

# The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

January 10, 2021

Baptism of the Lord



**Preparation** “There is but one baptism in the Church of God; and it is sufficient to be once baptized or consecrated unto God. For baptism once received continues for all of life, and is a perpetual sealing of our adoption.”  
The Second Helvetic Confession 5.186

**Prelude**

*The Old Year Has Passed Away*

Wilbur Held

## Greeting and Announcements of the Church

### Call to Worship:

One: The heavens open. The Spirit descends.

**All: Jesus emerges from the water.**

One: And a voice echoes through the blue expanse.

**All: "This is my child, the Beloved, with whom I am well-pleased."**

One: Jesus is named. Claimed.

**All: We come to the water. We remember we are named. Claimed.**

One: Can it be so? What a thing to be named. Claimed.

**All: Let us worship the one who names and claims us still.**

### Prayer of Confession:

One: And now I invite us to confess our sin: those things which have hurt others, and which have offended God. Together, let us pray the prayer of confession:

All: Lord God, we are incredibly stubborn.

We have entered the season in which Your Light has been given to the world,

Your blessings have been poured out on the world,

and yet all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires.

Help us to desire you, Lord. Help us to yearn for your presence.

Pour your baptismal waters over us again,

cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance.

Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve You.

Wash away our jealousy, greed, and all negative thoughts and behaviors

that stand in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be.

Once more, let us receive the blessings offered in creation,

in the birth and baptism of Jesus, and in the ministry of the saints of light.

We ask this in Jesus' Name.

*(Silent prayers of confession)*

### Promise of the Gospel

One: The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, for all eternity.

Rejoice, dear friends, this is the Good News of our Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.**

**Hymn #484**

*Out of Deep, Unordered Water*, vs. 1-3

[Rustington]

**Children's Sermon:**

Rev. Peggy Huston

**Scripture Lesson**

Mark 1: 4-10

**Sermon**

*"Staying Wet With Our Baptism"*

Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston

**Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
on the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen

**Special Music**

*Wade in the Water* [African American Spiritual]  
**McDaniel Quintet**  
**Piano:** Arlene McDaniel  
**Saxophone:** Jon Gewirtz  
**Bass:** Hank Horton  
**Drums:** Ian LeVine  
**Flute:** Lauren Rongo

**The Offering**

**Prayers of the People**

Refrain: One: Lord in your mercy

All: **Hear our prayer.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

*"...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors..."*

**Minute for Mission**

Bible Study

Ewen Todd

**Hymn #482**

*Baptized in Water*, vs. 1-3  
[Bunessan]

**Benediction**

Rev. Peggy Huston

**Postlude**

*Rustington*  
[Trumpet Tune]

Rick Deasley

**Liturgist:** Rev. Alice Fleming Townley

**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**  
2258 Bennett Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864  
(517) 349-9536  
Website: <https://okemospres.org>  
Email: [office@okemospres.org](mailto:office@okemospres.org)  
<https://twitter.com/okemospres>  
<https://facebook.com/OkemosPresbyterian>



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Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston, Interim Minister  
Rev. Alice Fleming Townley, Assistant Pastor  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist  
Connor Koppin, Choir Director  
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director  
Sue Schnackenberg, CE Director for Youth & Children  
Edward Ennen, Sexton  
Anna Thiel, Office Manager  
Ben Baldwin, Video Editor