



# BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY

## First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Worship Baptism of the Lord Sunday – January 9, 2022

\*All who are able, please stand.

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH LIFE

### TOLLING OF THE HOUR

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER (responsive)

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God;

**The holy habitation of the Most High.**

The Lord pours forth rivers from bare mountains, and fountains in valleys' depths.

**God opens rocks, and water gushes out.**

On dry thirsty land God springs forth streams in the desert.

**Holy God, when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan the heavens opened, the Spirit descended, and your voice affirmed your love in Jesus for the healing of the human race and all creation. By water and word you lovingly invite us into this same life-giving mission. May your Spirit, moving like a stream of water flowing from its source, work in us this day to realize your vision of a world made new in Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

### \*HYMN #475

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

1 Come, thou Fount of every blessing;  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
mount of God's unchanging love!

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
hither by thy help I'm come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.

3 O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart; O take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

## CONFESSION OF SIN (responsive)

Sovereign God, in baptism you called us to turn from sin and to turn to Jesus Christ; but we stray from his ways and do not heed your call.

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

In baptism you joined us to Christ in his death that we might be raised with Christ in new life; but we cherish old ways and fail to embrace the risen life of righteousness, justice, and love.

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

In baptism you united us with all the baptized who confess your name; but we foster division in the church. We refuse to live as one people, and so fail to witness to your reconciling love before the world.

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

In baptism you call us to ministry in all realms of life, but we refuse the struggle to know your will; we do not nurture the ways of peace; we allow enmity to grow among us, setting neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse the earth you entrust to our care, and live in discord with all you have made.

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

In baptism you sent us to serve with compassion all for whom Christ died; but we ignore the suffering of the oppressed and the plight of the poor.

We take bread from the hungry, and stop our ears to cries for justice.

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

In baptism you gave us the Holy Spirit to teach and guide us, but we rely on ourselves and refuse to trust your direction. We spurn your eternal wisdom, preferring, instead, the luring ways of the world.

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy on us. Remember the promises you made to us in baptism, forgive our sinful ways and heal our brokenness. Set us free from all that enslaves us, and raise us to new life in Jesus Christ, that we may be your faithful servants, showing forth your healing love to the world, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### \*RESPONSE #582

"Glory to God"

1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

2 World without end, without end. Amen. (*sing 3 times*)

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

### \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you: **and also with you.**

(*For the safety of all, please share the peace with a smile or wave from your seat.*)

**GATHERING SONG**

"As We Gather"

As we gather may your Spirit work within us. As we gather may we glorify your name. Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship, we'll be blessed because we came, we'll be blessed because we came.

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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."

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> 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."

**ANTHEM**

"Come to the Water"

John Foley, S.J.

**SCRIPTURE**

Mark 14:3-9

<sup>3</sup> While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. <sup>4</sup> But some were there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? <sup>5</sup> For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. <sup>6</sup> But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. <sup>7</sup> For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. <sup>8</sup> She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. <sup>9</sup> Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

**SERMON**

Jason Dauer

**\*HYMN**

"Wade in the Water"

Refrain:

Wade in the water,  
wade in the water, children,  
wade in the water,  
God's gonna trouble the water.

1 See that host all dressed in white,  
God's gonna trouble the water.  
the leader looks like the Israelite,  
God's gonna trouble the water. [Refrain]

2 See that band all dressed in red,  
God's gonna trouble the water.

looks like the band that Moses led.  
God's gonna trouble the water. [Refrain]

3 Look over yonder, what do I see?  
God's gonna trouble the water.  
the Holy Ghost a-coming on me,  
God's gonna trouble the water. [Refrain]

4 If you don't believe I've been redeemed,  
God's gonna trouble the water.  
just follow me down to Jordan's stream.  
God's gonna trouble the water. [Refrain]

## SHARING OF THIS WEEK'S PRAYER REQUESTS

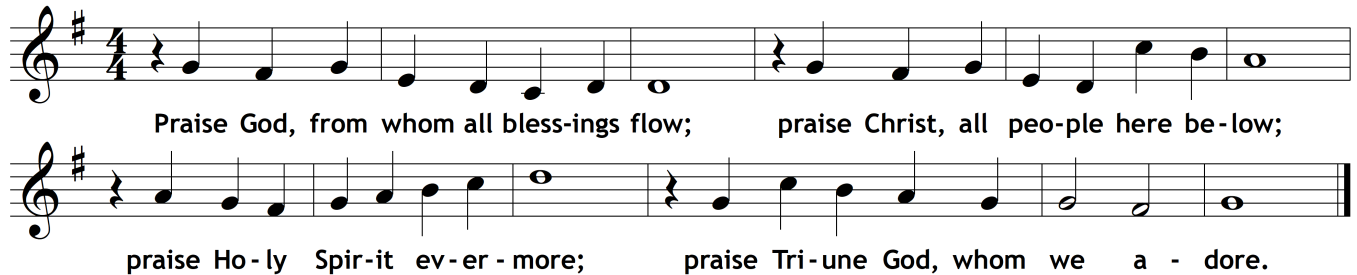
### PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

### INVITATION TO RECEIVE OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

[fpcedgewood.org/donate](http://fpcedgewood.org/donate)

### DOXOLOGY



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow;      praise Christ, all peo-ple here be-low;  
praise Ho-ly Spir-it ev-er - more;      praise Tri-une God, whom we a - dore.

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

#### REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM (responsive)

adapted from *Enfleshed*

*In a time where there is too much water and not enough water.*

Tears sting our eyes and our cheeks flare hot with grief  
when we witness how greed sets the ocean aflame.

**Billows of smoke are our anger.**

**Crops toasting dry, our heartbreak.**

**Rush of rising water wiping away homes, our weeping.**

In our grief, here we are:

Blood in our veins, riverbeds of our bodies.

**Air in our lungs, trees inhaling.**

We tip cups of tea to our lips.

**We hear the sound of rain and can finally fall asleep.**

Some lucky days we might float in water with our faces to the sky,

**or take a hot shower smelling of soap.**

Can you see our sibling, the incarnation, Jesus,

waist-deep in the river saying, yes John, yes. This is why I came:

to be immersed in what I am already made of —

grief, anger, heartbreakingly beautiful joy.

**The gift is being blessed by another with what's on hand.**

**The gift is the sheer ability to receive the blessing in the first place.**

Beloveds in Christ,

Through the waters of baptism,

We are brought into the family of God.

The body of Christ is rich in Divine creativity,  
a community of people of many genders, races,  
body types and sizes, abilities and hungers,  
each a glimpse of God from a different angle.

**God claims each of us with delight.**

**And we claim one another as companions in faith.**

In our baptismal vows, we promise to love and support each other, working together to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in all its forms – within us and around us.

**We need each other in this shared work of enfleshing the dreams of God.**

Today, we remember that the love we encounter through these waters cannot be undermined by bigotry or hate, by exclusion or injustice.

**We are children of the Holy One,  
Siblings in the life of God.**

These family ties cannot be broken.

No one and nothing has the power to turn us away from our Creator.

We cannot be kicked out, or accepted only in part.

**The full embrace of God always extends to us.**

And so today,

as we remember our baptism,

we also remember that through this new life in Christ we are set free:

To love wildly.

To live with Pride in who we are and what God has seen us through.

And to claim the power God has given us

To turn from everything that destroys.

**Through God's grace,**

**We leave shame behind**

**And rejoice in the Good News**

**That sets the captives free.**

Let us pray together.

God of Life and God of Love, through this gift of water, you do miraculous things. The dust of past shame and guilt are washed away. The bonds of love are restored. The possibilities of new life emerge. May it be so for us today as we remember our baptisms. May your Spirit be upon this water and all who gather, as we celebrate this Sacred family to which you have called us. Strengthen us in love for one another as we renew our commitment to the pursuit of the Kingdom of God, where all your creatures and creations are beloved and free. Amen.

*At this time you are invited to come forward during the final hymn to reach into the water and take a stone from the fount as a reminder of your own baptismal covenant.*

## \*HYMN #470

“Ho, All Who Thirst”

Refrain:

Ho, all who thirst,  
come now to the water,  
and all whose souls are parched  
and weary, come and drink!  
Ho, all who thirst,  
come now to the water,  
and from your heart will flow  
a never-failing spring!

- 1 Why forsake the Lord,  
the fount of living water,  
choosing broken cups  
that cannot be filled? (Refrain)
- 2 For the Lamb will be  
our shepherd and will guide us  
to the wellsprings of  
the water of life. (Refrain)
- 3 All who come may take  
this gift of living water.  
They will thirst no more,  
for they shall be filled. (Refrain)

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

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### *Participants in this worship service:*

Jason Dauer, guest preacher | Elder Rhonda Apessos, liturgist

Shaun Cloonan, minister of music | Sunny Sakai, pianist

John Foster, videographer

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## **Welcome! Thanks be to God for allowing us to worship with you!**

### IN-PERSON WORSHIP GUIDELINES:

While Allegheny County is in the high transmission rate for COVID-19, the Worship Committee has established safety protocols for in-person worship following CDC recommendations as follows:

- **Properly worn masks are required for all those attending worship regardless of vaccination status**
- Please continue to observe social distancing in the marked pews
- **Congregational singing may continue while masked.** You are welcome to use the hymnals in the pews, stand and join in singing of hymns and responses. Lyrics will continue to be printed in the bulletin for those following along online.

We understand that each person is different with the possible risks he or she may have. Live-streamed online worship will continue to be available on Facebook and YouTube for those who choose to stay home until they feel safe to rejoin in person.

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY: first, welcome! Please fill out a blue visitor's card found in the pew rack. If you are interested in being on our email or newsletter mailing lists, provide that information so we can keep in touch. We hope you consider joining us more often!

WE ARE GRATEFUL to Jason Dauer for stepping in at the last minute to lead today's service after our scheduled guest pastor was unable to join us due to COVID quarantining.

MUSIC MINISTRY PAUSE. Due to the surge in COVID cases related to the Omicron variant in Allegheny County and for the safety of all, the Sanctuary Choir and Emerging Worship Ensemble will not meet for rehearsals or participate in our worship services for the next several weeks. We will revert back to having just Sunny and Shaun lead music in the weekly service. Once the transmission rate decreases and safety risks are lowered, we will resume our fuller worship participation. Please continue to practice social distancing, masking, and if you don't feel well or safe, stay at home and join us via the Livestream on Facebook.

BOOK CLUB CONTINUES, "Stranger in the Lifeboat" by Mitch Albom, 10:00AM, Tuesdays at the home of Rhonda Apossos, 361 Maple Avenue, Edgewood.

SESSION MEETING...Tuesday, January 11, 7PM in the Gathering Place.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ZOOM BIBLE STUDY RESUMES THIS WEEK: Join Elder Tim Hoffman for a weekly one-hour bible study discussing the stories of Elijah and Elisha held on Zoom at 7:00pm Wednesday nights. <https://pitt.zoom.us/j/6670286724> No password is needed. Just copy paste the link into your browser and load the page. You will be automatically placed into a waiting room then brought into the main room by the host and moderator, Tim Hoffman. Email HoffmanTL@gmail.com with questions.

ANNUAL REPORTS from ministries and committees are due to Judy in the office by January 15. Please email your report to [office@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:office@fpcedgewood.org).

NEED A LIFT? The Session is aware that a few of our members are unable to drive themselves to worship and want to offer some assistance. If you could benefit from a ride to worship on Sunday mornings, please contact the church office. Likewise, if you can OFFER a ride to someone, please let us know!

RECYCLE BINS are located in the last pew in sanctuary and blue bin at side vestibule entrance for bulletins, cups, (list of what is accepted is posted on bins).

***Join us for upcoming worship services:***

January 16 – Rev. Bob Ruefle preaching

January 23 – Rev. Bob Ruefle preaching

Congregational Meeting follows

January 30 – Jason Dauer preaching

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

AH=Apessos Home, B=Basement Band Room, C=Choir Room,  
GP=Gathering Place, L=Lounge, O=Office, PS=Pastor's Study,  
S=Sanctuary, Sc=Scout Room, SL=Side Lawn, SR=Social Room

### Monday, January 10

6:30PM Scouts (Sc/SR)  
7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

### Tuesday, January 11

10:00AM Book Club (AH)  
7:00PM Edgewood Symphony Orchestra (S)  
7:00PM Session Meeting (GP)  
8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

### Wednesday, January 12

7:00PM Bible Study (Zoom)

### Thursday, January 13

5:00PM Flute Lesson (L)  
7:00PM Milepost6 (B)  
7:30PM PNC Meeting (Zoom)

### Friday, January 14

5:00PM Flute Lesson (L)  
8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

### Saturday, January 15

8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

### Next Sunday, January 16

9:30AM Choir Rehearsal (S)  
11:00AM Emerging Worship (S)  
Youth Sunday School (GP)

## How can you become involved?

As we reopen, working to rebuild and reimagine the ministries at FPCE, consider if you have a heart for:

- Encouraging our younger members
- Learning more about God & faith
- Praising God through music
- Serving senior citizens
- Working in publicity/advertising

...please contact a member of our FPCE Family listed below for more details on how to become involved!

## OUR FPCE FAMILY

*Office & Cleaning Manager*

**Judy Mysels**

[office@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:office@fpcedgewood.org)

*Building Manager*

**Rob Mysels**

[building@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:building@fpcedgewood.org)

*Minister of Music*

**Shaun Cloonan**

[music@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:music@fpcedgewood.org)

*Pianist*

**Sunny Sakai**

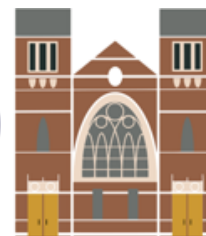
[Sunnysakai4@gmail.com](mailto:Sunnysakai4@gmail.com)

*Ministers*

**The Entire Congregation**



First Presbyterian Church of  
**EDGEWOOD**  
*The Community Church*



*Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ,  
our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to  
love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.*

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