

# Welcome to Worship

**First United Methodist Church  
Making Disciples for Jesus Christ and the  
Transformation of the World**

**Baptism of the Lord  
January 10, 2021**

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Methodist Weekday Child Development Center  
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## **Church Staff**

*Rev. Bobbie Maltas, Senior Pastor*

*Rev. Greg Smith, Associate Pastor*

*Jennifer Patrick, Director of Youth and Wesley Foundation*

*Chris Ann Stroech, Children's Ministry Coordinator*

*Matt Hulon, Minister of Music*

*Diane Garrett, Organist*

*Kris Trevino, Office Manager*

*Delores Hammargren, Administrative Assistant*

*Raemona Burks, Child Development Center Director*

*Lelli Hernandez, Nursery Coordinator*

*Cindy Mathis, Custodian*

## Traditional Worship

### Introit

### Welcome and Announcements.

### Prelude

#### \*Call to Worship (*Congregation Bold*)

Thom M Shuman

On that first day, when time began:

**you gave birth to creation; light danced through the darkness; the waters of hope flowed free and clear.**

On that first day at the Jordan, when redemption began:

**you spoke of life for all your children, as your Child stepped into the waters of forgiveness, dancing in hope with his cousin, John.**

On this first day of the week, when we begin anew:

**you call us to faithfulness, as we open our hearts to you, your voice claiming us as your own.**

#### \*Hymn of Celebration

*God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

UMH 150

1. God, who stretched the spangled,  
infinite in time and place,  
flung the suns in burning radiance  
through the silent fields of space,  
we your children, in your likeness,  
share inventive powers with you.  
Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.
2. Proudly rise our modern cities,  
stately buildings, row on row,  
yet their windows, blank, unfeeling,  
stare on canyoned streets below,  
where the lonely drift unnoticed  
in the city's ebb and flow,  
lost to purpose and to meaning,  
scarcely caring where they go.
3. We have ventured worlds undreamed of  
since the childhood of our race;  
known the ecstasy of winging  
through untraveled realms of space;  
probed the secrets of the atom,  
yielding unimagined power,  
facing us with life's destruction  
or our most triumphant hour.
4. As each far horizon beckons,  
may it challenge us anew,  
children of creative purpose,

serving others, honoring you.  
May our dreams prove rich with promise,  
each endeavor well begun.  
Great Creator, give us guidance  
till our goals and yours are one.

**\*The Apostles' Creed, Traditional Version**

UMH 881

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth;

And 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, dead, and buried;\*  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

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.

**\*Gloria Patri**

UMH 70

*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.*

**Prayer of Illumination (Congregation Bold)**

Teach us, O God, by the work of your Spirit what you are saying to us today through the sacred readings. Thereby enable us to learn to delight in your love and to walk in your ways; through Jesus Christ, redeemer of the world. **Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading**

Genesis 1:1-5

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup> the 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. <sup>3</sup> Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>4</sup> John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> And 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. <sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> He 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. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And 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. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

Rev. Bobbie Maltas

**Gospel Hymn**

*When Jesus Came to Jordan*

UMH 252

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (Congregation Bold)**

Thom M Shuman

Holy Father, grace is the gift which flows to us from your heart; joy is the seed planted deep within our souls, that it might blossom into lives of service to all.  
And we cry: "Glory!"

Jesus, Servant of sinners: you emerge from baptism's water, to embrace us in your hopes;  
you take our fears from us and toss them aside as you lead us into your kingdom; you shine the Light which brings us out of despair's shadows.  
And we cry: "Glory!"

Holy Spirit, Wind upon the water: you move among us sweeping aside our petty pride, and offering us the gifts of humility and servanthood. You whisper of your yearning for peace and reconciliation, until it silences our angry voices and unclenches our fisted hearts.  
And we cry: "Glory!"

**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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.**

**Sung Amen**

UMH 898

### **Giving our Tithes and Offerings**

#### **Offertory Prayer**

God of redemption and new life, we focus once more this day on the greatest gift ever given – Jesus, our Savior. As he was baptized by John in the Jordan, we were able to share in his baptism and receive the promise of sharing in Jesus' resurrection. As we leave a painful year behind and look with hope to the new year ahead, help us to live and give of ourselves as those who know every day what a great gift we have been given. May it move us to give our whole selves more freely! In the name of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, we pray! **Amen.**

(Sanctuary worshippers are invited to bring their tithe/offering to the plate on the Chancel.)

#### **Offertory**

(Undesignated \$1 bills go to support Dollars for Missions.)

#### **\*Doxology**

UMH 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**

Brothers and sisters in Christ:  
Through the Sacrament of Baptism  
we are initiated into Christ's holy Church.  
We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation  
and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.  
Through the reaffirmation of our faith  
we renew the covenant declared at our baptism,  
acknowledge what God is doing for us,  
and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy Church.

#### **RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH**

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?  
**I do.**

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

**I do.**

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?

**I do.**

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?

**I will.**

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?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**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.]**

Do you believe in 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.]**

## **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Eternal Father:

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.

**\*\*Sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

**Tell of God's mercy each day.**

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.

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

*The pastor may place hands in or over the water, stir the water, or lift the water.*  
Pour out your Holy Spirit,  
and by this gift of water call to our remembrance  
the grace declared to us in our baptism.

For you have washed away our sins,  
and you clothe us with righteousness throughout our lives,  
that dying and rising with Christ  
we may share in his final victory.

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

**REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

**Amen.**

The Holy Spirit work within you,  
that having been born through water and the Spirit,  
you may live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING**

Let us rejoice in the faithfulness of our covenant God.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given us.  
As members of the body of Christ  
and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church,  
we will faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church  
by our prayers, our presence, our gifts,  
our service and our witness  
that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

The God of all grace,  
who has called us to eternal glory in Christ,  
establish and strengthen you  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
that you may live in grace and peace.

### **\*Invitation to Christian Discipleship and Church Membership**

#### **\*Hymn of Commitment**

*Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine*

UMH 606

1. Come, let us use the grace divine, and all with one accord,  
in a perpetual covenant join ourselves to Christ the Lord;  
Give up ourselves, thru Jesus' power, his name to glorify;  
and promise, in this sacred hour, for God to live and die.
2. The covenant we this moment make be ever kept in mind;  
we will no more our God forsake, or cast these words behind.  
We never will throw off the fear of God who hears our vow;  
and if thou art well pleased to hear, come down and meet us now.
3. Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, let all our hearts receive,  
present with thy celestial host the peaceful answer give;  
to each covenant the blood apply which takes our sins away,  
and register our names on high and keep us to that day!

#### **\*Benediction**

#### **Postlude**

*Please stay tuned in or remain in your seats to enjoy the postlude.*