

*The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent,
personal preparation for the worship of God.*

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

At the River. Aaron Copland

Introit

“When Jesus Came to Jordan” Hal H. Hopson

*When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John,
he did not come for pardon, but as the Father’s Son.
He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.
He came to share temptations, 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.*

*Doxology (*sung*). The Hymnal, 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Invocation

*Hymn 407 “Spirit of God, Attend Our Prayers”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Merciful God, in Baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,
making us part of the body of Christ.
We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves,
separated from sisters and brothers in Christ.
We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges,
and show reluctance to welcome one another;
we allow the past to hold us hostage.
In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us and free us from sin.
Remind us of the promises you make in Baptism
so that we may rise to new life and live together in grace. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news.*

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“The Baptism of Jesus” Peter Hallock

Jesus went to the Jordan today. When Jesus Christ baptized was, the Holy Ghost descended with grace. The Father’s voice was heard in the place, “This is my Son with whom I am well pleased.” There were three persons and one Lord, the Son baptized with one accord. The Father said this blessed word, “This is my Son with whom I am well pleased.” Now Jesus, as thou art both God and man and were baptized in from Jordan, at our last end, we pray thee, say then, “This is my child with whom I am well pleased.”

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter

Psalms 29 Old Testament, page 477

*Gloria Patri (*sung*). The Hymnal, 581

**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.**

Scripture Lesson

Acts 10:34–43 New Testament, page 121

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Rocky Supinger

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 164 “Down Galilee’s Slow Roadways”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) Apostles’ Creed

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 Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

“Beside the Still Waters” Gwyneth Walker

*Offertory Response

For the life that you have giv-en, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and la-bor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we of-fer, Lord, our prai-ses; heart and mind and strength we bring.
Give us grace to love and serve you, liv-ing what we pray and sing.

Sealing the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Minister: *The Lord be with you.*

People: And also with you.

Minister: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: *Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.*

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer

Minister: *It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .*

. . . forever singing to the glory of your name:

Sanctus (*sung*) The Hymnal, 552

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Minister: . . . *Great is the mystery of faith:*

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) The Hymnal, 553

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The 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.

The Communion

Communion Anthem

“O Lamb of God” Healey Willan

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Gracious God,
we thank you for the love
which brings us, as food from heaven,
the life of your dear Son,
and assures us that we belong
to the company of all God’s faithful people
in heaven and on earth.
Grant that, strengthened by this fellowship
and by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we may continue Christ’s work in the world,
until we come to the glory of your eternal kingdom;
through the same Jesus Christ,
your Son, our Lord.
Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 156 “Sing of God Made Manifest”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

I’ve Just Come from the Fountain African American spiritual
arr. Richard Billingham

Worship Leaders

Judith L. Watt, Roberta Dawson, Rocky Supinger

The Music Today

The Chancel Choir; Laura Perkett, oboist; Laura Kubelka, soloist
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

TODAY WE REMEMBER THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD, one of the texts traditionally read after Epiphany, when we continue to focus on the revelation of the divinity of Jesus. In doing so, we also recall our own baptism, in which God has claimed and named us as God's own. In grateful thanksgiving we together renew our commitment to live out our call as beloved children of God.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. The words to “For the Life that You Have Given” are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

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