



*A Lighthouse Guiding
People to Christ”*

A dynamic splash of blue water with many small droplets and bubbles, creating a sense of movement and freshness.

**BAPTISM
OF OUR LORD**

January 14, 2024

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PRELUDE / COUNTDOWN
WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

WELCOMING OF GUESTS

Pastor

PASSING THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP / CONGREGATIONAL
PRAYER Liturgist

Liturgist: In the beginning, God...

Congregation: Swept over waters, spoke light into existence, created day and night and called it good.

Liturgist: As the days and nights of creation filled with life, God...

Congregation: Made humanity out of the dirt to love and tend creation, to be loved and tended by God.

Liturgist: As we lost our way, God...

Congregation: Sent Jesus, Love Incarnate, to show us the way back.

Liturgist: On the day Jesus came to the banks of the Jordan River to be baptized, God...

Congregation: Declared, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Liturgist: Let us, then, follow Jesus into the waters, remembering our baptism in which God...

Congregation: Claims us as beloved children, the family of God.

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Shall We Gather at the River* (v. 1-4)
UMH #723

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Modern
Affirmation Liturgist

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good. We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death. We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of

the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need. We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

see screen

**Please stand as you are able*

OLD TESTAMENT READING: (Isaiah 42:1-9)

"Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One *in whom* My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles. ² He will not cry out, nor raise *His voice*, nor cause His voice to be heard in the street. ³ A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth. ⁴ He will not fail nor be discouraged, Till He has established justice in the earth; And the coastlands shall wait for His law." ⁵ Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, Who gives breath to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk on it: ⁶ "I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the Gentiles, ⁷ To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the prison, Those who sit in darkness from the prison house. ⁸ I *am* the LORD, that *is* My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images. ⁹ Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare; Before they spring forth, I tell you of them."

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, we thank You that Jesus who was without sin washes away our sins and gives us a new life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING (Acts 19:1-7 NKJV)

Liturgist

And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples ² he

said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So, they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." ³ And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So, they said, "Into John's baptism." ⁴ Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus." ⁵ When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. ⁷ Now the men were about twelve in all.

MISSION MOMENT

GOSPEL READING (Mark 1:4-11 NKJV)

John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. ⁵ Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose." ⁸ "I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." ⁹ It came to pass in those days *that* Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove. ¹¹ Then a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

PRESENTATION OF PRAYERS AND PRAISE

Pastor

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor

*HYMN OF PREPARATION
(v. 1-3) UMH #400

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

SERMON ANTHEM
Choir

When Jesus Came to Jordan

SERMON

Pastor

Title: Behold My Servant

Theme: Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Main Idea: To explore the significance of Jesus' baptism, our rebirth through water and spirit, and our mission to spread the Gospel to the world.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of redemption and new life, we focus once more this day on the greatest gift ever given -- Jesus, our Savior. As he was baptized by John in the Jordan, we were able to share in his baptism and receive the promise of sharing in Jesus' resurrection. As we leave one year behind and look with hope to the new year ahead, help us to live and give of ourselves as those who know every day what a great gift we have been given. May it move us to give our whole selves more freely! In the name of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, we pray! Amen.

PASSING THE PLATE

*DOXOLOGY
UMH #94

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings

REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL COVENANT

See insert

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION
CEL #465

Baptized in Water (v. 1-3)

*COMMISSION / BENEDECTION

As you go into the week ahead, may every water you touch be a reminder that you are named and claimed by God who binds you to this community of faith and all Christians of all times and places in love... Amen

*BENEDECTION RESPONSE
See screen

Love and Fellowship

POSTLUDE