



University Presbyterian Church

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Co-Pastors: Mamie Broadhurst and Patti Snyder

Choir Director: David Walters

Organist: Anne Maverick

Ministers: The people of this church

Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2021

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

We worship today gathered in Spirit if not in body, realizing perhaps more than ever the nature of the body of Christ. We gather as a resurrection people even in our time of loss and uncertainty. As we gather may we be strengthened by the Spirit who knows no boundaries.

As you prepare for worship together you may wish to light a candle representing the presence of God with you and concerns, laments, desires for healing, confessions or prayers of thanksgiving that you are particularly holding in the light of Christ today.

PRELUDE

Christ our Lord Came to the Jordan

Buxtehude

Choralvorspiele alter Meister.

New York: C. F. Peters, 1951

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS

Mamie Broadhurst

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

On that first day of creation

you gave birth;

light swept through the darkness;

your Spirit moved over the chaos.

On that first day at the Jordan

your Child stepped into the waters;

light from heaven danced in the desert;

your Spirit flew into a ready heart.

On this first day of the week

might we be born anew?

Shadow and light play together
**as we open our hearts to your clean sweeping, your movement,
your dancing, your swift flight, your playfulness,
your voice claiming us as your own.**

*HYMN No. 664

Morning Has Broken

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**Timeless God, you cast light into sin's hidden corners,
sweep hearts clean making them ready for love,
and raise us up sputtering from all that drowns us.
Forgive us when we linger in the shadows,
when we give in to hurtful ways,
and when we close our eyes to the wrong instead of facing it.
Give us the Spirit of Christ
who was willing to be humbled and opened
to receive your love as well as give it away**

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

Hear the good news! The Spirit stirring in Jesus called to him,
"You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

**That same Spirit resounds through the ages that in Christ
we too are the recipients of God's love.**

Friends, by love born out as grace, we are a forgiven people and find ourselves invited to begin again!

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS (*Sung through one time*)

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy.
You are the Christ, giver of mercy.
You are the Lord, giver of mercy.**

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

**Great Spirit, you can do anything. Move over the face of our thoughts
and feelings that we might hear the Word as it is read and proclaimed.
Send the flood of your waters over our souls, destroying within us what
should be destroyed, and giving life to that which should live.**

Based on a prayer by Origen (185-c.254)

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Genesis 1:1-5

Mark 1: 4-11

SERMON

Mamie Broadhurst

Patti Snyder

Patti Snyder

WE RESPOND WITH DEDICATION

*HYMN No. 292

As the Wind Song

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OF GIFTS

During this time you are encouraged to consider your response to the work of Christ in the world today, making a commitment of time, talents, and resources. Please remember your family, neighbors, the wider community, and the church in your offering. Although many things are shifting, please continue to honor previous commitments to the best of your ability.

If you choose to contribute to the work of Christ through UPC at this time, online giving is available via the GIVE tab on our website (www.upcbr.org) or by texting "upcbr (space) and then the number of dollars" to 73256.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING and DEDICATION (*responsive*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God, you nourish us by the outpouring of your love. You strengthen us with your enlivening Spirit. You sent your Son to be baptized among broken humanity and to seek the lost. May we, who have been baptized in his name, never turn away from the needs of a broken world, but reach out in love to welcome all who stray into the arms of your grace. May these our gifts work your way in the world. Amen.

HYMN No. 688

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

Go with God.

Alleluia and Amen.

CLOSING MUSIC

Wade in the Water

African American Spiritual,

arranged by Jeremy Rawson

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Wade in the water, children, God's a-goin' a trouble the water.

*See that host all dressed in white. God's a-goin' a trouble the water,
The leader looks like the Isrealite. God's a-goin' a trouble the water.*

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

*Look over yonder, what do I see? God's a-goin' a trouble the water,
The Holy Ghost a-comin' on me. God's a-goin' a trouble the water.*

*If you don't believe I've been redeemed, God's a-goin' a trouble the water,
Just follow me down to Jordan's stream. God's a-goin' a trouble the water.*

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