## Gathering around the Word

#### Prelude

Christ Came to the Jordan River. Johann Sebastian Bach
Deep River. African-American spiritual; arr. Gerald Near
Shall We Gather at the River. John Ferguson

Introit: "When Jesus Came to Jordan" Hal H. Hopson

\*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.

### \*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 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!

### \*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 10
Prayer of Confession (unison)  Gracious God, we are precious in your sight, yet we often forget that we are your beloved. We confess our love can be fickle and inconsistent. We tend to follow selfish goals and forget we are all part of your family, your beloved creation.  We are sorry, and we want to change. Create in us a clean heart, strengthen our resolve, reconcile us to one another, and bless us with your peace. Amen.  Declaration of Pardon
Leader: <i>Friends, believe the good news:</i> People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Concerns of the Church
Sacrament of Baptism (11:00)
Unison Prayer (11:00)  Holy God, remind us of the promises given in our own baptism and renew our trust in you.  Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Anthem : "Tribus miraculis"
Listening for the Word
Prayer for Illumination
Psalter

worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Leader: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters. People: The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor. Leader: The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; People: the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. Leader: The voice of the Lord bursts forth in lightning flashes. People: The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. Leader: The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!" People: The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as sovereign forevermore. Leader: O Lord, give strength to your people; give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace. Children age three through grade five are invited to come forward during the singing of the 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. Children depart for Sunday School with their teachers. Scripture Lesson # Matthew 3:13–17 ...... New Testament, page 3 Sermon Shannon J. Kershner Responding to the Word \*Hymn 317 ......"In Christ There Is No East or West"

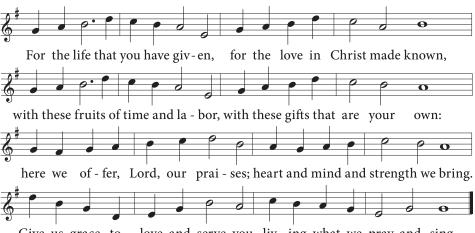
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>Or "to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost."

### A REAFFIRMATION OF OUR BAPTISMAL VOWS

\*Profession of Faith and Renunciations \*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. Blessing over the Waters Proclamation and Invitation for Remembrance 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. Prayer Response " "Amen" ...... John Rutter Offering 

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit, grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

### \*Presentation of the Offering and Response



Give us grace to love and serve you, liv-ing what we pray and sing.

### \*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

O God, at his baptism you acknowledged Jesus as your beloved Child, and through him you opened to us the gift of grace. May these offerings we return to you be a sign of our dedication to live as your faithful children, born in the waters of baptism by the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

# Bearing the Word into the World

\*Hymn 265 ...... "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

\*Benediction and Response

### **Baptized Today**

11:00 Conor Edward Black, child of Patrick and Kelly Black Charles Bennett Cioromski, child of Nicholas and Elizabeth Cioromski Isla Elizabeth Rowden, child of Mark and Kendal Rowden

### Worship Leaders

9:30 Matt Helms, Larry Braskamp, Victoria G. Curtiss, Shannon J. Kershner 11:00 Matt Helms, Mario Jobbe, Victoria G. Curtiss, Shannon J. Kershner

#### The Music Today

Morning Choir 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. As we hear again the voice of the Lord saying at Jesus' baptism "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom 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.

WE ARE LIVE STREAMING TODAY'S 11:00 A.M. SERVICE at www.bit.ly/FPCworship, where it can also be watched in the coming week.

THE BULLETIN COVER photo depicts a water drop in the black marble baptismal font, at which thousands of people have been baptized since 1914. The words carved on the font, "Suffer little children to come unto me," appear in Matthew 19:14, Mark 10:14, and Luke 18:16.

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

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults Maggie Shreve Parish Associate for Jail Ministry John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus 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. Prayer of Confession is from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion. 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.

#### THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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