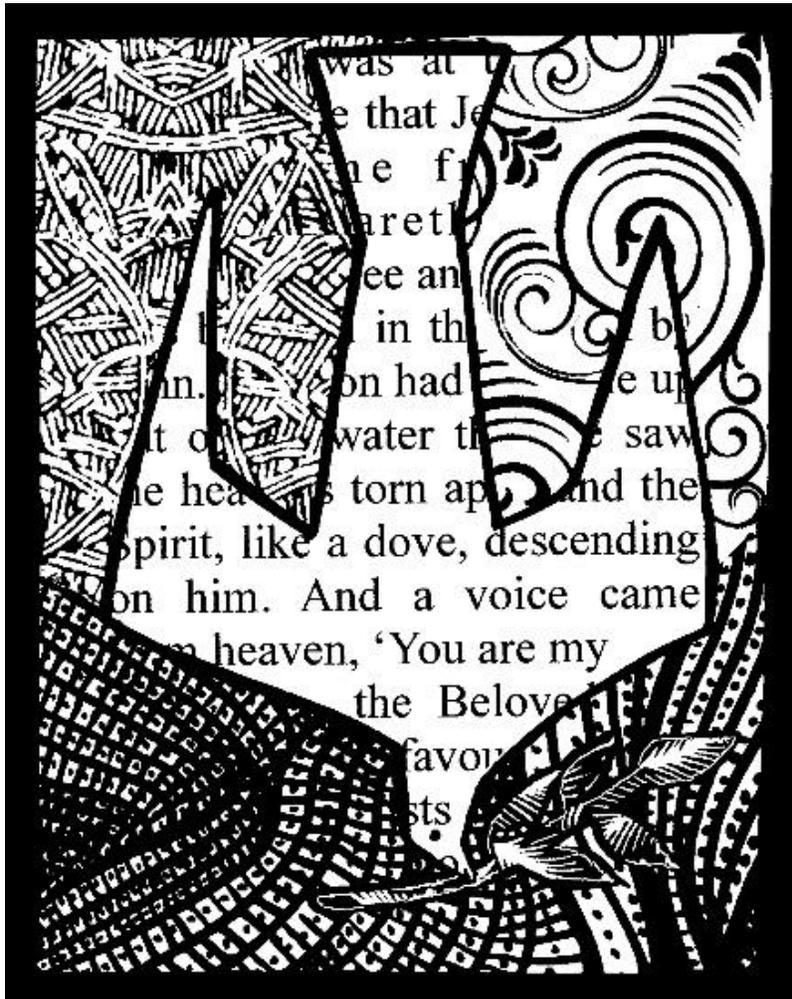


# NORTHPARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021



Baptism of Jesus 9 © 2016 Lucinda Naylor | Eyekons

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Self-rejection is the greatest enemy of the spiritual life because it contradicts the sacred voice that calls us the "Beloved." Being the Beloved constitutes the core truth of our existence.

- Henri J.M. Nouwen  
*Life of the Beloved*

PRELUDE O Hail This Brightest Day of Days  
Louis Walker, Organist

J. S. Bach

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Neil Orleans, Liturgist

One: Exciting God, glorious God,  
**All: baptize us with wonder.**  
One: Wise God, righteous God,  
**All: baptize us with justice.**  
One: Holy God, covenant God,  
**All: baptize us with love.**  
**Let us worship God!**

HYMN Crashing Waters at Creation

CRASHING WATERS

**Crashing waters at creation,  
ordered by the Spirit's breath,  
first to witness day's beginning  
from the brightness of night's death.**

**Cleansing water once at Jordan  
closed around the One foretold,  
opened to reveal the glory  
ever new and ever old.**

**Living water, never ending,  
quench the thirst and flood the soul.  
Wellspring, Source of life eternal,  
drench our dryness; make us whole.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(together)*

**Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the beloved body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from sisters and brothers in Christ. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us hostage. In your loving kindness, have mercy on us and free us from sin. Remind us of the promises you make in baptism, so that we may rise to new life and live together as your beloved. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

One: Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel.  
**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.**

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

Kathy McCarron, Director of Christian Education

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:4-11

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON Beloved

Rev. Nicole Bates, Pastor

HYMN Loving Spirit

OMNI DIE (Corner)

**Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be,  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.**

**Like a mother you enfold me,  
hold my life within your own,  
feed me with your very body,  
form me of your flesh and bone.**

**Like a father you protect me,  
teach me the discerning eye,  
hoist me up upon your shoulder,  
let me see the world from high.**

**Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be,  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(together)*

Psalm 23 (KJV)

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.**

SHARING OUR GIFTS

*Without a weekly in-person offering, the church relies on your generosity through online giving and offerings sent by mail. Checks may be mailed to NorthPark Presbyterian Church; P.O. Box 515454; Dallas, TX 75251-5454. Online gifts may be given at [northparkpres.org/online-giving/](http://northparkpres.org/online-giving/).*

ANTHEM I Want To Walk As a Child of the Light  
Sanctuary Choir (*Recorded on September 24, 2017*)  
Tinsley Silcox, Director

Mark Hayes

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN You Belong to Christ  
**You belong to Christ,  
in whom you have been baptized.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

YOU BELONG TO CHRIST

**You belong to Christ,  
in whom you have been baptized.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

CHARGE

Matthew 22:37-39

**Go out into the world in peace.  
Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind;  
and love your neighbor as yourself.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Grand Chorus from "Joshua"

G. F. Handel

Today's hymns are used with permission. CCLI License #20085484. A special thanks to today's worship team, including behind-the-scenes work from Cheryl Cunningham, Martica Luckey, Stuart McRae, and Tinsley Silcox.