

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Unison**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.15

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - Responsive

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

LORD'S PRAYER - Unison

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY - OLD HUNDREDTH**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION - Unison**

God of glory, as people brought gifts to the infant Jesus, we bring our gifts to you. May these gifts be used to lift up those who are oppressed, to bring deliverance to those who are in need, to support those who are poor, and to help those who are in trouble. Amen.

— Sending —

***HYMN #156**

"SING OF GOD MADE MANIFEST"

Daw, Jr., 1719

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

...and the blessing of the Lord forever. **Alleluia!**

As Jesus call the first disciples, so he call to us this day: Follow me. **Amen.**

***RESPONSE #155**

"RAISE A SONG OF GLADNESS"

Psalm 100:1

POSTLUDE

Selected

BAPTISM OF THE LORD



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."

Matthew 3: 16-17

(*) Please rise in body or in spirit.
Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

Service for the Lord's Day

Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2020

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The voice of the LORD is over the waters, ... the voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

Mighty God, you come to us like a father's voice from the clouds and like a dove floating on the wind. May we see you in the diversity and splendor of your creation. Amen

— Gathering —

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Michele R. Goff

INTROIT

"HEAR OUR PRAISES"

Chancel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP - Responsive

Liturgist - Carol Scoggins

O God, some of us are discouraged and long for your embrace.

Wash us with your love.

Some of us are weary, weighed down by the desperation of this world.

Wash us with your hope.

Some of us are anxious and seek refuge from chaotic lives.

Wash us with your peace.

Some of us are restless, yearning for renewal or transformation.

Wash us with your grace.

However we come into your presence, pour out your Spirit upon us.

Let us come to the waters of baptism. Let us worship God!

HYMN #375

"SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER"

Lowry, 1864

LITANY FOR BAPTISM OF THE LORD - Responsive

Please respond: ***The voice of the Lord is over the waters!***

CONFESSION

SILENT REFLECTION

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION - Unison

God of grace, You claim us as beloved children and call us to follow you, but we do not always live out this calling. We stifle the gifts you have given us rather than using them for your glory. We sidestep opportunities to offer

kindness rather than showing love to our neighbors. We pretend we can do nothing to further justice in our world and shy away from taking risks for the sake of the gospel. Forgive us, Lord. Wash us again in the waters of baptism and transform us by your grace, so that our words may further righteousness and our deeds be pleasing in your sight. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who offers us new life.

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

"Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us."

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Siblings in Christ, the God who claims us in the waters of baptism upholds us, delights in us, forgives us. ***Glory be to the God of grace!***

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. ***And also with you.***

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

— Word —

ANTHEM

"CONTINUE"

by Maya Angelou, a choral reading

Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 42:1-9

Bibles, p.630/LG.p.820

The word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

GREEK SCRIPTURE

Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43 Bibles, p.121/LG.p.157

A new teaching, with authority! ***Thanks be to God.***

HYMN #164

"DOWN GALILEE'S SLOW ROADWAYS"

Dunstan, 1991

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE

Matthew 3:13-17

Bibles, p.3/ LG. p.3

The voice of the Lord, powerful and full of majesty. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON

"THE HEAVENS WERE OPENED"

Rev. Michele R. Goff

ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

— Response —

*HYMN #11

"SOURCE AND SOVEREIGN, ROCK AND CLOUD"

Troeger, 1986