

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD
JANUARY 10, 2021
BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

PRELUDE

Partita on Winchester New

Bruce Neswick
(b. 1956)

As the prelude is played, prepare your home, yourself, and your family to enter into this time of worship.

CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVELY)

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!

People: Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

HYMN NO. 252

When Jesus Came to Jordan

COMPLAINER

Unison

1. When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John,
2. He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,
3. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;

he did not come for par - don but as the sin - less one.
for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.
this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - ery bond - age break.

He came to share re - pent - ance with all who mourn their sins,
So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,
Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:

to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.
the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.
to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/2. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We are people who have sinned and who have been sinned against, and yet we are not without hope, for if we confess our sins, God is faithful to hear and to remind us that in Christ we are claimed by God's love. Let us now confess our sins together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (IN UNISON)

Gracious Lord, you whose light and life we share in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, we confess that we are people who choose darkness over light. Though you have come into the world and died for the world, we often think only of what benefits our desires. Though we have been invited into the waters of your death and resurrection, we live as if we have not been immersed in your goodness that seeks the welfare of others. Cleanse us, O God, that we might be born anew in Christ. Cause us to see afresh the waters of baptism, and to recall who we are in our inmost being, wholly beloved by you. For we ask this in his name. Amen.

PERSONAL CONFESSION AND MEDITATION (IN SILENCE)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners. That proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God. Amen.

REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price. Through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy church.

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and embody the grace of Jesus Christ to the world?

I will.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

Remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (IN UNISON)

Lord God, you revealed your Son in the waters of the Jordan and anointed him with the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim good news to all people. Sanctify us by the same Spirit, that having received your Word this day, we may proclaim the healing power of the gospel by acts of love in your name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:4-11

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance leading to the forgiveness of sins. All of the people from the region of Judea, including all of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, were traveling out to him and being baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

This John used to wear a garment made of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and he would eat grasshoppers and wild honey. And he proclaimed this message: "There is coming after me the one stronger than me, of whom I am not worthy so much as to stoop down and loosen his sandal's thong. I myself have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

And it came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. As he was coming up out of the water, he immediately saw the heavens being ripped apart and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him; and a voice came out of the heavens: "You are my beloved son. In you I have taken delight."

SERMON

"Three Little Verses"

Rev. Patrick Murphy



CALL TO PRAYER

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

GIVING



OFFERTORY

In Thee Is Gladness
Chancel Choir

Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852-1924)

In thee is gladness, amid all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart!
By thee are given the gifts of heaven,
Thou the true Redeemer art!
Our souls thou wakest, our bonds thou breakest,
Who trusts thee surely, hath built securely,
He stands for ever: Hallelujah!
Our hearts are pinning, to see thy shining,
Dying or living to thee are cleaving,
Nought can us sever. Hallelujah!

-Johann Lindemann (1549-1631); trans. by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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!**

BENEDICTION

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Scott Huneycutt by his grateful family.

2021 Lay Leadership: The list of the 2021 Lay Leadership is available in the Welcome Center.

The Upper Room: The January-February issue of The Upper Room is available. Please feel free to stop by the church and pick up a copy. Copies are located in the Welcome Center.

Bible Study and Coffee with a Pastor: Join Pastor Patrick on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. via Zoom for a Bible Study. This study will be ongoing with Pastor Patrick hosting the gatherings in January. If you would like to participate but are unable to join us on Wednesday mornings, these gatherings will be recorded and posted on our website and available to view at a time that suits you.

Church Office Closed: the church office will be closed on **Monday, January 18** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

January Food Drive: Front Street's Backpack Ministry supplies food for children at Eastlawn Elementary who would otherwise go hungry over the weekend. In the month of January, we are asking for the following specific food items which will be used to support our Backpack Ministry.

- pasta
- pasta sauce (no glass jars please)
- canned beans
- cans of corn or mixed vegetables
- canned meat
- cans of fruit
- rice
- snack packs (Jell-O or fruit cups)

Please deposit your donations in the Welcome Center. This collection will continue **through January 31**.

Sanctuary Flowers: The **2021** flower calendar is available in the Welcome Center. If you are interested in placing flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one, please write your name on the Sunday you wish to put flowers in the church. For more information, please contact Linda Paul at 336-543-5081 (cell) or kpaul5@triad.rr.com (email).

WORSHIP NOTES

Prelude

Bruce Neswick is an American organist, improviser, choral conductor, and commissioned composer who earned bachelor's and master's degrees in music from Pacific Lutheran University and Yale University, respectively. He was appointed Canon for Music at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Portland, Oregon, in January 2016, having previously been Associate Professor of Music in Organ and Sacred Music at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. Commissioned by the District of Columbia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists in celebration of their 90th anniversary, the "Partita on Winchester New" includes six movements: I. Chorale, II. Meditation, III. Bicinium, IV. Aria, V. Trio, and VI. Toccata. The tune (WINCHESTER NEW) is most often paired with the text that begins "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" (see below). Even though this hymn is typically sung during Advent, it also works quite well for Baptism of the Lord Sunday. As the piece is played, pay attention to the different ways in which the tune is altered and manipulated.

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry WINCHESTER NEW

1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
2. Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
3. For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
4. To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
5. All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

3

noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
ref - uge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

6

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Offertory

Charles Villiers Stanford was an Irish composer, music teacher, and conductor of the late Romantic Era. He was educated at Cambridge University and later became the first professor of composition and orchestral conducting at the Royal College of Music. His many students included Ralph Vaughan Williams, John Ireland, and Herbert Howells, among others. Stanford's music is heavily influenced by his idol Johannes Brahms (1833-1897), who he met in 1873 at the Schumann Festival in Bonn, Germany. This anthem is based on a tune (IN DIR IST FREUDE) by Italian priest-composer Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi (1550-1622), while the text is by sixteenth-century German cantor Johann Lindemann (1549-1631). The German text was later translated into English by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878). The theme is gladness in the New Year, even in the midst of sadness. Other notable works that utilize this tune include a famous chorale prelude for organ (from *Orgelbüchlein*) by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).