

Devotion, Week of January 19, 2025
Rev. Jeanne Simpson

I am so thankful for all of you. We missed Sunday the 12th due to snow, and it was somewhat of a shock to walk in the church with no manger scene or gorgeous Christmas tree. But we celebrated Baptism of the Lord with some beautiful blue candles, the baptismal shell that we use for baptisms, and a decorate plate of Jesus being baptized. It was a true “blue” Sunday, and the congregation joined me in renewing our baptismal vows. I feel renewed and blessed, and I hope you do too.

Baptism is such an emotional event – for the person or the family of the baby being blessed with water, that seems holy. The congregation grows by another member and we all remember our own baptism events, either as we experienced them or as we were told about them. Our youngest daughter screamed bloody murder just as the minister started to sprinkle her with water. No idea where that came from – one scream, no tears, and then quiet. I will never forget that baby in her long white Christening gown, cap, and little booties, and 20 members of our family coming from N.C. to be there to celebrate her dedication to a life with Christ. I invite you this week to remember your baptism story and the baptisms of your children and grandchildren, and to be grateful for God’s loving care for all of us.

Yours in Christ,

Jeanne