

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
January 29, 2023
Third Sunday After the Epiphany
Baptism of the Lord



COVID-19 Safety Recommendations

- *Masking is now optional during the service (including while singing).*
- *Remember that young children may not have been vaccinated.*

Preparation “.. walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.” Ephesians 4:1-6

Prelude

Cantilena
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Josef Rheinberger

Choral Introit

O Jesus Christ, Our Lord Most Dear

Eleanor Daley

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Call to Worship

Alex Juarez, Liturgist

One: In the beginning, at creation, the Spirit hovered over the waters of the deep.

All: In the waters of the flood, God cleansed the earth and humankind.

One: God caused the waters to part so that Israel could cross from slavery to liberation.

All: Jesus taught us how to live by washing his disciples' feet in water.

One: Jesus met a Samaritan woman at a well and offered her, and all of us, Living Water.

All: Creating, liberating, cleansing, renewing waters are poured out on us at baptism. Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus, the Christ, and reaffirm our own baptism.

* Hymn #484

Out of Deep, Unordered Water, vs. 1-3
[Rustington]

Reaffirmation of Baptism Sentences of Scripture

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Hear these words from holy scripture: Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

All: For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: Let us draw near to God with sincerity of heart and full assurance of faith, with our guilty hearts washed clean. Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

All: Sovereign God, in baptism you called us to turn from sin and to turn to Jesus Christ, but we stray from his ways and do not heed your call. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

In baptism you joined us to Christ in his death that we might be raised with Christ in new life; but we cherish old ways and fail to embrace the risen life of righteousness, justice, and love. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

In baptism you call us to nurture the ways of peace. Instead we allow anger and hatred to grow among us, putting neighbor against neighbor, and nation against nation. We abuse the earth you entrust to our care, and live in discord with all you made. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Remember the promises you made to us in our baptism, forgive our sinful ways and heal our brokenness. Set us free from all that enslaves us, and 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.

Promise of the Gospel

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: Beloved people of God, our baptism is the sign and seal of our cleansing from sin, and of our being grafted into Christ. Through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Christ, the power of sin was broken and God's kingdom entered our world. Through our baptism we were made citizens of God's kingdom, and freed from the bondage of sin.

Thanksgiving for the Waters of Baptism

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Reaffirmation of Baptism

Pastors Lisa Schrott and Rebekah Anderson

One: Let us celebrate that freedom and redemption through the renewal of the promises made at our baptism. I ask you, therefore, once again to reject sin, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and to confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we were baptized.

One: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

All: I do.

One: Who is your Lord and Savior?

All: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

One: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

All: I will, with God's help.

One: Remember your baptism and be thankful. In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

One: With the whole church, let us confess our faith by sharing together in the Apostle's Creed.

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: As a forgiven people, let us greet each other, sharing the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you. *Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.*

* Act of Praise #581

Gloria Patri

Children's Sermon – Distribution of Bibles

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Children's Worship Experience

Children ages 3-8 may depart for the Children's Worship Experience in the Chapel following the Children's Sermon.

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Still-speaking God, as these words from Scripture are read, may it be to us as if the heavens are opening, and we see your Spirit descending on us like a dove, revealing your love for us as your children. Amen.

Scripture

Matthew 3:13-17

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Sermon

Remembering Our Baptism: The Work of the Spirit

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Anthem

Be Not Afraid

Craig Courtney

*Be not afraid: For I have redeemed you;
Be not afraid: I have called you by name.*

*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
When you pass through the floods they will not sweep o'er you;
When you walk through fire, you will not be consumed;
You are mine, you are precious in my sight.*

*My love for you is everlasting,
my love for you shall have no end.*

**Minute for Mission
Offering**

Solar Panels

Jeff Arbour
Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory

A Gaelic Improvisation
[Bunessan]

Charles Callahan

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Alex Juarez, Liturgist

One: Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer "...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors..."

*** Hymn #482**

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

*** Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Postlude

Postlude on *Rustington*
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Charles Callahan

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Education Time: Embracing What Matters in the End. Having THE Conversation. How to share your end of life wishes with those who are important to you. We will use information from The Conversation Project. Led by Pastor Lisa.

Next Week's Education Time: There will be no Adult Education next week. The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held following the service.

Next Week's Scripture: John 2:13-25

This Morning's Fellowship Team: *Thanks to Edward Ennen for preparing the coffee and to Zarina Qurashi and Nancy Kanistanoux for supplying the snacks.*

Ushers: *Jayne Zuhlke, Sally Belloli, Jill Tribell*

The Call to Worship and the Prayer of Illumination are adapted from *Feasting on the Word, Worship Companion Liturgies for Year A. Volume 1*, Westminster John Knox Press. 2013. The liturgy for today's Reaffirmation of Baptism is adapted from the *Book of Common Worship, PC(USA)*, Westminster John Knox Press, 2018.

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