

With Christ as the Cornerstone, we will build a church of living stones, where every member is a minister and is equipped to express God's love by word and deed to all people. Based on I Peter 2:5, 6

The Worship of God

The Baptism of Our Lord

January 15, 2023

Gathering Music

Prelude "'Deep River' with 'Shall We Gather at the River'"

Tim Hendrix

arr. Lloyd Larson

Welcome April Alston

† Call to Worship

One: Jesus was called from his home in Nazareth to be baptized as Messiah

and fulfill his ministry.

All: God calls us, here and now, to continue Christ's ministry and claim

his purpose and promise.

One: God calls us to be bathed in the spirit and made new in Jesus Christ.

All: Let us worship God with joy and anticipation.

† Opening Hymn 391 "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord. There are sweet expressions on each face, And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Refrain:

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love. And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise. Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived When we shall leave this place.

[†] Please rise in body or spirit.

During the last stanza of our Opening Hymn, all children are invited to come forward for today's children's sermon.

Children's Sermon April Alston

Pastoral Prayer Anna Beth Cross

Offertory Anthem "Living Water" By Lloyd Larson
GBC Choir

As the deer yearns for streams of water, so my soul yearns for you, O God. My soul thirsts for living water, where I go to meet God.

In seasons when my soul is cast down, I'll put my hope in God! By day the Lord will direct with His love, His song will be with me.

As the deer yearns for streams of water, so my soul yearns for you, O God. My soul thirsts for living water, where I go to meet God.

As the deer yearns for streams of water, so my soul yearns for you, O God. My soul thirsts for living water, where I go to meet God.

† Doxology 817

"O Bless the Gifts"

OLD HUNDREDTH; Words by Roger Lynn, Music from the *Genevan Psalter*

O bless the gifts our hands have brought; And bless the work our hearts have planned. Ours is the faith, the will, the thought; The rest, O God, is in Your hand.

Prayer of Dedication Ramona Taylor

Scripture Reading Matthew 3:1-17 Bill Pendergrass

Sermon "Baptized into Love" Chrissy Tatum Williamson

Silent Reflection

Invitation Chrissy Tatum Williamson

† Musical Response

"Baptized in Water"

BUNESSAN; Words by Michael Saward (alt), Traditional Gaelic Melody

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed in the love of Christ's offering; heirs of salvation, trusting the promise, faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, brought to new life in Christ's offering; one with his rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ's offering; born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now God's praises we sing.

Celebrating Community

Christian McIvor

Benediction Chrissy Williamson

Postlude

"Consecrated, Lord, To Thee"
Pam Weis

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

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