

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

On Jordan's Gentle Bank I Stand American folk song
arr. Jean Langlais

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.

*Invocation

*Hymn 156 “Sing of God Made Manifest”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Gracious God, we are precious in your sight,
yet we often forget that we are your beloved.
We confess our love can be fickle and inconsistent.
We tend to follow selfish goals
and forget we are all part of your family,
your beloved creation.
We are sorry and we want to change.
Create in us a clean heart;
strengthen our resolve;
reconcile us to one another;
and bless us with your peace. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news.*
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“The Baptism of Jesus” Peter Hallock
*Jesus went to the Jordan today.
When Jesus Christ baptized was,
the Holy Ghost descended with grace;
the Father’s voice was heard in the place:
“You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”
There were three persons and one Lord,
the Son baptized with one accord;
the Father said this blessed word:
“You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”
Now Jesus, as thou art both God and man,
and were baptized in from Jordan, at our last end,
we pray thee, say then:
“You are my child, my beloved; with you I am well pleased.”*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 29 Old Testament, page 477

*Gloria Patri (*sung*). 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: *The Word of the Lord.*

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.

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!

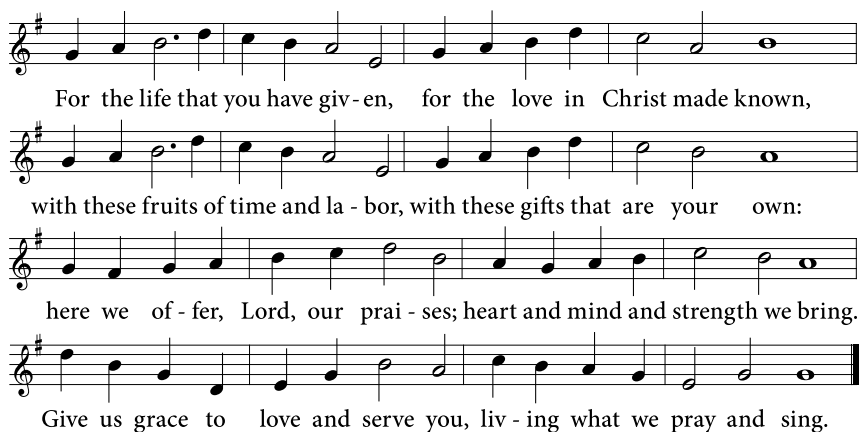
Invitation for Remembrance

Offering

Offertory Solo

"At the River" Robert Lowry
arr. Aaron Copeland

*Offertory 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.

Sealing the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Minister: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayer

Minister: *Into the shadows of silence, you hummed the first chords of creation, O God . . . and so we join our voices with your saints in every time and place, singing forever to the glory of your name:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might,
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is the
One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Minister: *Blessedness is your name, Holy God,
and blessedness is also our Savior, Jesus Christ . . .
. . . and when time has ended its journey,
and we are gathered as your family around the Table of grace,
we will join our hands and hearts together, singing to you through
all eternity and praying as you taught us, saying:*

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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.

The Communion

Communion Anthem

"Baptismal Prayer" Richard Shephard

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

O God, in this meal we have been given a foretaste
of the feast that is to come.
Help us always to be alert
to your gifts in our midst,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Judith L. Watt, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Chancel Choir

Callie Thompson, soloist

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

THIS MORNING, COMMUNION IS SERVED BY INTINCTION. The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

The Lord's Supper is the sign and seal of eating and drinking in communion with the crucified and risen Lord. In this act, we remember that during his earthly ministry, Jesus shared meals with his followers and sat at dinner tables as a sign of acceptance of the sinner and the outcast.

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is not just for Presbyterians or "members of the church." All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and grape juice (in place of wine) in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Prayer of Confession is from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion* copyright © 2012 Westminster John Knox Press, and is reproduced by permission. The prayer after the Great Thanksgiving is adapted from liturgy by Thom Schuman, found at <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>. 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 by Hope Publishing Co. The music for "Holy, Holy, Holy" is by John Sherer © 1997.

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