

DATE 01/10/21

_____THEME_____ Baptism of Jesus

Liturgist: Brad Zacharski

God's People Gather

Prelude Pondering

"For whatever we lose (like a you or a me),
It's always our self we find in the sea."

— E.E. Cummings

Call to Worship

Leader: From the waters of Creation, the earth sprang forth. God pours forth rivers
from bare mountains,

People: and makes fountains spring up in dry valleys.

Leader: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God;

People: Those who are baptized are marked as God's beloved children.

Leader: You have been fashioned by God's love. You are called across the waters of
creation to be a blessing. Come to the river! Come into the presence of the Lord today!

All: Let us worship God.

Opening Song

Sanctuary

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,

Pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for You.

(repeat)

Call to Confession

Although we assert that we belong to God, and that God claims us through all the days
of our lives, we often act as if we belong to no one but ourselves. We do not behave as
children of the covenant, walking in the light, but we turn toward the shadows of sin.
Still, we do belong to God, who is always ready to forgive us and restore us. In humble
faith, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

Sovereign God, in baptism you unite us as one family; but we do not nurture the ways
of peace; we allow enmity to grow among us, setting neighbor against neighbor and
nation against nation. You seal us in the covenant and send us to serve with compassion

for all; but we ignore the suffering of the oppressed and the plight of the poor. Forgive us, God. Raise us to new life in Jesus Christ, that we may be your faithful servants, showing forth your healing love to the world, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ lives in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is of the New Creation. The old life is finished, gone. Behold, new life has begun. Friends, believe the good news:

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

GOD'S WORD IS PROCLAIMED

Children's Time

Scripture Readings

Genesis 1:1-5

Mark 1: 4-11

Sermon

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Apostles' Creed

Boze family

Offertory

If you are able, please continue to send in your offering and pledge. If you are enrolled in electronic funds transfer, there is no need to do anything different. If you would like to give online using Paypal, click this link: bit.ly/FPCsterling

Prayer of Dedication

Creating God, across the watery chaos you spoke the world into being. In the waters of baptism, you spoke new life to us. We bring what we have and offer it to you, trusting that you will breathe grace into these gifts, and speak life to the world. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Closing Song

You Are Mine

I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice,
I claim you as my choice
Be still and know I am here.

I am hope for all who are hopeless,
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night,
I will be your light,
Come and rest in me.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine.

I am strength for all the despairing,
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see,
the lame will all run free,
And all will know my name.

I am the Word that leads all to freedom,
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name,
embracing all your pain,
Stand up, now walk, and live!

Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine.

Benediction