



The People of Washington Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
gathered for the

Worship of God

January 12, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.: Baptism of the Lord

Chiming the Hour

Mr. Evan Collins

Greeting

Rev. Nathan A. Russell

The Lord is with you. **And with you also.**

We pass the friendship register as a way of welcoming one another to this time of sacred worship.

Lift up your hearts...
We lift them to the Lord!

Prelude

Be Thou My Vision

Mr. Collins

Meditation of Preparation

“In the earliest days of the Christian church, women started out on equal footing with men. There was a time when the sentiment ‘there is no longer Jew nor Greek,...slave or free,...male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus’ was the rule of the day. It was commonly accepted that once a believer entered into baptism, all boundaries of national identity, faith history, economic status, and even gender just fell away. All that mattered was identity in Christ and faithfulness to the mission and life in community.”

--Sheri Faye Rosendahl, *Not Your White Jesus*

*Hymn of Praise

Down by the Jordan[†]

LOBE DEN HERREN

Down by the Jor - dan, a proph - et named John was bap - tiz - ing. Preach - ing a
 There by the ri - ver, the crowd came with great ex - pec - ta - tion: "Are you God's
 Je - sus, you went to be bap - tized a - long with the oth - ers, Tak - ing your
 Here in the Church, we are bap - tized and filled with God's Spir - it. Freed and for -

mes - sage the peo - ple found bold and sur - pris - ing. "God will for - give!
 Cho - sen One, sent here to res - cue our na - tion?" "No!" John re - plied.
 place a - mong sin - ners, God's lost sons and daugh - ters. Then with great love,
 giv - en, we're wel - comed with joy! Can you hear it? This is God's sign!

Show that you'll change how you live! Sure - ly God's new day is ris - ing.
 "He who is might - ier than I judg - es and of - fers sal - va - tion.
 God's Spir - it came as a dove! Your work be - gan in those wa - ters.
 This is how God says, "You're mine!" Let's take the good news and share it!

*Invocation

Ms. Kimberly Wilhelm

Hymn of Prayer 366

Water, River Spirit, Grace

TRES RIOS

Prayers of the People

Water, River, Spirit, Grace...
Sweep Over Us.

Rev. Russell

The Lord's Prayer

All

**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.**

Congregational Response 593

Lead Me, Lord

LEAD ME LORD

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts

Ms. Wilhelm

Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of WACC.

Anthem

Come, Holy Spirit, Like the Wind

Chancel Choir

*Doxology 528

Give Thanks

GIVE THANKS

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because God's given Jesus Christ, God's son.
And now let the weak say "I am strong;" let the poor say, "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!**

(Children age three through fifth grade depart for Children: Worship & Wonder.)

The Reading

Matthew 3:13-17

Rev. Russell

For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

On Baptism

Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"Another feature of baptismal faith is its connection with what faith has to draw upon, namely, the quest for truth. When Jesus is self-identified in the gospel as 'the truth,' the evangelist is not portraying him as a living encyclopedia in which all the little truths add up to one big Truth. Instead, this truth of faith is less about 'what you know' and more about 'who you know.'"

--Martin E. Marty, *Baptism: A User's Guide*

Hymn of Communion 427 *Loving Lord, As Now We Gather*

RHUDDLAN

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

The Elder's Prayer

Ms. Nancy Walker

The Words of Institution

Rev. Russell

Please come forward to share in Communion. Partake by breaking off a piece of bread and dipping it in the cup. (The bread is gluten-free.) If you are unable to come forward, someone will come to you.

Invitation to Discipleship

Rev. Russell

*Hymn of Discipleship 375

In Water We Grow

STANLEY BEACH

Affirmation of Responses 341

Rev. Russell

Pastoral Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

Evening

Mr. Collins

And all the people said...

AMEN!

We Go to Love and Serve from Our Doorsteps to the Ends of the Earth

*The people may rise in body and spirit as able.

†Hymn text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

CALENDAR

Today, 1/12: Congregational meeting immediately following worship

11:00 a.m. - Handbell rehearsal, and Sunday School in the youth rooms

January speakers—

12—*Dale Jones, Salvation Army's Mentoring Program*

19—*Liyana Asmar, Genesis House ("Silent Witnesses" traveling memorial will be on premises for viewing January 15-22)*

26—*Rev. Kris Eggert, God Before Guns*

Mon., 1/13: 3:30 p.m. - Outreach Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room

Tue., 1/14: 5:30 p.m. - Elders' supper meeting in the Elders' conference room

7:00 p.m. - Board meeting in the youth rooms

Wed., 1/15: 5:30 p.m. - Weekly youth group (gr. 6-12) supper and gathering in Fellowship Hall and the youth rooms

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary

Thu., 1/16: 10:45 a.m. - Sarah Circle gathering in the youth rooms

Fri., 1/17: WANEW youth retreat at Camp Christian begins (ends 1/19)

Sat., 1/18: Hot Meal served at Elyria Salvation Army (Mathes team)

Today's image is *The Baptism of Jesus* by He Qi, www.heqiart.com.

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