

Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

January 12, 2025

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

At Wesley we foster a sanctuary culture by creating a safe environment where all feel welcomed, loved, accepted, valued, and affirmed for who they are, through intentional practices such as empathy, compassion, generosity, hospitality, and inclusion.

Please let an usher know if you have questions, need assistance, or have a concern about health or safety.

Prelude

Partita on "At the River"

Robert Lowry 1826-1899
arr. Jon Spong

Greeting

*Call to Worship

One: Ascribe to God glory and strength;

Many: Ascribe to God the glory of God's name.

One: The voice of God is powerful.

Many: The voice of God is full of majesty.

One: May God give strength to the people!

Many: May God bless the people with peace!

All: Let us praise the name of God!

*Hymn

"When Jesus Came to Jordan"

UMH 252

When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John,
he did not come for pardon but as the sinless one.
He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.

He came to share temptation, our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation to die upon the cross.

So when the dove descended on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended, the age of grace begin.

Come, Holy Spirit, aid us to keep the vows we make;
this very day invade us, and every bondage break.

Come, give our lives direction, the gift we covet most:
to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost.

***Please stand in body or in spirit.**

*Praise Songs

Unto The Lord Be the Glory

Unto the Lord be the glory. Great things He has done...
Great things He has done. Greater things He will do.
Unto the Lord be the glory. Great things He has done...

Me yi N'ayε (I Will Praise Him) [Feel free to sing in either language]

Me yi n'ayε, Me yi Nyamea' γε...
Me yi Nyamea' γε, Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halleluyah ...

I will praise God, I will praise my God...
I will praise my God, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah...

Common Prayer (*unison*)

**Living God,
when the Spirit descended on Jesus at his baptism in Jordan's water
you revealed him as your own beloved Son.
You anointed him with the Holy Spirit.
Grant that all who are baptized into his name
may keep the covenant they have made,
and boldly confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
now and for ever. Amen.**

Children's Time

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

"Come and Find the Quiet Center"

TFWS 2128, v. 1

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

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.

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

For Your Blessings In My Life

James Varrick Armaah

For your blessings in my life, your glory will never fade away
Your glory will never fade away, Saviour.
For your blessings in my life, how can I repay you?
Your glory will never fade away, Lord of grace.

What song shall I sing? What dance shall I dance?
What words can I express, Lord of grace?
For your blessings in my life, how can I repay you?
I will praise you without end, Lord of grace.

*Doxology

UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

*Passing of Peace

“Shalom”

Mensah Essilfie

God’s peace be unto you,
We wish you Shalom!
The peace of God which transcends all
understanding be with you forevermore.

*Gospel Reading

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Anthem

“Wade in the Water”

Ruth Elaine Schram b. 1956

Refrain:

Wade in the water, wade in the water,
children, wade in the water,
God’s a-gonna trouble the water.

See that host all dressed in white,
God’s a-gonna trouble the water.
The leader looks like the Israelite,
God’s a-gonna trouble the water. *Refrain*

See that band all dressed in red,
God’s a-gonna trouble the water.
Looks like the band that Moses led,
God’s a-gonna trouble the water. *Refrain*

Message

Announcement

*Hymn

“O Spirit of the Living God”

UMH 539

O Spirit of the living God, thou light and fire divine,
descend upon thy church once more, and make it truly thine.
Filled it with love and joy and power, with righteousness and peace;
till Christ shall dwell in human hearts, and sin and sorrow cease.

Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow until our minds are free
from mists of error, clouds of doubt, which blind our eyes to thee.

Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips with flaming love and zeal,
to preach to all thy great good news, God's glorious commonweal.

Teach us to utter living words of truth which all may hear,
the language all may understand when love speaks loud and clear;
till every age and race and clime shall blend their creeds in one,
and earth shall form one family by whom thy will is done.

So shall we know the power of Christ who came this world to save;
so shall we rise with him to life which soars beyond the grave;
and earth shall win true holiness, which makes thy children whole;
till, perfected by thee, we reach creation's glorious goal!

*Benediction

Postlude

"Majestic March"

RR Perry

Worship Leaders: Gifty Bentum-Asante, Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle, Ronna Davis,
Chris Kerns, Byungmoo Lee, Debbie O'Driscoll, David Potts, Jennifer Quansah,
Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

Call to Worship – Psalm 29 ALT. *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*, Oxford Univ. Press.
Common Prayer – *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, 301.
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