

# WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

**Prelude** And ante Cantabile Joseph Haydn

Welcome

## † Opening Music

Down by the Jordan

W & S 3045

Down by the Jordan,

 a prophet named John was baptizing,
 preaching a message the people found bold and surprising.

"God will forgive! Show that you'll change how you live! Surely God's new day is rising!"

2. There by the river, the crowd came with great expectation: "Are you God's Chosen One, sent here to rescue our nation?"

"No!" John replied.

"He who is mightier than I judges and offers salvation."

3. Jesus, you went to be baptized Along with the others, taking your place among sinners, God's lost sons and daughters.

Then with great love, God's Spirit came as a dove! Your work began in those waters.

4. Here in the Church, we are baptized and filled with God's Spirit. Freed and forgiven we're welcomed with joy! Can you hear it?

This is God's sign!
This is how God says, "You're mine!"
Let's take the good news and share it!

# Blessing for Children

# Celebration of Holy Baptism

## Prayers of the People

A Pastor will begin a time of prayer and name those for whom our congregation is praying. A time of silence will indicate when you may share one name or very short phrase to add.

## **Pastoral Prayer**

# WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

## Scripture

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (NRSV)

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

# Scriptural Response

Liturgist: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

#### Hymn

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

UMH 611

- Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign; with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.
- Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!
   Fresh from God, refresh our spirits, into joy and laughter lead.
- 3. Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are, from God you came. Back to God we humbly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.
- Child of God your loving Parent, learn to know whose child you are. Grow to laugh and sing and worship, trust and love God more than all.

# WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response in the World

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Adagio Baldassare Galuppi

Confession, Assurance, and Peace

All:

Divine Spirit, descend upon us this day, as you descended upon Jesus on the day of his baptism. In the midst of our brokenness, we long to touch the healing of your Spirit, as you touch us with your love. In the presence of evil all around us, we yearn to be protected by the holy fire of your sustaining Spirit. As we remember, with gratitude, our baptism this day, remind us that we are a people of the water—a people made one and whole, through the Spirit made known in Christ Jesus.

Liturgist: Do not worry, sisters and brothers, for God has redeemed you and called you by name. Do not worry, children of the promise, for God is with us even now, gathering the lost into the light of everlasting love and faithfulness. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

#### Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

Online worshipers are invited to select elements including bread and juice (or similar). Please wait until directed before receiving your elements.

# The Lord's Prayer

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 tresspasses, 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.

# WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

† Closing Music Baptized in Water **TFWS 2248** 

> 1. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King; heirs of salvation, trusting his promise, faithfully now God's praises we sing.

- 2. Baptized in water sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ, our King; one with his rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praises we sing.
- 3. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ, our King; born of one Father, we are his children, joyfully now God's praises we sing.

#### **Benediction**

PostludeBe of Good CourageGeorge Philipp Teleman

Organist: Bob Wuertz

Quartet: Lisa Corpron, Jayson Coleman, Randy Seward

Audio Visual Team: Dave Flores, Emilio Valente, Cam Rhodes

Liturgical elements from The Abingdon Worship Annual

#### LJUMC Ministry Team

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Rev. Derek Nguyen, Pastor of Spiritual Development; Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director; Theresa Erb, Administrative Assistant; Joyce Drozda, NS & Church Accountant; Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director; Bridget Musante, NS Executive Director