



Follow Me

Worship Series for the Season after Epiphany

ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
January 10, 2021, 9:30 am
Baptism of the Lord

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Sue Combs

Quiet your minds and hearts, focusing on God's presence with anticipation.

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Joe

CALL TO WORSHIP

Water. Refreshing, cleansing, nourishing,
life-giving . . .

Water. Dangerous, life-threatening, powerful . . .

The waters rush over us in our baptism.

And we are filled with the Holy Spirit. Alleluia!

Bryan Schneider-Thomas, Ministry Matters <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/2213/worship-elements-january-7-2018>

HYMN

"Christ Is the World's Light"

UMH 188

OPENING PRAYER

Most wonderful God, foolish and flawed though we are, we too delight in your beloved Son.

As in his name we gather in the house of many praises, may the heavens be opened for us, that we may catch a glimpse of that Light and Love

**that transforms our common days
with a beauty not of our making.
Through Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen!**

(Written by Bruce Prewer and posted on Bruce Prewer's Home page. <http://www.bruceprewer.com/DocA/10BAPTIS.htm>. Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/01/call-to-worship-prayer-baptism-of-jesus.html>)

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

WE HEAR THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Peggy Smith

RECOGNITION OF OUR ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERS
SONG "This Little Light of Mine"

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 1:4-11
The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Tearing Apart the Heavens" Pastor Joe

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *"We Have Ignored the Prophets"*
Loving Lord, we confess we have not always heeded your prophets' voices. We admit we have not acknowledged John the baptizer who proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. We acknowledge in our failure to do so we missed John's all too important declaration about the greater One who was coming. God, today we gather needing grace and the gift of forgiveness granted through your Son. Amen.

(Silence)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

When we confess our sins and shortcomings, God shows up and shows out! Receive God's forgiveness. Put regret behind you and walk in the joy of the Lord!

(Darlene A. Moore, *The Africana Worship Book for Year B*, Discipleship Resources, 2007, p. 147.)

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(using "sins" and "...sin against us.*
OFFERING MOMENT

LITANY: GOD OF THE WATERS *(inspired by Mark 1: 4-11, Luke 3:21-22)*

**God of the waters. Water of birth,
moving us from safety into the world.
God of the waters. Water of connection,
engaging the playful Spirit,
the passionate Christ,
the challenging God.
God of the waters. Water of life,
sustaining,
quenching,
cleansing.
God of the waters. Water of trouble,
journeying us from here to there,
from the known to the unknown.
God of the waters.
Birth us.
Connect us.
Live in us.
Trouble us.**

— written by Scott A. Ressman in *Immerse Yourself: Elements for a Liturgy on Baptism of Christ Sunday*. Posted on the United Church of Christ website.

HYMN "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH 206

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT *(Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-23)*

**Loving Father, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with
the Holy Spirit, and revealed him as your dear Son.
Thank you for making us your children by water and
the Spirit. Thank you for providing us with good,
spiritual food. Keep us faithful to you throughout our
lives. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. Amen.**

— *from the Lutheran Church of Australia's Worship Planning Page.*

WE DEPART TO SERVE THE LORD

BENEDICTION

Closing Song "This Little Light of Mine" v. 1

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAIRFIELD FOOD PANTRY DRIVE:

Wednesday, Jan. 20th — 3-5 pm

Thursday, Jan. 21st — 10 am to Noon

St. Mark's Cares will be having a collection drive for the Food Pantry on the above dates and times. We will be near the kitchen door to take your donations. We are asking specifically for personal care products (laundry detergent, dish soap, toilet paper, sanitizing spray or wipes, diapers, and baby wipes) and pet food. These are two areas of great need but very rarely donated.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES: The envelopes are available in Fellowship Hall. You may get them on Sunday morning or any morning Monday—Thursday from 9 to Noon.

SAVE THE DATE: BLOOD DRIVE

The next Blood Drive at St. Mark's will be on **Wednesday, March 17th**. Watch for upcoming sign-ups.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Flowers may be in memory, honor of someone or just because. Price is \$14.50 for each bouquet.

Please call the church office for your request by Wednesday. You may take your flowers home after the service, or let the office know if you need to come another time.

ST. MARK'S 2021 ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP ROSTER

Administrative Council

Chairperson - Julie Dichtl

Lay Leader - Mark Hensler

Lay Mem. Ann. Conf. - Sue Luken

Family Ministry - Sue Luken

Nurture and Care - Pam Guynes

St. Mark's Cares - Julie Mislansky

SPRC Chair. - Jennifer Rinker

Finance Chair. - Gale Goodman

Treasurer - Tim Mislansky

Trustees Chair - (elected by trustees)

Staff Representatives: Peggy Smith, Julie Mislansky,
Chris Beiser, Pastor Joe

Members at Large: Steve Nguyen, Pat Fassnacht,
Charlotte Tierney

Nominations & Leadership Development:

Mary Pierson, Jim Jones, Brenda Smoot, Gay Kubik,
Cheryl Kemen, Debbie Bryant

Staff Parish Relations Committee:

Kristy Theiss, Jenni Hensler, Rick Kiefer, Pat Belarski,
Jennifer Rinker, Suzan Stracke, Tom Tierney

Finance Committee:

Gale Goodman, Cheryl Creach, Pam Finrock,
Tim Mislansky, Bob Pittman, Don Menke, Ruth
Ritenbaugh, Financial Secretary

Trustees:

Jeff Gering, Marilyn Stewart, Bob Mendenhall,
Penny Dole, Rich Turner, Jennie Marshall

Boy Scout Charter Rep. - Bob Hamp

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sunday Requests and Updates:

Life time friend of The Aydlett's, Don Bond whose wife Beverly has Alzheimer's.

Prayer for Jenni Hensler's cousin, Tim, who lost his Dad - Jenni's uncle to Covid last week.

Jourdan Carson, young mother of three has Stomach cancer and not doing well.

Paul Schutte is back at Jamestown.

Judy Gross, Susan Bunte's Mom, fell and has a compression fracture in her back.

Blessings on those who are home bound or living in nursing facilities.

Phyllis Tunning is now back in her room and is doing Ok but still very weak.

Marianne Dove, sister of Jeff Gering, just found out on New Yrs. Eve she has stage 3 Colon cancer.

Don Jackson is in the hospital with Covid.

Continuing Prayers

*(Help us keep this list current. Email or call the church office .)
(b.smoot@fairfieldstmarks.com / 844-1818) with any updates.)*

All service Men & Women	Prayer & Bible Study Groups	Byron Jones Merianne Cardas
Our Country	Jean Stivers	Dick Brewer
First Responders	Mitch Thomas	All shut-ins and
United Methodist Church	Lori Palmieri (Pat Coyle's daughter)	Homebound

St. Mark's Homebound / Shut-ins

Phyllis Tunning - Triplecreek	Sandy Ronningen -Chesterwood
Virginia Shaw	Eleanor McCollum
Nancy & Bob Miracle	Paul Schutte—Jamestown
Dale Shreve - Birchwood, 201	Bob Grammel
Bob Netherland in Hospice Care	Greg Pullem
	Sue Webster

Joys / Concerns *(listed in the order received, and kept for four weeks unless requested to remain on our "Continuing Prayers" list.)*

Rose Townsend 12/6	Danny Thomas 12/13
Sue Beckett 12/6	Jeff Gering 12/13
Lainey & Levi !2/6	Family & friends of Mike Kinnard 12/20
Peters family 12/6	Pastor Jim Cattran & family 1/3
Beth Halterman 12/6	Eng family 1/3
Roger Roark's brother 12/6	
Debbie Pottenger 12/6	
Debbie Flannery 12/13	

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Our Mission is to make Disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.

STAFF

Pastor	Joe Payne
Administrative Assistant	Brenda Smoot
Director of Music	Chris Beiser
Organist	Sue Combs
Director of Children & Family Ministries	Peggy Smith
Director of Youth Ministries	Julie Mislansky
Pastor Emeritus	Bob Klingel

OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Sound	Rick Kiefer
Camera	John Smith
Screen	Jennie Marshall

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

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