



The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell
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January 10, 2021

Baptism of the Lord

First Sunday after the Epiphany

REFLECTION

"So what does this baptism mean? It means that your belongingness is to the God who created you and all that is. It means that you are baptized into the death of Jesus. You are baptized into the Word Made Flesh. Why? So that you might become Flesh made Word. So that you might become an agent of what you have received: God's agent of grace, acceptance, forgiveness and mercy." - Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber

PRELUDE Two Variations on "Down to the River to Pray" arr. Mark Hayes & Ken Medema

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

HYMN No. 6, St. 1,2, 5, 6

"I Bind unto Myself Today"

ST. PATRICK; DEIRDRE

I bind unto myself today the strong name of the Trinity
By invocation of the same, the Three in One and One in Three.

I bind this day to me forever,
By power of faith Christ's incarnation,
His baptism in the Jordan river,
his death on cross for my salvation,
His bursting from the spiced tomb,
His riding up the heavenly way,
His coming at the day of doom,
I bind unto myself today.

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

I bind unto myself today the strong name of the Trinity
By invocation of the same, the Three in One and One in Three,
Of whom all nature has creation, eternal Father, Spirit, Word.
Praise to the Lord of my salvation; salvation is of Christ the Lord!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

As he knelt in the waters of Jordan, you proclaimed Jesus as your Child, pointing to him as the way to you.

Forgive us:

**when we put ourselves ahead of him;
when we think he is no longer needed;
when we fail to see him in the broken of our world.**

Baptized and blessed in your living waters, you would have us be your servants in our time.

Forgive us:

**when we fail to welcome the stranger;
when we refuse to forgive as we should;
when we believe we are too good to kneel down
and tie the shoes of the lost, the least, the last, the little. In Jesus's name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Touched by the waters of life, fed at the feast of grace and hope, embraced in the warmth of God's love and hopes - this is good news!

Blessed by baptism's tears, called to servanthood by the Beloved, filled with the peace of the Spirit, we are indeed God's people - redeemed, restored, refreshed to serve. Thanks be to God! Amen.

TAIZÉ CHANT

“Let All Who Are Thirsty Come”

Let all who are thirsty, come.

Let all who wish receive the water of life freely,

Amen, come Lord Jesus.

Amen, come Lord Jesus.

MINUTE FOR MISSION/CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 1:1-5

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:1-11

SERMON

“Jesus' Baptism, Our Calling”

Rev. William Schram

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Shores of Galilee”

Ross Anderson

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

HYMN No. 482

“Baptized in Water”

BUNESSAN

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
Heirs of salvation, trusting the 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 the Spirit, we are God's children;
Joyfully now God's praises we sing.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Forward Through the Ages"

arr. Marianne Kim

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram

Rev. Barbara Piercy

Paul Salierno, Cantor

Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers

SERMON QUESTIONS FOR JANUARY 10TH

1. What does baptism mean to you?
2. In what ways is your baptism similar to and different than Jesus' baptism?
3. How does it feel to know you are God's beloved child?
4. What does it mean to you to see yourself called as a servant of Jesus' love?
5. What is peculiar/unique about our calling at baptism?