



Baptism of Our Lord

January 10, 2021



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Introduction

Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

Welcome to Worship

Call to Worship

P The heavens open.
The Spirit descends.
Jesus emerges from the water
and a voice echoes through the blue expanse,

"This is my child, the Beloved, with whom I am well-pleased."

Jesus is named.

Claimed.

We come to the water.

We remember we are named. Claimed.

Can it be so? What a thing to be named. Claimed.

Let us worship the One who names and claims us still.

All Amen.

Invitation to Reaffirm Our Baptismal Covenant

P We gather today to worship and praise the God of awe and majesty. We come to encounter the God who knows us each by name and who walks with us in intimate love. We come to reaffirm the blessing we have received through our baptism when God whispers our name. In baptism, we remember God's saving actions throughout history. As a community of God, we gather today at the waters of baptism to celebrate God's covenant commitment to us and to experience anew the resurrecting power of the Holy Spirit.

So in this place, at this time of protecting one another in love, I ask you to profess within your hearts and minds your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

***All* I renounce them.**

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

***All* I renounce them.**

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

***All* I renounce them.**

P Do you believe in God the Father?

***All* I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

***All* I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 into hell.**

All On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

P You have made public profession of your faith.
Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

All We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Opening Song

You Are Mine

Verse 1

"I will come to you in the silence, I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice.
Be still and know I am here."

Verse 2

"I am hope for all who are hopeless, I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night, I will be your light.
Come and rest in me." *Refrain*

Refrain

"Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me, I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine."

Verse 3

"I am strength for all the despairing,
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free,
and all will know my name."

Verse 4

"I am the Word that leads all to freedom,
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name, embracing all your pain.
Stand up, now walk and live!" *Refrain*

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

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The Greeting

P The Lord be with you!

All And also with you!

Prayer of the Day

P Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All Amen.

A Reading from Genesis, the 1st chapter

Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for us. God created and continues to create new life.

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Genesis 1:1-5

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from Acts, the 19th chapter

In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John’s baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptizes them, the Holy Spirit comes upon them and empowers them with gifts of the Spirit.

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” ³Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

Acts 19:1-7

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Mark 1:4-11

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Prayers of Intercession

L Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

(each prayer petition ends with)

L: let us pray.

All: **Have mercy, O God.**

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All Amen! Come Lord Jesus!

The Lord's Prayer

P Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:

**All 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Invitation and The Meal

P Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus.
Come and be fed.

Sharing the Meal

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All Amen

P Let us pray,

We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us from your very self
with the body and blood of Christ.

Through this mystery, send us forth
to proclaim your promise to a world in need,
through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All Amen.

Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

Benediction

P God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✝ keep you in peace.

All Amen.

Sending Song

Spirit Song

Verse 1

Oh let the Son of God enfold you with His Spirit and His love
Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
Oh let Him have those things that hold you and His Spirit like a dove
Will descend upon your life and make you whole.

Chorus

Jesus oh Jesus Come and fill Your lambs
Jesus oh Jesus Come and fill Your lambs

Verse 2

Oh come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name
Oh give Him all your tears and sadness
Give Him all your years of pain
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name

CCLI Song # 27824

John Wimber

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Dismissal

P Go in peace. Be the Light of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

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Call to Worship:

[re:Worship: Epiphany 1 B \(re-worship.blogspot.com\)](#)

~ written by Caela Wood, Pastor at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Manhattan, Kansas.

Readings for next Sunday,
January 17th

First Reading:	1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]
Psalm:	139:1-6, 13-18
Second Reading:	1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Gospel:	John 1:43-51

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