

OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRELUDE

The Lone Wild Bird, arr. J. Chrisman

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
People: The Spirit of God swept over the face of the waters;
Leader: then God said: Let there be light,
People: and God saw that it was good.
Leader: At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus was baptized by John.
People: The heavens opened, and the Spirit descended like a dove;
Leader: then God said: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

HYMN

Down by the Jordan, Lobe Den Herren

1. Down by the Jordan, a prophet named John was baptizing,
Preaching a message the people found bold and surprising:
"God will forgive! Show that you'll change how you live!
Surely God's new day is rising!"

2. There by the river, the crowd came with great expectation:
"Are you God's Chosen One, sent here to rescue our nation?"
"No!" John replied. "He who is mightier than I
Judges and offers salvation."

3. Jesus, you went to be baptized along with the others,
Taking your place among sinners, God's lost sons and daughters.
Then with great love, God's Spirit came as a dove!
Your work began in those waters.

4. Here in the Church, we are baptized and filled with God's Spirit.
Freed and forgiven, we're welcomed with joy! Can you hear it?
This is God's sign! This is how God says, "You're mine!"
Let's take the good news and share it!

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of all glory, you look from heaven and see us as we are—not worthy to kneel at your feet, not ready to welcome your way. Forgive us, gracious God. In Christ, stoop down to save us; loosen the ties that bind us to sin and set us free to love and serve you; in Jesus' name (continue with silent confession). Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear the good news of the gospel: As a voice from heaven said to Jesus, so God says to each of us: You are my beloved child, and with you I am well pleased. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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.

NEW TESTAMENT 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."

SERMON

Baptism & Blessing

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW CHURCH OFFICERS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
Lord's Prayer

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

HYMN 482

Baptized in Water, Bunessan

1 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
heirs of salvation, trusting the promise,
faithfully now God's praises we sing.

2 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 praises we sing.

3 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our King;
born of the Spirit, we are God's children;
joyfully now God's praises we sing.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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Santo, Santo, Santo, arr. K. Kolander



Leaders Today

Pastor.....	Rev. Scott Anderson
Liturgist.....	Erin Nass
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AV/Tech.....	John Tarr