

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude :: Shall We Gather at the River John Ferguson

Introit :: “When Jesus Came to Jordan” Hal H. Hopson

*When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John,
he did not come for pardon, but as his Father’s Son.
He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.*

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

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

*Call to Worship

Leader: *Arise, shine, for your light has come!*

People: **And the glory of the Lord has arisen upon you.**

Leader: *Lift up your eyes and look around.*

People: **Then shall you see and be radiant.**

Leader: *Arise, shine; for your light has come!*

People: **Let us proclaim the praise of our God!**

*Hymn 10 “Sing Glory to the Name of God”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Gracious God, we are a people who dwell in darkness. We have turned from your ways to walk our own paths. We have not made the cause of the poor our own. We have not made your love known to the world in the way we live each day. We have waited for the right time and have missed our chance to act in your time. All this we bring before you now, and ask you, O God, in love, to speak the word of forgiveness. Amen.

*Stand as you are able.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

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

*Exchange of Peace

Leader: *The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*

People: **And also with you.**

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

Concerns of the Church

Anthem :: “The Baptism of Jesus” Peter Hallock

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson :: Isaiah 42:1-9 Old Testament, page 630

Psalter Psalm 29

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Acclamation (*sung*) The Hymnal, 583

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 317 “In Christ There Is No East or West”

*Baptismal Litany

Leader: *Remember your baptism and be glad!*

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

Leader: *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.**

Leader: *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.**

Leader: *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.**

Leader: *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!**

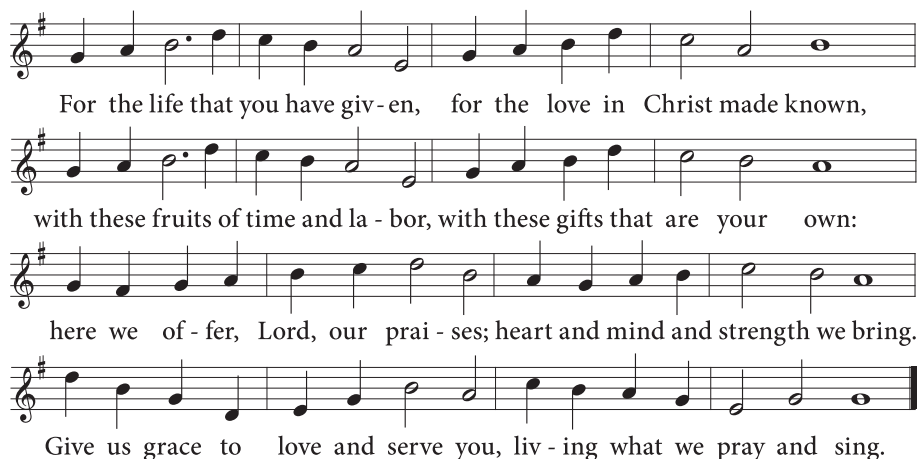
Leader: *Remember your baptism and be glad!*

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

Offering

Offertory Voluntary :: Deep River African American spiritual; arr. Gerald Near

*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

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*

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

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

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

Prayer

Leader: *It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .*

. . . forever singing to the glory of your name:

Sanctus (*sung*) The Hymnal, 572

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: . . . *Great is the mystery of faith:*

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) The Hymnal, 573
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Lord’s Prayer (*unison*) The Hymnal, page 35

The Communion

Communion Anthem :: “O Lamb of God” Healey Willan

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

For all your gifts, O God, we give you thanks,
and especially this day we give thanks for your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

We are so grateful that his light has given us light for our days,
that we will not stumble in the dimness of our life.

We are thankful for his love for us
that showers us with new life, new joy, and new awakening.

On this day, when we remember our baptism,
we rededicate our lives to you, remembering, O God,

that you equip us to live as your people every day;
through Jesus we pray. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 265 “Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude :: Postlude in C Major Henry Smart

Worship Leaders

Victoria G. Curtiss, Sue Thompson, Lucy Forster-Smith

The Music Today

Chancel Choir

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

Laura Bottei, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

TODAY WE REMEMBER THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD, one of the texts traditionally read after Epiphany, when we continue to focus on the revelation of the divinity of Jesus. As we hear again the voice of the Lord saying at Jesus' baptism "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased," we also recall our own baptism, in which God has claimed and named us as God's own. In grateful thanksgiving we together renew our commitment to live out our call as beloved children of God.

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 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.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Victoria G. Curtiss Mission

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Maggie Shreve Parish Associate for Jail Ministry

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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 Prayer of Confession is adapted from *Preaching and Worshiping in Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany* (pp. 71–72). 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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