Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Psalm 29; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.**

- Discuss observations about the text
  - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
  - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

*Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)*

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

### Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

### Pray for each other

### Refreshments (optional)



## THE GIFT OF GOD'S SPIRIT

January 9, 2022

### Monday

Read Psalm 29 *The greatness of God*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *The voice of God is active, powerful, creative. Offer thanks for the gifts that God spoke into being.*
2. *What strength do you need this week?*

**Prayer Focus** We hear your voice in the world you created and within our own hearts. We lift your name first of all, today, God, as we acknowledge that you are the Creator, in charge of all. You are worthy of our praise and our trust.

### Tuesday

Read Luke 3:15-16 *John's prophecy*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What were the people expecting? Why?*
2. *Baptizing with the Holy Spirit and with fire—is this comforting to you? How are these different compared to baptism by water?*

**Prayer Focus** Jesus, you were baptized not because you were sinful but because you wanted to be with us, to be both our divine example and part of our lives together. Remind us that when we were baptized, you sealed our adoption into the family of God.