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| **Named With Our Savior’s Name**  *Promise: in Baptism God reclaims and names us His* Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11; Luke 3:15-22 (Baptism of Our Lord), 1/12/25)  *“Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.”* – v 1b  **Lead In –** Who am I? How do we answer that question? Is our identity wrapped up in our career, profession, or occupation? If that is the case, who were we before we wore that mantle, or who are we after we retire? Is our identity a matter of the family we were born or adopted into? Is it the family we marry into? Is our identity a reflection of our talents and abilities? Is it something we must discover? Is it something we can create? Is it whatever we want it to be? Is it connected to our failures, shortcomings, or miscues? Are we stuck with what we confess each week, that we are poor, miserable sinners? All our readings this morning speak to the identity given us by God, and why in Him that’s Good News!   1. **Meet Wayward Exiles Who Are Given Renewed Identity**    1. In Creation humans fashioned in God’s image…    2. A chosen nation, tribe, and kingly lineage…    3. Consequences in making a name for ourselves… 2. **Temporal Punishments Intended As a Remedy**    1. The Creator who forms also redeems…    2. When passing through waters and fire…    3. Death the price for sin, and for the ransom… 3. **What Does All This Have to Do With Baptism?**    1. The majestic voice over the waters…    2. The sinless one bears our sins in the waters…    3. We are named in the Baptismal waters…   **Final Word –** When we try to discover or create our own identity, we only succeed in becoming poor, miserable sinners. We become alienated, exiled, and in bondage. We look for salvation in all the wrong places such as false religions, ideologies, politics, losing ourselves in the pursuit of endless pleasures, you name it. … That’s just it, we try to name it. The Good News of the Gospel is that your identity comes from God Himself. He calls us back to Himself. In Holy Baptism He gives you His Name, Savior, the Christ. We are named Christians. In Him we can walk through the fire of God’s holy wrath, for by Christ’s atoning death we have been redeemed. In Baptism we are joined to Christ’s death so that we might also share in a resurrection like His! You want to know who you are? Look to Baptism! You are His! That’s His naming of you.  **Ge 1:26-27** Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.  **Ge 1:28** And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”  **Ge 2:15** The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. | **Isaiah 43:1-7 ESV**  *Israel’s Only Savior*  1But now thus says the Lord,  he who created you, O Jacob,  he who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  I have called you by name, you are mine. 2When you pass through the waters, I will be   with you;  and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. 3For I am the Lord your God,  the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom,  Cush and Seba in exchange for you. 4Because you are precious in my eyes,  and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you,  peoples in exchange for your life. 5Fear not, for I am with you;  I will bring your offspring from the east,  and from the west I will gather you. 6I will say to the north, Give up,  and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar  and my daughters from the end of the earth, 7everyone who is called by my name,  whom I created for my glory,  whom I formed and made.”  **Ge 12:1-2** Now the Lord said to Abram, “…I will make of you a great nation.”  **Ge 49:10** The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.  **Ex 15:2** The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.  **He 12:28-29** Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.  **He 12:7-8** It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.  **Ps 29:3-4** The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.  **Lk 3:22b** and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”  **Jn 1:29** The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”  **Mt 28:19** “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” |