



January 8, 2023 – Livestream
Baptism of the Lord Sunday

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

PRELUDE

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

arr. J. Linker

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Beloved Jesus meets us here.

People: Come Holy Spirit and immerse us in the waters of forgiveness.

Leader: The Powerful Christ lifts us up.

People: Come Holy Spirit and baptize us in the flames of holy love.

*OPENING HYMN #604

Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God

***Praise and thanksgiving be to God our maker,
source of all blessing, prodigal creator.***

***Baptized and made your own,
now we come before you, while we adore you.***

***Not our own holiness nor that we have striven
brings us the peace which you, O Christ, have given.***

***Baptized and set apart,
strengthen us, O Savior, with grace and favor.***

***Come, Holy Spirit, come in visitation;
you are the truth, our hope, and our salvation.***

***Baptized with joy and power,
give, O Dove descending, life never ending.***

***Praise to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
one Lord, one faith, one source of every merit.***

***Here now renew your church
through this water given; grant peace from heaven.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Debbie Hinderliter-Lewis

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 42:1-9

¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon them;
they will bring forth justice to the nations.

² They will not cry or lift up their voice,

or make it heard in the street;
³ a bruised reed they will not break,
and a dimly burning wick they will not quench;
but will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴ They will not grow faint or be crushed
until justice has been established on the earth;
and the coastlands wait for their teaching.
⁵ Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
⁶ I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
⁷ to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
⁸ I am the Lord, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.
⁹ See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

My Eyes Have Seen Your Salvation

arr. C. Kirkland/T. Fettke
Ron Berry, Chad Barton, soloists
Voices in Accord

Seems I've spent a lifetime waiting for this moment to arrive. There were times I wondered if my faith was strong enough to survive. But still I've trusted You, You've never let me down, Your Promise has come true, for the Savior I have found.
My eyes have seen Your salvation. For what God has promised He has done.
My eyes have seen Your salvation; for I've seen Jesus Christ, God's Son.
Lord, You have been faithful. How can I repay You for Your grace? Heaven holds my future for I have seen Salvation face to face. I'll fall down to my knees, and raise my voice to sing. With every breath in me, I will worship Christ the King. *Refrain*
You are the glory for Your holy nation. You are the light of revelation to the world. *Refrain*

*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.' Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN #252

When Jesus Came to Jordan

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

***He came to share temptation, our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation to die upon the cross.
So when the dove descended on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended, the age of grace began.***

***Come, Holy Spirit, aid us to keep the vows we make;
this very day invade us, and every bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction, the gift we covet most:
to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost.***

PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

Sunil Kotian

INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Leader: John preached, "Repent, for the reign of God has come near."

With the confession of our sins, let us prepare the way of the Lord into our lives:

Tender One, Mighty One, Faithful One:

**People: forgive us for the evil we have tolerated
and the evil we have cultivated.**

[Silent Prayer]

Leader: Merciful One, Strong One, Eternal One:

**People: forgive me for the sins I have done and
the good I have left undone.**

[Silent Prayer]

Leader: Hear the good news:

Jesus brings the baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire

to purge us of all that is unholy,

and fill us with assurance, strength, and hope.

People: Glory and praise to Jesus Christ our Savior! Alleluia!

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Brandon Wallace

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Christ, Our Lord, to Jordan Came*arr. J.W. Greene
Voices in Accord

Christ, our Lord, to Jordan came, there to follow God's command,
Living Word, baptized by John, our great treasure and God's Son.
There with Christ are we all washed, cleansed from evil evermore,
just as with Him on the cross death dies as new life is born.
Then the dove came down from heaven, Spirit of the living God
floating down upon His Son, a new baptism from on high.

On that day grace came anew so that we could fully know
that God with us still shall dwell, bringing us the words of life.
Thus disciples are we all, living out Christ's mystic vision.
Our baptism like his own, pouring God into our souls.

*DOXOLOGY #94

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

CONGREGATIONAL REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

Leader: On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,
reject the evil powers of this world,
and repent of your sin?

People: I do.

Leader: Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you
to resist evil, injustice, and oppression
in whatever forms they present themselves?

People: I do.

Leader: Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,
put your whole trust in his grace,
and promise to serve him as your Lord,
in union with the Church which Christ has opened
to people of all ages, nations, and races,
abilities, genders, and sexualities?

People: I do.

Leader: According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy church
and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

People: I will.

Leader: Let us join together in professing the Christian faith
as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.
Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Eternal God:

When nothing existed but chaos,
you swept across the dark waters
and brought forth light.

In the days of Noah

you saved those on the ark through water.

After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.

When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,
you led them to freedom through the sea.

Their children you brought through the Jordan
to the land which you promised.

**People: Sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Tell of God's mercy each day.**

Leader: In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,
nurtured in the water of a womb.

He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit.

He called his disciples

to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection
and to make disciples of all nations.

**People: Declare Christ's works to the nations,
his glory among all the people.**

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit,

to bless this gift of water and those who receive it,
to wash away their sin

and clothe them in righteousness
throughout their lives,

that, dying and being raised with Christ,
they may share in his final victory.

**People: All praise to you, Eternal Father,
through your Son Jesus Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
lives and reigns for ever.**

Amen.

HYMN #605

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

***Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.***

***We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,
one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.***

***O how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you, waterwashed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!***

COVENANT PRAYER IN THE WESLEYAN TRADITION #607

**I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #2248

Baptized in Water

***Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise, faithfully now God's praises we sing.***

***Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;
one with his rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praises we sing.***

***Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
born of one Father, we are his children, joyfully now God's praises we sing.***

*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

arr. W. Wold

This week's worship leaders

Darren Cushman Wood, *Senior Pastor*
Sunil Kotian, *Pastor of Mission & Outreach*
Amy Sell, *Minister of Discipleship & Formation*
Brandon Wallace, *Minister of Youth & Young Adults*
Debbie Hinderliter-Lewis, *Liturgist*
John Hague and Eric Russell, *Audio Visual*
Mark Gilgallon, *Director of Music*
Heather Hinton, *Organist*

Upcoming Events

Jan 15, 11:00am — MLK Sunday
Guest preacher will be Rev. Dr. Frank A. Thomas, Christian Theological Seminary

Jan 15, 5:00pm — Forum on the eviction crisis

Tuesdays from Jan 24-Feb 28, 6-7:30pm — "6 Ways We Encounter God,"
A study led by Pastor Sunil (in person and online).

Jan 28, 5-6:30pm — "The Working Hungry," a film by Indy Hunger Network

Feb 21, 5:30-7pm — Mardi Gras