



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Baptism of the Lord | January 10, 2021

NOTE:

**For this Service of Communion and Renewal of Baptism,
you'll want to set up your worship space with some bread or crackers,
some kind of juice, and water that you can pour into a small bowl.**

PRELUDE

Take Me to the Water

Text and Music: African-American Spiritual

Vicki Chadwick, Gail Thomas, Laura Viau, vocal trio

CALL TO WORSHIP

*(All speak words in **boldface**.)*

The voice of God resounds upon the water.

The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.

The Son of God is named, "Beloved."

And all who worship shout out, "Glory!"

HYMN

Sing Glory to the Name of God

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Sing glory to the name of God,
whose holy splendor shines abroad.***

Alleluia, alleluia!

***Enthroned above the crashing waves,
the God of grace and glory saves.***

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2009 TUNE: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, alt. Text © 2011 David Gambrell (admin. Presbyterian Publishing Corp.)
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PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

(Pouring water into the font.)

Voice of Heaven, with the water of baptism
reminding us of your love,

we lift our praises to you.

Your voice cradles us with songs of wonder and awe.
Your voice sweeps away all the boundaries between us.
Your voice reminds us that we are precious, esteemed, beloved.
Even so, we often live as if they have not changed us.

**Forgive us, Spirit of grace.
Remind us again
that in the water of our baptism
we stand with Jesus
and hear your affirming voice.
May your grace become our gratitude
that we reveal in deeds,
following Jesus in paths of justice,
right relationship,
and peace.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

(Lifting water from the font)

.....

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

VERSE OF PRAISE AND THANKS *(verse two)*

May God forever be our peace; may hymns of glory never cease:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let all the faithful people come; sing praise to God, the Three-in-One:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:1-22

SERMON

“Beloved, Be Loved, Be Love”

Rev. Laura Viau

*Christ, you heard the stirring summons as by Jordan's bank you stood;
 Bathed, though sinless, with your people in the river's cleansing flood.
 High above, the heavens opened; came the Spirit as a dove;
 Spoke a Voice beyond all hearing: "See my Son, the One I love!"*

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

..... we continue to worship and to gather around the table.

**It's different to be sitting in many places,
 with our own supplies.
 We are bound together, not through proximity,
 but by bits and bytes and cables.**

..... And remember: I am with you always.

**We are ready to join this meal
 of remembrance, of communion, of hope.
 Let us break bread together.**

Great Thanksgiving

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.

.....

Now pour out your Holy Spirit, O God,
**to transform us for your service—
 through the gospel of salvation,
 through the font of new creation,
 through the feast of our redemption,
 until your realm of glory comes.**

We give you thanks and praise, O God,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
 in the unity of your Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray together, saying:

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.

Breaking and Pouring

.....

These are Gifts from God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Shall we eat and drink together?

Communion

(Worshippers may touch the water in their bowl. After the service, the water could be poured into a small container as a symbol of waiting, a little longer, in hope for a new day.)

..... we have shared a meal together.

**Even while we remain physically separated,
we have been united in our souls.**

Prayer

..... in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

HYMN (*verse two*)

***God, in baptism you have made us one with Christ, our risen Lord;
Freed us, claimed us, cleansed, forgiven through the water and the Word.
Help us hear your urgent summons, calling us to serve you now.
Send us forth, your sons and daughters, with the cross upon our brow.***

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BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Take Me to the Water

Rev. Laura Viau, Interim Pastor (laurabviau@gmail.com)

Randy Warner, Liturgy and Music Associate and Accompanist;
Kathy Sasso, Church Secretary; **Linda Rowell**, Church Treasurer;
Joyce Winkler, Qualified Ruling Elder; **Crystal Braxton**, Nursery;
Hery Ramambasoa, Regional Liaison for Southeast Asia and the Pacific

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PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL. 😊