

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Shall We Gather at the River? John Ferguson

Introit :: “Open to Me the Gates of Righteousness” Eric H. Thiman
Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord.

*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.

*Call to Worship

Leader: *The voice of the Lord is over the waters,*

People: and in the temple God’s people say: “Glory!”

Leader: *The heavens opened, the Spirit descended,*

People: and a voice sounded: “This is my Beloved One.”

Leader: *Do not fear, for God has spoken:*

People: “I have called you by name, you are mine.” Thanks be to God!

*Hymn 10 “Sing Glory to the Name of God”

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 one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from all that binds us. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life and live together in grace; through Christ we pray. Amen.

*Stand as you are able. †Or “Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.”

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

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

*Exchange of Peace

Leader: *The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*

People: **And also with you.**

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

Concerns of the Church

Anthem :: “Down to the River to Pray” American folk song; arr. Robert Lee

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson :: Isaiah 43:1–7 Old Testament, page 631

Psalter :: Psalm 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.

Second Lesson :: Luke 3:15–17, 21–22 New Testament, page 56

Sermon :: “Called by Name” Lucy Forster-Smith

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 408 “There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

[†]Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

A REAFFIRMATION OF OUR BAPTISMAL VOWS

*Baptismal Litany

Leader: *Remember your baptism and be glad!*

People: The waters of God's mercy have flowed, and we have been cleansed and refreshed.

Leader: *Remember the waters that God gathered together and called seas, the mothers of rivers, lakes, and springs that quench the thirst of the earth and all its inhabitants.*

People: We drink of the water of God's creation and praise God's name for life.

Leader: *Remember the waters of the Red Sea and God's salvation.*

People: With the people of old, we have been freed from our oppression and brought to a new land.

Leader: *Remember the well where our Samaritan sister found Jesus and received her blessing.*

People: We know that sacred place, for Jesus has also encountered us there, speaking truth to us and loving us.

Leader: *Remember Jesus at the River Jordan;*

People: the One who was without sin took upon himself our sin.

Leader: *We are redeemed by Jesus, called to live his righteousness.*

People: May God be our help.

Leader: *Remember God's grace:*

we are redeemed by Jesus and not by who we are or what we do.

People: Thanks be to God for unmerited grace!

Leader: *Remember your baptism and be glad!*

People: We remember, and our lives are filled with joy!

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

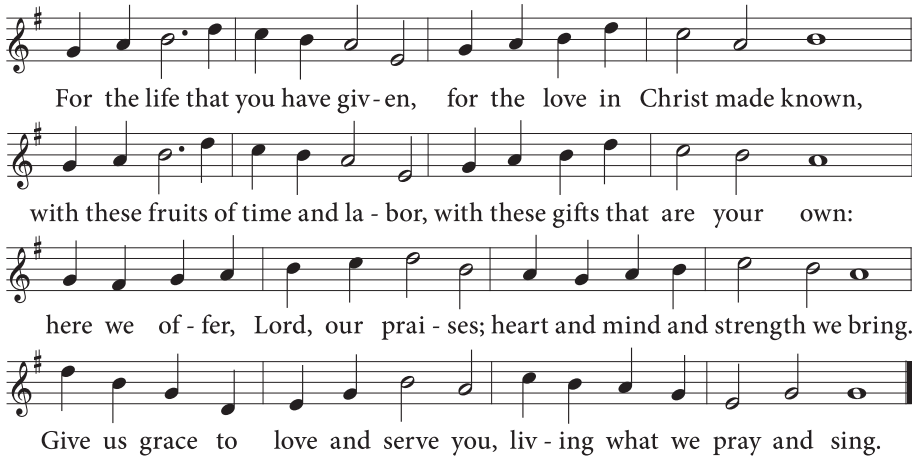
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; 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 Solo ♯ “Panis Angelicus” César Franck

The bread of angels is made the bread for all today, the living bread from heaven. O wondrous gift, the poor and lowly are nourished by the Lord. Thee we implore, O God, one in three, may thou visit us as we now worship thee; and lead us on thy way, that we at last may see the light wherein thou dwellest. Amen.

*Presentation of the Offering and 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

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

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

Prayer

Leader: *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, God of 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.

Leader: . . . *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*) The Hymnal, page 35

The Communion

Communion Anthem

“O Taste and See” Anthony Doherty
O taste and see how sweet the Lord is. Blessed are they that trust in him.

*Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

We give you thanks and praise, O God, that you have fed us with your mercy and
poured out your Spirit in this place. Continue to nourish and fill us each day,
that we may live as your beloved people; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 634 “To God Be the Glory”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

All Who Believe and Are Baptized. Richard Proulx

Worship Leaders

Judith L. Watt, Annette Bacon, Lucy Forster-Smith

The Music Today

Chancel Choir; Corey Nashawn Anderson, soloist
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

TODAY WE REMEMBER THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST, one of the texts traditionally read after Epiphany, when we continue to focus on the revelation of the divinity of Jesus. As we hear again the voice of the Lord saying at Jesus' baptism "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased," 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.

THIS MORNING, COMMUNION IS SERVED by intinction. The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is not just for Presbyterians or "members of the church." All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor
Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Victoria G. Curtiss Mission
Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry
Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry
Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt Pastoral Care

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism
Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults
Abbi Heimach-Snipes Pastoral Resident
Shawn M. Fiedler Ministerial Associate for Worship
John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Today's liturgy is adapted from *Book of Common Worship* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2018). 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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