

January 10, 2021 + Baptism of the Lord
First Presbyterian Church +++ Mason, Michigan

<u>PRELUDE</u>	<i>Three Variations on “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”</i>	Farrow
	<i>Toccata in a</i>	Kobrich
	<i>Three Variations on “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”</i>	Giamanco

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God,
you sent your Son to be baptized among sinners,
to seek and save the lost.
May we, who have been baptized in his name,
never turn away from the world,
but reach out in love to rescue the wayward;
by the mercy of Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 96:1; Psalm 29:3, 9; Mark 1:10-11

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
The voice of the Lord is over the waters,
and in the temple God’s people say: “Glory!”
The heavens opened, the Spirit descended,
and a voice sounded: “This is my Beloved Son.”
Let us worship God!

HYMN #45

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

NETTLETON

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 his name—I’m fixed upon it—name of God’s redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I’ve 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, bought me with his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, 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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Matthew 3:2-3

The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
“Prepare the way of the Lord!
Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God,
in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,
making us part of the body of Christ.
We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves,
separated from one another.
We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges,
and show reluctance to welcome one another.
We allow the past to hold us captive.**

**In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us,
and free us from sin.
Fulfill the promises of our baptism
so that we may rise to new life,
and live together in grace.**

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Matthew 3:17

As a voice from heaven said to Jesus,
so, in Christ, God speaks to us:
“You are my child, my beloved;
with you I am well pleased.”

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

HYMN #295

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

TRENTHAM

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,

until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with thine,
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*You are invited to share your prayer requests
via the Chat feature in the livestream (before the end of the previous hymn)
or by leaving a message on Bill's cell phone (by 9:00 am on Sunday morning).*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of the children of God,
let us pray.

**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 OFFERING

Psalm 24:1

The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.

Let us return to God the offerings of our life
and the gifts of the earth.

OFFERTORY

Fugue in E-Flat

Pachelbel

RESPONSE #809

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Saving God, source of our calling,
your Word is full of power and glory.
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
so that we may receive your grace
and live as your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

PSALM

Psalm 29

Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God’s name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.
The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, “Glory!”

The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as sovereign forevermore.

O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—altogether there were about twelve of them.

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

RESPONSE

Psalm 29:4

The voice of the Lord,
powerful and full of majesty.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry”

WATERLIFE

“I was there to hear your borne cry;
I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoice the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.”

“When you heard the wonder of the Word,
I was there to cheer you on.
You were raised to praise the living Lord
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun.”

“In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I’ll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I’ve begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I’ll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.”

“I was there to hear your borning cry;
I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoice the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.”

SERMON

“Baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus”

Rev. Bill Pinches

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of heaven and earth,
you call us to come in humility before you,
bringing the offering of our very selves.
As you revealed Jesus to be your Son
in his baptism at the hand of John,
so you claimed our lives in baptism,
that we might die to sin
and be raised with him to new life.
By your Spirit, confirm in our hearts the witness
that Christ is Savior of the world and our Lord.
Accept all we have and are, O God,
in the service of Jesus Christ,
and strengthen us with your Spirit’s power,
now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #758

“Baptized in Water”

BUNESSAN

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 praise we sing.

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 praise we sing.

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 praise we sing.

BLESSING

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:13

Alleluia!

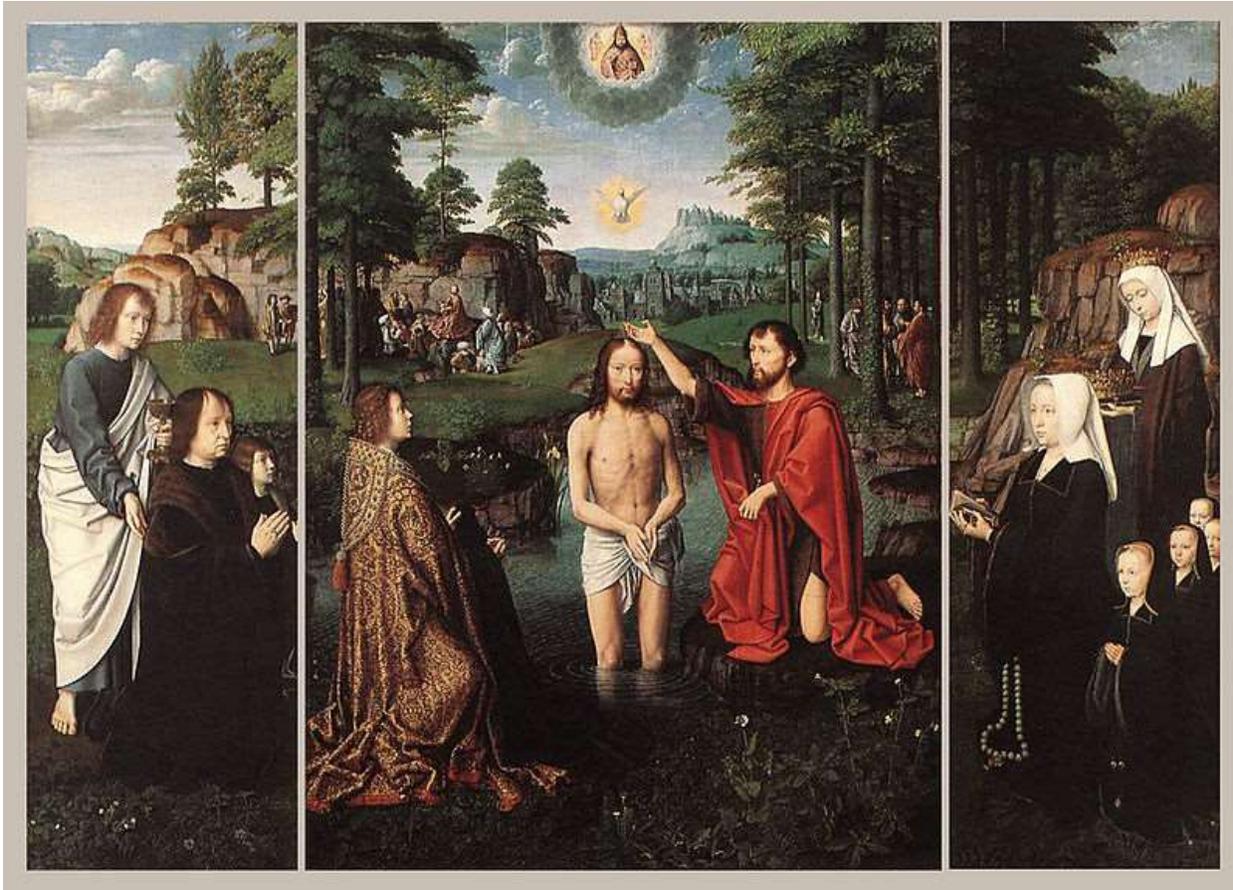
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Amen!

POSTLUDE

Fourth Variation on "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Giamanco



The Baptism of Christ by Gerard David (c. 1505)

CREDITS

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Organist: Darlene Ross

Choral Accompanist: Hrant Bagrazyan

Vocalists: Travis Archer and Deb Melse

Sound: Marty Subject

Liturgist: Doreen Chapman

Pastor: Rev. Bill Pinches

Ministers: All Church Members