



Service for the Lord's Day

January 7, 2024

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Gathering Music

Welcome

Prelude

The Holly and the Ivy
Beth Pope, piano

18th Century English Carol

Call to Worship

The Apostle Paul has explained, "John baptized in a way by which people showed they were changing their hearts and lives."

It was a baptism that told people about the one who was coming after him. This is the one in whom they were to believe. This one is Jesus.

The water is poured

When Jesus was baptized in the waters of the Jordan, the Spirit of God came upon him. His baptism was completed by his dying and rising again.

So our baptism is a sign of dying to sin and rising to new life in Christ.

Opening Hymn 109

Blest Be the God of Israel

MERLE'S TUNE

Call to Confession

A prophet appeared in the wilderness, calling the people to repent, be baptized and prepare the way of the Lord. We return to the water to confess our sins, giving thanks for the grace of Jesus Christ, the one who has come to save us.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Loving God, we thank you for new life in Jesus Christ. We thank you for the sign of that new life, made when once we passed through the maternal, eternal, saving waters of baptism. Still we confess, we have a hard time throwing off our old lives. We remain selfishly preoccupied; we cling to destructive habits; we hold on to old ways.

Have mercy on us, and free us from our sin. Remind us of the promises you have made, and let us feel ourselves lifted in your gracious mercy. Amen.

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Declaration of Good News

Hear the good news of the gospel: As a voice from heaven said to Jesus, so God says to each of us: You are my beloved child and with you I am well pleased. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Response Hymn 482

Baptized in Water

BUNESSAN

*Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit
Cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King:
Heirs of salvation, Trusting the promise,
Faithfully now God's praises we sing!*

Passing the Peace of Christ

We greet one another in the unity of the Spirit.

All Sit

Prayer for Illumination

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

A Reading from Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

A Reading from Acts 19: 1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—altogether there were about twelve of them.

Anthem

Baptized in Water

Wayne L. Wold

All Stand

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of 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."

All Sit

Sermon

New Beginnings

Curry Davis

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 488

I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry

WATERLIFE

Affirmation of Faith (Responsive)

Based on: A Declaration of Faith

The sacraments confirm the Word of God.

We believe that in the washing with water the Holy Spirit demonstrates and confirms the promises of the embodied, written, and preached Word with vividness and power.

Trusting in the mercy of God, we turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world.

In baptism we give ourselves up in faith and repentance to be the Lord's.

Baptism is a reminder that God loves us.

God loves us long before we can love God.

And both God's grace and our response to it continue to deepen throughout this life.

This is love, not that we have loved God but that God loved us and sent God's son to be the relief of our sins.

Offering

Offertory

Wade in the Water
Hailey Goodwin, mezzo-soprano

Traditional Spiritual/arr. Mark Hayes

Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, in gratitude for all that you have given us, we joyfully bring our tithes, offerings, and labor to help feed a world hungry for healing and hope, justice and joy. Amen

Sealing the Word with the Sacrament

All Sit

The Lord's Supper
Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

.... So with all those in every time and place who have called upon you expectantly, we rejoice in your gracious presence, singing:

Sanctus *Sanctus* Joseph Roff
(congregation and choir)
*Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of power and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry.
Ho-san-na in the high-est.
Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est.*

Music at Communion Hymn 442 *Just As I am*

All proceed down the center aisle, touch the water, then touch your forehead, saying, "I am baptized", then go left or right for communion by intinction. Take bread, touch it to the cup. This is the Lord's body and blood, given to you. Thanks be to God.

All Sit

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

Closing Hymn 32 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* ELLACOMBE

Benediction

Postlude *Hallelujah (Your Love is Amazing)* Brenton Brown/Brian Doerksen
Beth Pope, piano

The Presbyterian Church Staff

Choir Director
Youth Ministries
Financial Administrator
Treasurer
Children's Music Director
Secretary
Director, Preschool Learning Center
Custodian
Clerk of Session
Sunday Sexton
Sound Attendant

Dr. Wayne Pope
David Clarke
Terry Johnson
Steve Moore
Beth Pope
Cheryl Gregory
Kimberly Watkins
Cedric Whitney
Debbie Trickey
Sara Parkerson
Lillian Hargesheimer

Calendar

Sunday, January 7

8:30 a.m. Fellowship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
9:15 a.m. Children's Music
10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday, January 8

9:00 a.m. GOD/DOG is Love
5 :30 p.m. Community Ed. class

Tuesday, January 9

2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. Sunny 16 Camera Club

Wednesday, January 10

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group (Teresa's)

Thursday, January 11

6:00 p.m. DRITI
7:00 p.m. Neighborhood Group

Friday, January 12

7:30 a.m. Mens' Breakfast (Lisa's)

Saturday, January 13

1:00 p.m. Memorial Service
for Basil Jones

Elders: Class of 2024-Frederica Kernohan, Tim Leigh, Bobby Rabold, Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden; Class of 2025-Karol Kirby Ahmed, Buzz English, Pamela Napier, Julia Roberts, Julie Wedge; Class of 2026-Pam Bratcher, Rachel Crocker, J.B. Hines, Susan Howard, Mike Kanan **Deacons:** Class of 2024 Trudy Burkeen, Evan Goad, Linda Leigh, Catherine Reber, Susan Thomison; Class of 2025-Barbara Brindle, Craig Long, Teri Polen, Ernie Small, Dan Stelling, Fred Trickey; Class of 2026- Phil Burkeen, Kim Ferguson, Kathy Higgins, Brianna Trickey

Donate Online: The church website accepts online donations. Just go to our website (right) and fill out the simple form. Donations can also be made from your smart phone. You can also scan the QR code. <https://bgpres.org/give>



Announcements

USHERS: The Polen and Thomison families

COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE: Wyatt Edmunds, Hailey Goodwin, Darcy Merriman, Jeremiah Simpson

LAY READER: Rob Hale

MEDIA PERSONNEL: David Clarke, Lillian Hargesheimer

NURSERY: Alisia Simmons, Yamilet Bruno Sanchez, Hailey Gadberry

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY January 14: 1 Samuel 3:1–10 (11–20); Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18; 1 Corinthians 6:12–20; John 1:43–51.

TODAY

WE WELCOME the Rev. Curry Davis to the pulpit for today's worship service. Rev. Davis is a Presbyterian pastor who has served three churches in our Presbytery over the past 28 years. Now retired, he lives in Franklin, Kentucky. We are happy to welcome him back this morning.

COMING UP:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN 2024 will offer opportunities for learning and friendship for children and adults. Here is what is planned for the new year. Here are the classes available at 9:15 on Sunday mornings:

- Preschoolers enjoy Bible stories with Jim and Betsy Tyrie in the Sunday School area.
- First through 5th graders engage in learning through Godly Play with Mary Evans and meet in the Sunday School area.
- Middle and high school students meet to learn together with David Clarke in the youth room.
- An adult class chooses a book to study and meets in the Tenth Street Parlor.
- A Bible study class meets in the conference room. Leadership for the Bible study will be shared.

SATURDAY MEALS The Presbyterian Church is hosting Saturday Meals on January 20, 2024. We need volunteers to sort/pack, 6-7 people. You need to arrive around 6:45am, stay until approximately 8:00am. Also, drivers, 9 routes, you may take more than one route if you wish. Drivers need to arrive around 8:15am. Three people will need to wrap meals (these can be same as packers/sorters). We need 5 people to help in the kitchen, assembly line and clean-up. These folks should arrive around 7:30am. Please let me know when and where you can help. Email lovelynab@yahoo.com; ceceliameorial1234@outlook.com; or call **619/368-2103**. Thank you in advance for your help with this wonderful project. You are greatly appreciated. -Lovelyn Williams

OTHER NEWS:

DAVID'S ROOM IN THE INN continues through this winter season. We host every Thursday evening through mid-March. Signup sheets for volunteers are ready at the chapel landing. Helpers will be needed for meals, setup and cleanup, innkeeping, dinner hosting, etc. You may sign up for only one, or for more than one Thursday in a slot. Everything helps!

ATTENDANCE REGISTERS Tell us you're here, please! There are **navy blue notebooks** at the inside aisle end of every pew. Please write your name and any other information you'd like the church to have so we can better communicate with you. Then pass the notebook to your neighbors in the pew so they can sign in, too. After everyone has signed, please pass the notebook back to the inside aisle, so others in the pew can learn your name.

OUR WEBSITE REFRESH NEEDS YOUR HELP With our new site, we need more photos of our warm and loving congregation. There are two ways to help: 1) Please share any high quality, relatively recent pictures of folks. You can easily email or text the images. 2) Have an interest in taking photos and willing to capture some over the next few weeks? We have so many lovely events planned that we would love to capture. Together we can better represent the joy and beauty of our church online! Please reach out to Margaret Stein at margaret_f.stein@hotmail.com or 270-779-2579.

OFFICE ASSISTANCE Tom Moody has decided to retire from his duties in the church office. He will be greatly missed especially for his knowledge and wisdom. In his absence his duties need to be filled. The duties will include: answering the door buzzer and greeting visitors, answering phones, helping with the food pantry, taking messages, and working with the door lock schedules (as a backup for Cheryl). His secretary skills include sending acknowledgement cards for donations, memorial tracking, keeping baptism records, attendance and new visitor recording, and letters. Also he helped with ACS (membership) data entry, coordination between committees for upcoming events and keeping supplies current in the sanctuary. This is a part time position, 3-4 days per week from 11:30-4:30. If you know of anyone who could fulfill this opportunity please call the church office to make a suggestion or express interest. Some of these responsibilities could be fulfilled by volunteers until a person is hired for the position. If so willing, please contact the church office.

WELCOME VISITORS! We invite you to pick up visitor's information on your way out, either in the narthex or on the table on the right in the downstairs entrance hall. Ushers will be standing by to help you find them. Always know that a cordial greeting is extended by ministers, officers, and congregation.