



Welcome to Worship
Sunday, January 10, 2020 — 10:30 a.m.
Baptism of Jesus
Making Disciples Who Make a Difference in Seward and Beyond



Words of Welcome and Announcements:

- Ministry gatherings for confirmation, UMYF, Godparents groups, Bible study, etc. will all begin again the week of January 10. Watch for updates about links zoom or in-person moments.
- Our new zoom Sunday School for mixed ages of children will start in mid-January! Leaders are working to get ready.

Peace of Christ Blessing

Call to Worship:

L: Unpredictable, enlivening Spirit of creation, you bring order out of chaos, joy out of suffering, life out of death.

P: You separate light from darkness, day from night, water from dry land.

L: Like Jesus in the Jordan, you call us to enter the waters of baptism, that we might know ourselves as your beloved children.

P: As we celebrate your life among us, help us to hear your voice in the sounds of birdcall and rainfall, in music and laughter, in our own words and in silence.

Song of Praise

The River is Here

1 Down the mountain the river flows
and it brings refreshing wherever it goes
Through the valleys and over the fields
the river is rushing and the river is here

The river of God sets our feet to dancing
The river of God sets out hearts with cheer
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter
And we rejoice for the river is here.

² The river of God is teeming with life
and all who touch it can be revived
and those who linger on this river's shore
will come back thirsting for more of God's love

³ Up to the mountain we love to go
to find the presence of our God
Along the banks of the river we run
We dance with laughter giving praise to the Son

Our Common Prayer *(used with permission from "Touch Holiness," edited by Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, p. 43)*

Holy God, Eternal Spirit, we thank you for baptizing us into one body in Jesus the Christ. Wash over us with your Spirit, that like Jesus, we may serve you in serving humanity. Baptize us with the fire of your truth, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Children's Time

Pastor Jo Ellen Axthelm

Scripture Lesson - Mark 1:9-11

"In those days Jesus came from Nazareth to Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 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. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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 God,
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.

Message

Baptized to Follow Jesus

Pastor Mary Kay Totty

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Introduction to the Service

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 our faith *(#883 in UMH)*

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Eternal God,

we give you thanks for water --

Gift of Life and Symbol of Faith.

Bless this water as we remember and anticipate baptism this day.

Pour out, too, you Spirit on all gathered for this worship

that we may ever more faithfully follow Jesus.

Amen and amen.

Remember, anticipate, your Baptism and be Thankful!!

Prayer: Type in your joys/concerns or text to 402-810-8900.

Music for Prayer

Water, River, Spirit, Grace

TFWS 2253

Water, River, Spirit, Grace,
sweep over me, sweep over me!
Recarve the depths your fingers traced
in sculpting me, in sculpting me.

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Offering

We give generously of our time, talents, gifts, service, and witness.

*To make a gift in support of our continued ministry during the global pandemic,
please place your offering in the box near the front door, or visit sewardumc.org
and click on the 'donate' button.*

Offertory

Alex Sommerfeld

Prayer of Dedication (MKT, 2021)

Holy God, take my life and let it be consecrated to you. Let the words I speak, the things I do, be reflections of your grace. Take my time, my talent, and my treasure to be dedicated in service to you and for your creation. Amen.

Hymn

Build My Life

¹ Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for you

² Jesus the name above every other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worship of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for you, We live for you

Holy, there is no one like you
There is none beside you
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who you are
And fill me with your heart
And lead me in your love to those around me

I will build my life upon your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in you alone
And I will not be shaken

Benediction

Pastor Mary Kay Totty

Postlude

Alex Sommerfeld

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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