

**Trinity
Lutheran
Church**

**January 7,
2024**

**Baptism of
Our Lord**

217 Brackenridge
Southwest
Sleepy Eye, MN

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Office Hours
Mon-Thurs
9am -3pm

Ministers
Every member

Interim Pastor
Grant Fischer
(320) 444-3517
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Parish Secretary
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507 276-8013

**Financial
Secretary**
Pat Stevermer
794-7112

**Organist /
Choir Director**
Mary Mulry
794-3768

Custodian
Pat Lowther

"
*And a voice came
from heaven,
You are my Son,
the Beloved;
with you I am
well pleased."*

Mark 1:11



BAPTISM OF OUR LORD HOLY COMMUNION ~ SETTING 10



Welcome
to
Trinity

JANUARY 7TH, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M.

“GOD’S RADICAL LOVE, LIVED OUT EVERY DAY”

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WELCOMES ALL WHO ENTER THIS HOUSE OF WORSHIP! The risen Christ calls all to faith and invites you to come and partake of the Lord’s real presence and free grace given and shed for you through the bread and cup of salvation today. May you be filled with new life to love and serve God and neighbor as a child of God!

Children not yet instructed in Communion are always welcome to come forward and receive a personal blessing. Following the Sunday morning worship you are invited to join in fellowship and refreshments served in the Library.

AVAILABLE WORSHIP AIDS

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available from the ushers.

CHILDREN’S ACTIVITY BAGS are available at the rear of church—please return them after the service, thanks.

PLEASE SIGN the Friendship Pad as it is passed to you during the time of distribution.

YOU CAN INDICATE your preference to receive grape juice by raising your index finger to the server.

I WISH CARDS are available in the pews & may be placed in offering plates to express your ideas/questions, thanks.

GATHERING

WE PREPARE: *Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit/wind moved over the waters. Both Mark’s gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit’s movement that distinguishes Jesus’ baptism from John’s. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God’s beloved children and setting us on Jesus’ mission to re-create the world in the image of God’s vision of justice and peace.*

RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, † one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Loving God,

we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.



Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of † Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

Shall We Gather at the River

ELW #423

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;

with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM 29

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters.

Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

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!"

**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

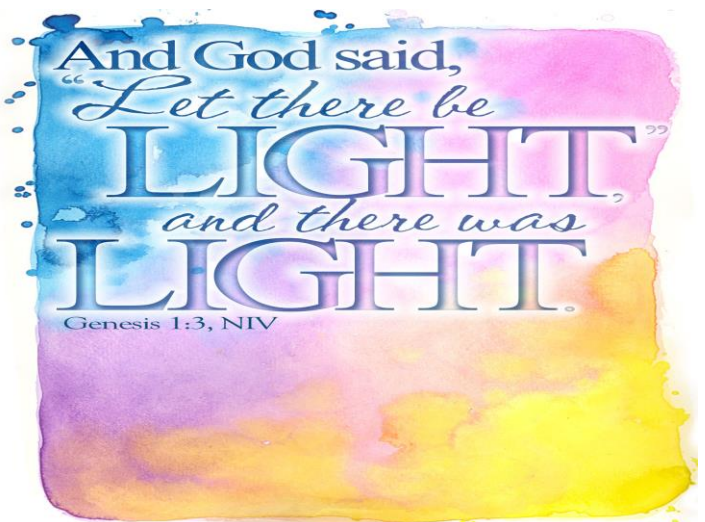
WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1-5

The First Reading in in Genesis Chapter 1, verses 1-5.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 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. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.



The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading is in Acts Chapter 19, verses 1-7.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied — altogether there were about twelve of them.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING

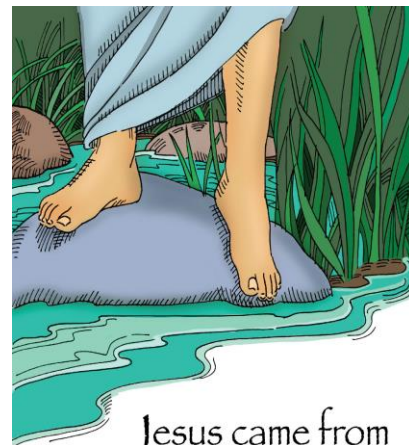
Mark 1:4-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord."

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 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. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 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. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."



Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

Mark 1:9, NRSV

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

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

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 the Spir - it, we are God's

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.

CREED

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

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.**

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

God of grace, receive our prayer.

THE PEACE

MEAL

THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

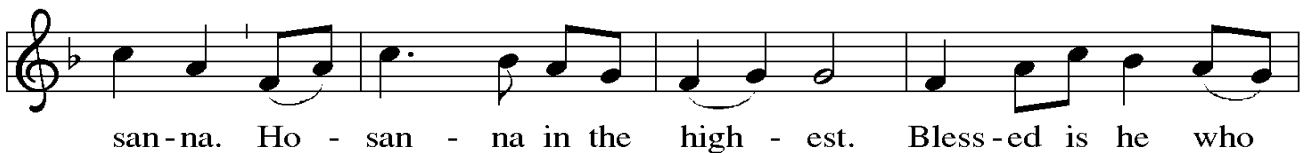
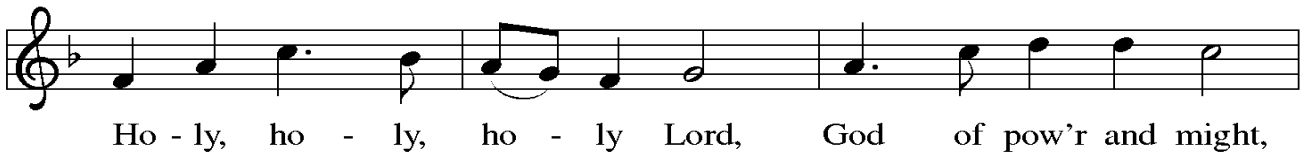
And also with you.

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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave Himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with the earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF JESUS

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

DISTRIBUTION

(Please sign the Welcome Pads and pass to your neighbor.)



PRAYER

Let us pray. Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(The offering is brought forward by the ushers.)

SENDING

SENDING OF COMMUNION

O God, whose grace and truth are revealed in the Word-made-flesh, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are homebound. Nourish and strengthen those who receive this Holy Communion, that through the body and blood of your Son all may rejoice at his birth and in his presence among us now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Go My Children With My Blessing

ELW# 543



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Be the light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

OUR THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE THE BODY OF CHRIST

SUNDAY		9:00 am Sunday Worship	
Accompanist	Cindy Anderson		
Acolytes	Davin Suess		
Readers	Phyllis Kleven		
Communion Assistants	Lee Johnson		
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen		
Greeters	Brian & Carol Polesky		
Ushers	Dale & Diane Eckstein		
Altar Guild	Mary Renberg & Sara Sellner		



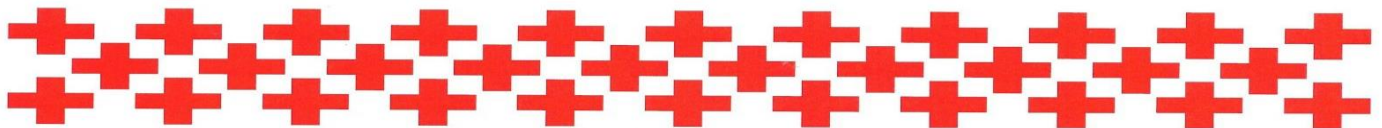
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Altar Guild is seeking additional members. Duties include light cleaning, setting up & cleaning up following communion services, handling floral arrangements and other similar weekly tasks. For more information, please contact Joleen Dittbenner or leave your name and number in church office. Thank you.

Board Director's Annual Reports are due January 8th. Please email them to Darlene at secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org. Thank You. Our annual meeting is scheduled for January 28th following worship. Please plan on attending this important meeting. Thank You.



American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



Blood Drive

Sleepy Eye Community Event Center

110 12th Ave NE
Sleepy Eye, MN

Tuesday, January 9, 2024
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Sleepy Eye to schedule an appointment.



Download the Blood Donor App today. Get your digital donor card, schedule your next appointment, track your lifetime donations, view your blood pressure, and follow your donation on its way to a hospital.



January 7, 2024

All life comes from God our Creator.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Genesis 1:1-5	In the beginning
Monday	Job 12:7-10	All life is in God's hand
Tuesday	Job 26:7-14	Job speaks of creation
Wednesday	Job 38:1-18	The Lord speaks of creation
Thursday	Hebrews 1:10-12	He laid the earth's foundations
Friday	Nehemiah 9:1-6	He gives life to everything
Saturday	Psalms 104:24-35	A psalm of creation
Sunday	John 1:43-51	Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael



SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1 (NIV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

God of creation, make us new this day with baptismal grace. Amen. (Genesis 1:1-5)

Mealtime Prayer:

In the beginning, God made the heavens, earth and sky. For life and food and daily care, we praise you, Lord Most High!

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord give you his strength. May the Lord bless you with peace. Amen. (Psalm 29:11)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What is something you have made? What did you use to make it?
- In the beginning God created the heavens and earth from nothing at all (Genesis 1:1-5).
Imagine that were you able to travel back in time to that first moment. What do you think you would see, hear, feel?
- Think back on the past week. In what ways have you seen or experienced God's creative power?

DEVOTIONS

On "Baptism of our Lord Sunday," we are invited to remember our own baptisms. In your home devotional times this week, share baptismal details and stories of members of your household. Look at any photos or videos you may have. Look up these verses about Baptism and discuss what they say: Romans 6:4, Galatians 3:27, Titus 3:5-6.

SERVICE

God calls us to help him in taking care of his creation. As an act of community service, take a few plastic bags and walk around your neighborhood picking up litter (remember to wear gloves).

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

At the time of creation, the Spirit of God was "moving over the waters" (Genesis 1:2). The same creative, life-giving Spirit of God was present and active when Jesus was baptized in the waters of the Jordan River (Mark 1:10) and is present and active whenever and wherever people are baptized in the name of Jesus (Mark 1:8, Acts 2:38). Share a ritual of baptismal remembrance. Set out a bowl of water. Say these words in turn to each person:

(Name), you were baptized on **(date)** at **(place)**. There and then God adopted you as a beloved child and gave you the Holy Spirit. Remember today that you belong to God. *Dip a finger into the water and make the sign of the cross on the person's forehead. Then, share this blessing with them:*
May the Spirit of God move over you and in you, filling you with faith, hope, love and peace. Amen.

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In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

Please take your bulletin home for weekly devotions



Trinity's Mission Statement

We are a community where Jesus is Lord: our mission is to invite, welcome, nurture, and equip all people to be disciples in His name.

TRINITY'S PRAYER CHAIN Send an email to secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org or call the office at 507 794-5051. Leave a message.

TRINITY'S WEBPAGE Send an email to the church office at secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org and let Darlene know you want your newsletter via email!

TRINITY IS NOW ON FACEBOOK
"Trinity Lutheran (ELCA) Sleepy Eye MN"

The Trinity Tidings newsletter is now also posted on www.sleepyeyonline.com watch this site for community news and events.



If you haven't already, please consider *Simply Giving*, an automated giving program for your offering. You determine the frequency of your offering which is deposited into Trinity's account the same day it is withdrawn from your account. It's a "hassle-free" way to give.

Talk to Pat or Darlene if you are interested. Thank You.

Last week at Trinity

Weekly Worship Attendance:	58
Weekly Giving: (5730.00 Needed)	\$15,272.63
December Giving: (\$22,920. Needed)	\$89,150.52
Yearly Contributions to Date	\$298,101.55
Amount needed to meet Budget	\$298,000.00

Thank you for meeting our 2023 Budget!



Thrivent members are reminded to direct their Choice Dollars each year any time after April 1st of the year.

This Week's Prayer Concerns

Pray for Trinity...that the Holy Spirit would keep our Trinity family united as we continue in worship and in helping others as we are able ...

Pray for the Church...that the Holy Spirit would empower us to live in the image of God so that we would speak and act in every way bringing glory to God before all the nations and peoples with what we have been given...

Pray for our World...that pain of this Covid-19 pandemic, which has penetrated so many lives that your light Lord would help us to see your presence and that the Spirit would lead us to seek the truth and practice grace for all who are hurting...

Pray for all who are ill, afflicted, or recovering...that the Holy Spirit would give comfort and daily strength to **Krista, Nicole, Trisha, Mark, Diane, Cindy, Sherry, Kali, Jerry, Beth, Harold, Sarah, Lennon, Chris, Kathy, Emmett, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Milo, Ed, Carlo, Dorothy, Story, Tina, Ethan, Robyn, Carmen, Linette, Tammy, John, Tony, Ted, Connor, Kimora, and Mary Jo.**

Pray for the beloved... who now rest from their labors in God's mercy and for all who mourn the personal loss of loved ones... that God would fill each one with the hope of our Lord's promise to bring us to a new heaven and earth where suffering, crying, pain and death will be no more....

Pray for all families...that the Holy Spirit would bring compassion and mercy to all who are separated from one another and each would give way to mercy, love and reconciliation...

Pray for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces and those far from home...for **Brady Augustin** and his wife ...and for all of our military Veterans that the Holy Spirit would guard them in safety and keep their hearts stayed in Christ...

Pray for the missionaries of our church (ELCA)...that they proclaim their witness of the Gospel throughout the world.

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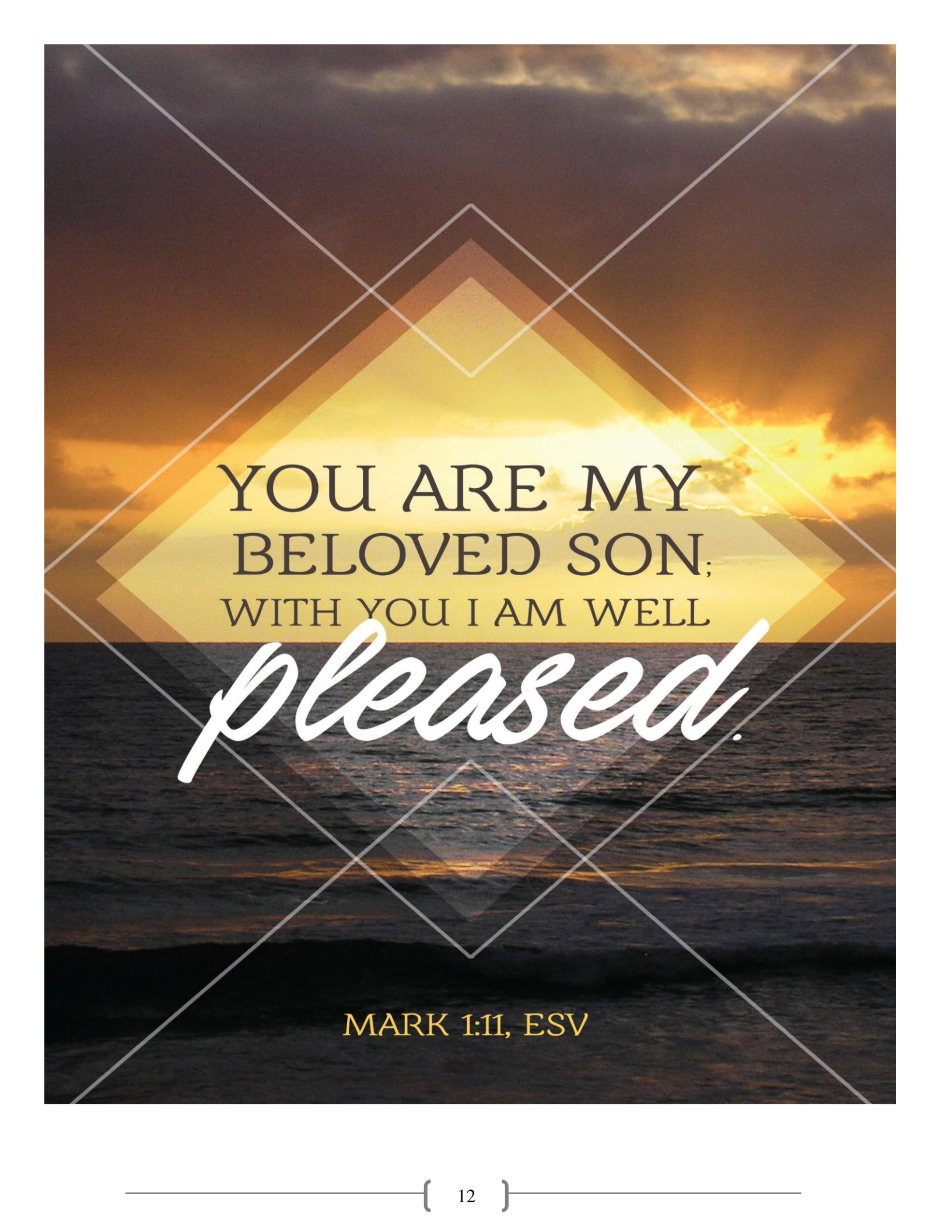
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A sunset over the ocean with a diamond-shaped graphic overlay. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. The diamond shape is composed of several overlapping, semi-transparent layers in shades of yellow, orange, and brown. The text is centered within this diamond.

YOU ARE MY
BELOVED SON;
WITH YOU I AM WELL

pleased.

MARK 1:11, ESV