



LA JOLLA  
UNITED METHODIST

# Expectations & Affirmations

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Baptism of the Lord

[www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org](http://www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org)

## WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

### Gathering Music

*Panis Angelicus*

Cesar Franck/Arr. Hal H. Hopson  
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### Call to Worship

One: Come to the waters.

**All: We gather at the river.**

One: Come to the waters.

**All: The waters of grace flow over us.**

One: Come to the waters.

**All: We are washed in God's love.**

One: Come to the waters.

**All: We are God's beloved children.**

### Introit

*This Is the Day*

Arr. Donald Moore  
©1994 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp.

### Welcome

### † Opening Hymn

*When Jesus Came to Jordan*

UMH 252

1. 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.
2. 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 began.
3. 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.

### Blessing for Young Hearts

## Prayers of the People

*A Pastor will begin a time of prayer and name those for whom our congregation is praying.  
Online Worshipers may type prayer requests in the Live Chat, taking care for privacy.*

## Pastoral Prayer

### 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 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.

## Prayer Response

*Amen*

Arr. Donald Moore  
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## WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

### Scripture

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

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 strap 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

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

All: **Thanks be to God! Amen**

### Anthem

*Down to the River to Pray*

W & S 3164

### Message

*Expectations & Affirmations*

Rev. Bob Rhodes

## WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

### Response to the Word

### Invitation to the Offering

### Offertory

*Interlude XX*

Mark Dorian  
©2007 Dorian Music

### † Doxology

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

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 Confession – Liturgist

**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. Amen.**

One: 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.**

## WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

### † Closing Hymn

*Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters*

UMH 605

1. Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.  
Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.  
Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.  
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

2. We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.  
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.  
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,  
one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.
  
3. O how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!  
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!  
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.  
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

† **Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Awake the Trumpet's Lofty Sound* G. F. Handel/Arr. Hal H. Hopson  
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**Liturgical elements from *Discipleship Ministries (UMC)* and *The Abingdon Worship Annual*.**

**Flowers:** from Dave Grundies in honor of Dr. Diane's January 12th birthday  
**Liturgist:** Joyce Theilacker  
**Organist:** Bob Wuertz  
**Pianist:** Rebecca Cosford  
**Ushers:** Dave Grundies, Dan Martin, Peter McCreight, Russell Toppi  
**Tech Team:** AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

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**LJUMC Ministry Team**

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director;  
Theresa Erb, Office Manager; Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director;  
Erin Wyer, NS Executive Director