



## Nurturing Faith... Every Day in Every Way

January 12, 2020

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17



### Baptism of Our Lord

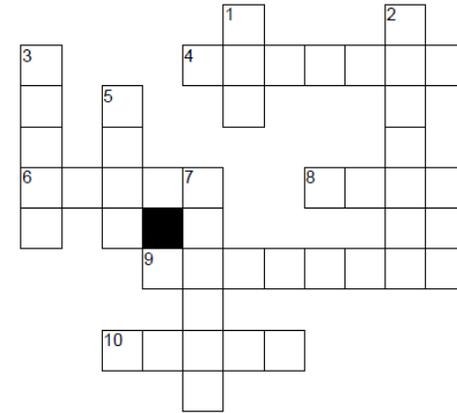
Hello friends! Can anyone tell me what this is and why it is used? (font) What's in there? Yes, water! But not just any water, it's the water of new life. Adults and children come to this water, are baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, and marked with the cross of Christ, claimed forever as God's own beloved child.

Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River by his cousin, John, the Baptist. Our gospel lesson from Matthew tells us that right after Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water and the sky opened up and the Spirit of God came down upon him like a beautiful dove. From that time on, Jesus was filled with God's powerful Spirit and he did amazing things.

Did you know that the same thing happened to you when you were baptized? You, too, have the power of God's Spirit. The very same Spirit that Jesus used to heal people is in you! The God of love is in your heart and hands, even your tiny ones. Have you ever helped someone to feel better by giving them a hug or telling someone you love them? That is the power of God's love that shines in you. Can you name some other ways that we can share love and help heal the world?

Loving God, you have named us and claimed us as your own beloved children. Each day as we wash our face, let us remember our baptism. Help us to use your Spirit to heal the world. Amen.

## Crossword Puzzle



#### ACROSS

4. A country whose ruler is a king or queen
6. To instruct someone on how to do something
8. Something bad; wicked
9. Holy, sacred, worthy of praise
10. A baked food made from flour

#### DOWN

1. To break God's laws
2. To remove the blame for doing wrong
3. The planet where we live
5. To speak to God with praise, confession, asking, or thanksgiving
7. The place where God is

KINGDOM	FORGIVE	EARTH	PRAY	BREAD
HALLOWED	EVIL	HEAVEN	SIN	TEACH

**Activity:** This week, start a new tradition. Each night before bed, make the sign of the cross upon each of your family members' forehead saying these words: You are God's beloved child. God loves you and so do I.

**Discussion Question:** How might your actions or words change if you were to always remember that you are God's beloved Child? Is it hard or easy to envision others as Children of God?

**Family Table Prayer for January:** God, you make all things new  
And for this, we thank you.  
For the blessings of this day,  
And for loving us in every way. Amen.

**January Memory Verse:** Revelation 21:5

Then the one sitting on the throne said: I am making everything new. Write down what I have said. My words are true.



### John Baptizes Jesus

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