

**David's UCC on January 10, 2021**

**Baptism of Christ Sunday**

**Online Worship Bulletin**



Opening Music – *Tim Williams and Lyn Morton*

(please note – the music will play approximately 10 minutes prior to 10:00 a.m.)

"Wade in the Water" African American Spiritual, arr. by Joel Raney

"Shall We Gather at the River" Robert Lowry, arr. by Dale Wood

"Down to the River to Pray" with "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" Traditional Spiritual and Ken Medema, arr. by Mary McDonald

"Take Me to the River" Al Green and Mabon Hodges

*"Take me to the river; wash me down. Won't you cleanse my soul, put my feet on the ground"*

Welcome – *Rev. Dr. Brian Q. Newcomb*

A Moment of Silent Prayer for our Nation – The Prayer of St. Francis (in unison)

***All: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me bring love.  
Where there is offence, let me bring pardon.  
Where there is discord, let me bring union.  
Where there is error, let me bring truth.  
Where there is doubt, let me bring faith.  
Where there is despair, let me bring hope.  
Where there is darkness, let me bring your light.  
Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.***

***O Master, let me not seek as much  
to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love,  
for it is in giving that one receives,  
it is in self-forgetting that one finds,  
it is in pardoning that one is pardoned,  
it is in dying to self that we are born to eternal life.  
Amen.***

Call to Worship – *Rev. Michelle Wilkey*

One: With what shall we come before the Holy One, and show proper respect before God on high?

**Many: Shall we come to God making sacrifices, supplications born of guilt and shame?**

One: No, for God has shown you, O people, what is good; so, what does the Holy One require?

**Many: Three simple things really: that we live justly and fairly with our neighbors, while showing compassionate love to all we encounter, and don't take ourselves too seriously while walking humbly with our God and each other.**

Invocation –

Children's Moment –

Announcements and Invitation for Support – [www.davidsucc.org](http://www.davidsucc.org)

Special Music –

“Roll Jordan, Roll” Traditional Spiritual, arr. by Myra Schubert

Call to Confession –

Unison Prayer of Confession – **We admit, O God, that we are attracted to false gods who lure us from you. The “god of easy answers” whispers that we need not accept the cost of discipleship, but only its joy. The “god of busy schedules” tempts us to delay doing your will until tomorrow. The “god of cozy friendships” calls us to love only those who are like us, rather than build bridges of connection among diverse peoples. The “god of convenience” allows us to choose the path of least resistance while overlooking the impact of our privileged actions on the planet that sustains us, and on people that have been marginalized by poverty, race, orientation or disability. Forgive us that we are drawn to false gods and fail to see how our actions or inaction impacts the larger human community and the environment that sustains us. Hold us close in your love, that we may never forsake you and your community which surrounds us, but always serve faithfully; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon –

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayers and Lord's Prayer –

Canticle – Psalm 29 (adapted from The Message)

One: Bravo, God, bravo! Let all the gods and angels shout, "Encore!"

**Many: We are in awe before God's visible power and glory. We rise to attention, wearing our best to honor God.**

One: God's voice thunders across the waters, God's face, brilliant, streaming the brightness of God across the flood waters.

**Many: God's voice thunders tympanic, God's thunder symphonic.**

One: God's thunder smashes cedars, breaks the tall cedars in half.

**Many: God makes the mountain ranges skip like spring colts, the high ridges jump like wild young goats.**

One: God's thunder spits fire. God thunders, the wilderness quakes, makes the desert shake.

**Many: God's thunder sets the oak trees dancing, a wild twirling, whirling, the rain stripping their branches.**

One: Falling to our knees, we call out, "Glory!"

**Many: God is enthroned above the floodwaters, from where God's power flows, from where God rules the world.**

One: God makes God's people strong.

**Many: God gives God's people peace.**

Hymn – "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"

(Tim and Lyn will play while you sing, together, at home.)

- 1. I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;  
I'll be there in case you wander off and find where demons dwell.**
- 2. When you found the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living God, to whom you now belong.  
Should you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts  
as one, I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk to rising sun.**
- 3. In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.  
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.**
- 4. I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.**

Scripture –

Hebrew: Genesis 1: 1 – 5, 26 – 28  
Second Reading: Acts 19: 1 – 7  
Gospel: Mark 1: 4 – 11

Sermon – “Baptized and Beloved”

Invitation For Renewal and Prayer of Baptism –

Renewal of Baptismal Promises –

One: Do you renew and affirm the promises made at your Baptism?

**People: I do.**

One: Do you recognize the call of God to be God’s people always?

**People: I do.**

One: Do you embrace the way of Jesus in faith and ministry?

**People: I do.**

One: Do you accept the nurture of the Holy Spirit who renews your spirit each day?

**People: I do.**

One: Do you accept and embrace others who seek a liberating faith in God?

**People: I do.**

Unison Prayer – **O God, we rejoice in your grace, given and received. Thank you that you claim us, that you wash us, strengthen us, and guide us, that you empower us to live a life worthy of our calling. In the way of Jesus, make us as water in a dry and thirsty land. Establish us to be places of refreshment. Root us and nurture us in love, that with all your people, we may rightly and justly serve you. Fill us with your fullness that our lives may overflow in service and love. Amen.**

Benediction/fare thee well until next time –

Closing Music – “Down by the Riverside” Traditional Spiritual, arr. by Larry Shackley

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