

Baptism of the Lord Worship Service with Reaffirmation of Baptism

Monday, January 15, 2024

Quiet Time Prayer #253 *UMH* “Baptism of the Lord”

Welcome

Greeting God is good **all the time**. All the time **God is good**.

Question of the Day What is reaffirmation of baptism?

***Hymn** “Here I Am, Lord”

***Call to Worship**

In the beginning,

God created the heavens and the earth.

The Spirit of God swept over the face of the waters;

then God said: Let there be light,

and God saw that it was good.

At the beginning of his ministry,

Jesus was baptized by John.

The heavens opened, and the Spirit descended like a dove;

then God said: This is my beloved Son,

in whom I am well pleased.

***Prayer of Invocation**

God of heaven and earth, we gather in the name of Jesus to hear your holy Word and to be immersed in your Spirit. Speak to us with grace and truth and pour out your love upon us and upon all your children. Amen.

Mark 1:4-11 *New Revised Standard Version*

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.”

Acts 19:1-7 *The Message*

Now, it happened that while Apollos was away in Corinth, Paul made his way down through the mountains, came to Ephesus, and happened on some disciples there. The first thing he said was, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed? Did you take God into your mind only, or did you also embrace him with your heart? Did he get inside you?"

“We’ve never even heard of that – a Holy Spirit? God within us?”

“How were you baptized, then?” asked Paul.

“In John’s baptism.”

“That explains it,” said Paul. “John preached a baptism of radical life-change so that people would be ready to receive the One coming after him, who turned out to be Jesus. If you’ve been baptized in John’s baptism, you’re ready now for the real thing, for Jesus.”

And they were. As soon as they heard of it, they were baptized in the name of the Master Jesus. Paul put his hands on their heads and the Holy Spirit entered them. From that moment on, they were praising God in tongues and talking about God’s actions. Altogether there were about twelve people there that day.

Response: *The Word of God, for the people of God! Thanks be to God!*

Time of Prayer

How Is It With Your Soul?

Prayers of Intercession

All-glorious God, maker of heaven and earth, hear us as we pray:

Give strength, O Lord, and bless us with peace.

We pray for the world you have made. Move again over these troubled waters, steeped in chemicals and stained with blood. Where carelessness and violence bring chaos – restore order, goodness, and life.

Give strength, O Lord, and bless us with peace.

We pray for the church you have redeemed. Renew in us the gifts of your Spirit and the call to Christian discipleship. Where history and heresy have divided us, make us one in the baptism we share.

Give strength, O Lord, and bless us with peace.

We pray for the peoples you have created. Give to the leaders of all nations the wisdom to know what is good. Where people are poor and hungry, provide justice and daily bread.

Give strength, O Lord, and bless us with peace.

We pray for the loved ones you have given us. Where there is sorrow, sickness, or suffering, send your Spirit of comfort and healing.

Give strength, O Lord, and bless us with peace.

Time of Silent Prayer

In the name of the Lord Jesus, whose voice is our strength and salvation, whose breath is the Spirit of peace, we pray:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***Hymn** “He Knows My Name”

Answer to the Question of the Day What is reaffirmation of baptism?

Time of Offering *Thank you to everyone for your faithful generosity.*

Offering Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for every blessing and spiritual gift you have poured out upon us. Let the gifts of our lives be a source of blessing in your world, all to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

***Song of Offering** “Sanctuary”

Message “Reaffirming Our Baptism” Rev. Joyce Rich

Reaffirmation of Baptism Covenant

Introduction

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 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 the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, [who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.]

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, [the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.]

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Eternal Father: When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

Declare his works to the nations, his glory among all people.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and by this gift of water call to our remembrance the grace declared to us in our baptism. For you have washed away our sins, and you clothe us with righteousness throughout our lives, that dying and rising with Christ we may share in his final victory.

All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever. Amen.

Reaffirmation of Faith *Water is sprinkled on the congregation.*

Remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving

Let us rejoice in the faithfulness of our covenant God.

We give thanks for all that God has already given us. As members of the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we will faithfully participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish and strengthen us by the power of the Holy Spirit that we may live in grace and peace. **Amen.**

A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low by thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

***Hymn “I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry”**

***Commission and Blessing**

Listen to the majesty of God’s voice, calling you!

Glorify God’s name in your work and worship.

We have been baptized in the name of Jesus.

The triune God has blessed and empowered us.

Then go out as a new creation in Christ.

Let others see how God is changing you.

We go as servants of the Most High.

We are ready to do what God expects.

Amen. **And Amen.**

Announcements

Read for Next Week Psalm 62:5-12; Mark 1:14-20

*Liturgical resources drawn from: **Led by Love: Worship Resources for Year B**, Lavon Bayler © 1996 United Church Press; **Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion**; **Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1**, Kimberly Bracken Long, editor © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press; and **The United Methodist Book of Worship** © 1992 The United Methodist Publishing House.*