QUESTIONS FOR THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of the church, accept Tom as *ruling elder*, alongside Kathy for an additional term, and Claudia, Katie, and Lynn, all chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? *We do*.

Do we agree to pray for *them*, to encourage *them*, to respect *their* decisions, and to follow as *they* guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? *We do*.

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION	Rev. Michele R. Goff
DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION	Kathy Porter
WELCOME 2021 SESSION	Rev. Michele R. Goff
MUSIC	Joshua Allen
INVITATION TO OFFERING	Rev. Michele R. Goff

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus: It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Kathy Porter

We praise and thank you, Lord God, for the majesty of your work, the wisdom of your word, and the generosity of your grace. Let the gifts of our lives bear witness to your goodness and mercy, your faithfulness and justice, and your steadfast love for all. **Amen.**

— Sending —

BLESSING AND CHARGE

Rev. Michele R. Goff

POSTLUDE

Joshua Allen



Servíng God,

Honoring Creation,

Embracing Differences

Rev. Michele R. Goff	Pastor
Joshua Allen	Music Director
Stefen Kane	Admin Assist.



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First Presbyterian Church Henderson

Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021



Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

— Gathering —

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Joshua Allen

Joshua Allen

River Evers

Rev. Michele R. Goff

Liturgist, River Evers

In the beginning, God created the world, and God blessed it: "It is good."

In the beginning, God created light, and God blessed it: "It is good."

In the beginning, God created life, and God blessed it: "It is good."

Since the beginning, God has not stopped creating, *calling us closer to all that is good*.

MUSIC

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OPENING SENTENCES

CONFESSION

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

God whose spirit moved over the waters, you have washed us in your mercy, claimed us as your own, bound us in community, and called us to lives of baptismal grace. Forgive us, O God, for we have not lived as if we were your baptized people. We stumble over opportunities for forgiveness. We prioritize our own selfish interests. We are slow to disrupt the status quo, even when it means ignoring our neighbors' suffering. Forgive us, O God, and by your forgiveness, lead us back to your waters of transformation.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Michele R. Goff

Rev. Michele R. Goff

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

- Word -

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

River Evers

SCRIPTURE

Our first reading is from the book of Genesis chapter 1, verses 1 through 5. Speak to us, Lord, for your servants are listening.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Our gospel reading is from the gospel according to Mark chapter 1, verses 4 through 11. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Listen to the word of the Lord.

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

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SERMON

"Torn Apart"

Rev. Michele R. Goff

Joshua Allen

Kathy Porter

ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

— Response —

MUSIC

~~ INSTALLATION SERVICE ~~

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

Do not fear, for the Lord has spoken: *I have called you by name; you are mine.*

STATEMENT OF ORDINATION

Today, the session installs to active service those who have been previously ordained: *ruling elder* Tom Weaver.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Rev. Michele R. Goff

As God calls some to particular forms of ministry, God calls us <u>all</u> to bear gladly the yoke of Christ given in the covenant of Baptism.

Let us, therefore, reaffirm our baptismal vows, renouncing all that opposes God and God's rule and affirming the faith of the holy catholic church.

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? *I do*.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? *I do*.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? *I will, with God's help.*

With the whole church, let us confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father? *I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

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

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 to the dead. 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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. Amen.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

Rev. Michele R. Goff