

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Baptism of the Lord

January 8, 2023

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Holy God,
you sent your Son to be baptized among sinners,
to seek and save the lost.
May we, who have been baptized in his name,
never turn away from the world,
but reach out in love to rescue the wayward;
by the mercy of Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Prelude in A Major

Gregory Owens

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Vince Leseney

We know that the voice of the Lord is powerful.

We know that the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

We believe that the servant of the Lord will not break a bruised reed.

We believe that the servant of the Lord will not quench a dim flame.

Both these things are true:

Our God's righteousness is a mighty stream,

And our Savior is like a lamb.

Through the Holy Spirit, we hold space for all aspects of God.

Today we worship an unknowable God, who loves us and calls us by name, who came to meet us in the person of Jesus Christ.

*SONG OF PRAISE

God is Here

Hymnal, No. 409

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise....

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Creator God,

in our baptisms, you marked us with your love,

inviting us into covenant with you.

As we grow older, you reveal more and more of yourself to us.

We see and experience the brokenness of the world;

we know that we are called to embody your love.

But the task sometimes feels too big.

It's easier to ignore the pain of others.

It's easier to choose blindness.

Forgive us for forgetting our baptism,

for forgetting that our lives are meant for something bigger.

(Time of silent reflection)

Even when we fail, even when we are not perfect, God still claims us. God still calls us by name. God still places God's Spirit upon us.

We are known and loved and forgiven. Amen.

*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Glory Be to the Father

Hymnal, No. 581

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Nick Lindley

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 42:1-9

Page No. 584

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 29

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!

ANTHEM

Down Galilee's Slow Roadways

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 3:13-17

Page No. 784

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Beginning of Discipleship

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Hymnal, No. 688

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Philemon 2:5-11

**God's sovereign love is a mystery
beyond the reach of the human mind.
Human thought ascribes to God
superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.
But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ
by showing power in the form of a servant,
wisdom in the folly of the cross,
and goodness in receiving
sinful men and women.
The power of God's love in Christ
to transform the world
discloses that the Redeemer
is the Lord and Creator
who made all things
to serve the purpose of God's love.**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.15

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymnal, No. 606

*DEDICATION PRAYER

SEALING THE WORD—CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND LORDS' PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

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.

Therefore we praise you, joining the song
of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

**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.**

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud Hymnal, No. 11

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE Toccata Gordon Young

*Please rise in body or spirit.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

Lectionary Readings for January 15: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

The Food & Shelter items of the month for January **are canned fruits and veggies. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table. Hearing-assistance devices and large print hymnals are available from the head usher.**

Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the head usher.

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an

of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
 life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
 Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and
 age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful

full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
 font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
 wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
 to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.

Here, as in the world a - round us, all our
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we

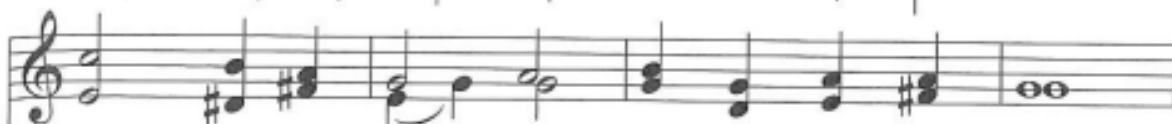
var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing
 si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness
 wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in
 have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not

of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart 688



1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
4 Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh.
5 Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,



wear it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
Teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;



stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
no an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
to check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh.
the bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,



and make me love thee as I ought to love.
but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.



11 Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud



1 Source and Sov-ereign, Rock and Cloud, For-tress, Foun-tain, Shel - ter, Light,
2 Word and Wis-dom, Root and Vine, Shep-herd, Sav-ior, Ser - vant, Lamb,
3 Storm and Still-ness, Breath and Dove, Thun-der, Tem-pest, Whirl-wind, Fire,



Judge, De - fend-er, Mer-cy, Might, Life whose life all life en-dowed:
Well and Wa - ter, Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM:
Com - fort, Coun-selor, Pres-ence, Love, En-er - gies that nev - er tire:



May the church at prayer re - call that no sin - gle ho - ly name



but the truth be-hind them all is the God whom we pro-claim.

