

*The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent,
personal preparation for the worship of God.*

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Christ, Our Lord, Came to the Jordan Johann Pachelbel
On Jordan's Gentle Bank I Stand American folk song
arr. Jean Langlais
Christ, Our Lord, Came to the Jordan Johann Sebastian Bach
Shall We Gather at the River. Robert Lowry
arr. Aaron Copland

Introit

"Take Me to the Water" African American spiritual
Take me to the water to be baptized.

*Doxology (*sung*). The Hymnal, 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Call to Worship

Minister: *Mountains and rivers, islands and oceans,*
People: give God glory!
Minister: *Foolish and wise, rulers and nations,*
People: give God glory!
Minister: *All who live, all who breathe,*
People: give God glory!
Minister: *Let us worship God.*

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 156 "Sing of God Made Manifest"

**Stand as you are able.*

Litany of Confession

Minister: *Timeless God, you cast Light into sin’s dark places
and call us your beloved. Forgive us:*

People: **when we still linger in the shadows;
when we treat others in hurtful ways;
when we speak ill of your friends.**

Minister: *As he knelt in the waters of the Jordan,
you proclaimed Jesus as your Son,
pointing to him as the way to you. Forgive us:*

People: **when we put ourselves ahead of him;
when we think he is no longer needed;
when we fail to see him in the broken of our world.**

Minister: *Baptized and blessed in your living waters,
you would have us be your servants in our time. Forgive us:*

People: **when we fail to welcome the stranger;
when we refuse to forgive as we should;
when we believe we are too good to kneel down
and tie the shoes of the lost, the least, the last, and the little.**

Minister: *Forgive us, O God, and make us new again.
We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.*

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe and trust this good news of the Gospel.*

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

Sacrament of Baptism (11:00)

Unison Prayer (11:00)

Holy God, remind us of the promises given in our own baptism
and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will and to
serve you with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“The Baptism of Jesus” Peter Hallock

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter *(responsively)*

Psalms 29 Old Testament, page 477

*Gloria Patri (<i>sung</i>)	The Hymnal, 581
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.	
Scripture Lesson	
Mark 1:4–11	New Testament, page 32
Minister: <i>The Word of the Lord.</i>	
People: Thanks be to God.	
Sermon	Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 488 “I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry”

A REAFFIRMATION OF OUR BAPTISMAL VOWS

*Baptismal Litany

Minister: *Remember your baptism and be glad!*

People: The waters of God’s mercy have flowed,
and we have been cleansed and refreshed.

Minister: *Remember the waters that God gathered together and called seas:
the mothers of rivers, lakes, and springs
that quench the thirst of the earth and all its inhabitants.*

People: We drink of the water of God’s creation
and praise God’s name for life.

Minister: *Remember the waters of the Red Sea and God’s salvation.*

People: With the people of old,
we have been freed from our oppression
and brought to a new land.

Minister: *Remember the well where our Samaritan sister
found Jesus and received her blessing.*

People: We know that sacred place,
for Jesus has also encountered us there,
speaking truth to us and loving us.

Minister: *Remember Jesus at the River Jordan;*

People: the One who was without sin took upon himself our sin.

Minister: *We are redeemed by Jesus, called to live his righteousness.*

People: May God be our help.

(continued)

Minister: *Remember God's grace; we are redeemed by Jesus
and not by who we are or what we do.*

People: Thanks be to God for unmerited grace!

Minister: *Remember your baptism and be glad!*

People: We remember and our lives are filled with joy!

*Profession of Faith and Renunciations

*The Apostles' Creed (*unison*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Blessing over the Waters

Proclamation and Invitation for Remembrance

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer Response

"There Is a Longing in Our Hearts" Anne Quigley
*There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.*

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Father in Heaven”David Hurd
Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

*Presentation of the Offering and Response

For the life that you have giv-en, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we of - fer, Lord, our prai - ses; heart and mind and strength we bring.
Give us grace to love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

*Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

O God, at his baptism,
you acknowledged Jesus as your beloved Child,
and through him you opened to us
a way to become your children by grace.
May these gifts we return to you be a sign of our dedication
to live as your faithful daughters and sons,
born in the waters of baptism by the power of the Holy Spirit;
through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

*Hymn 297“In Christ Called to Baptize”

Bearing the Word into the World

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

I’ve Just Come from the Fountain African American spiritual
arr. Richard Billingham

Worship Leaders

9:30 Judith L. Watt, Rebecca Dixon, Hardy H. Kim, Shannon J. Kershner
11:00 Victoria G. Curtiss, Rebecca Dixon, Hardy H. Kim, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Morning Choir
Laura Perket, oboist
Laura Kubelka, soloist
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

THE CHILDREN BEING BAPTIZED DURING THE 11:00 SERVICE ARE
Josephine Faye Gardner, daughter of John and Kristin Gardner
Reese Elizabeth Rocchini, daughter of Michael and Susan Rocchini

AS THE BULLETIN HEADINGS remind us, the center of our worship is the Word—by which we mean both Scripture, and also the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. When Scripture is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the Living Word is present by the inward witness of the Holy Spirit. It is this Living Word that is the center of everything we do in worship. That worship follows the pattern we see in Isaiah 6: adoration, confession, absolution, thanksgiving, and service. We listen for the Word of God. We respond in song, affirmation of our faith, prayer, and the giving of our gifts and dedication of our lives, and then God sends us back into the world to live out our faith, looking for God’s work all around us.

THE BULLETIN COVER photo depicts snow delicately balanced on a coiled vine just outside the cloisters on Michigan Avenue (the faint vertical stripes in the background are the Westin Hotel). The cover quote is from Ted Loder’s book *Guerrillas of Grace: Prayers for the Battle*.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. The words to “For the Life that You Have Given” are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

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Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor for Mission	Judith L. Watt Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
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