

First Presbyterian Church of Springfield
Order of Worship for Baptism of the Lord Sunday

January 10, 2021 at 11:15 a.m.

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

Organist: Mike Belote

Worship Leader: Rosemary Sprague

Moment with Young Disciples: Linda Thomas

Welcome

We Approach God

Call to Worship

Dear God, some of us are discouraged and long for your embrace. **Send us your love.**

Some of us are weary, weighed down by duties in the pandemic. **Send us your hope.**

Some of us are anxious, seeking refuge from troubles in the world. **Send us your peace.**

Some of us are restless, yearning for transformation. **Send us your grace.**

As we come into your presence, pour out your Spirit upon us. **Let us worship God!**

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn of Praise "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones" *The Presbyterian Hymnal* 451

Ye watchers and ye holy ones, bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones, raise the glad strain, Hallelujah! Cry out, dominions, principedoms, powers, virtues, archangels, angels' choirs, Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

O higher than the cherubim, more glorious than the seraphim, lead their praises, Hallelujah! Thou bearer of the eternal Word, most gracious, magnify the Lord. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Respond, ye souls in endless rest, ye patriarchs and prophets blessed, Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong, all saints triumphant, raise the song, Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

O friends, in gladness let us sing, supernal anthems echoing, Hallelujah! Hallelujah! To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One, Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Call to Confession Like a great light in a land of deep darkness, the mercy of the Lord shines upon us. Trusting in God's abundant grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of your church, the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from sisters and brothers in Christ. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another; we allow the past to hold us hostage. In your loving kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. By your Spirit, remind us of the promises you make in baptism so that we may be renewed and live together in peace. We pray in the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon The Lord Jesus lived among us in power and grace, touching broken lives with God's healing peace. In his name we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

God Speaks to Us Through God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Living God, by the gift of your Holy Spirit, help us to receive the Word made flesh—good news of great joy for all people—so that we may sing with the angels: glory to God in the highest heaven and peace among people on earth! **Amen.**

Old Testament Genesis 1:1 – 5 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Moment with Young Disciples

New Testament Mark 1:1 – 11 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Order Out of Chaos" The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

We Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

The Scots Confession 3.21

As the fathers under the Law, besides the reality of the sacrifices, had two chief sacraments, that is, circumcision and the Passover, and those who rejected these were not reckoned among God's people; so do we acknowledge and confess that now in the time of the gospel we have two chief sacraments, which alone were instituted by the Lord Jesus and commanded to be used by all who will be counted members of his body, that is, Baptism and the Supper or Table of the Lord Jesus, also called the Communion of His Body and Blood. These sacraments, both of the Old Testament and of the New, were instituted by God not only to make a visible distinction between his people and those who were without the Covenant, but also to exercise the faith of his children and, by participation of these sacraments, to seal in their hearts the assurance of his promise, and of that most blessed conjunction, union, and society, which the chosen have with their Head, Christ Jesus.

Hymn "O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer" *Glory to God 439*

O my soul, bless your Redeemer; all within me bless God's name; bless the Savior, and forget not all God's mercies to proclaim.

God forgives all your transgressions, all diseases gently heals; God redeems you from destruction, and with you so kindly deals.

Far as east from west is distant, God has put away our sin; like the pity of a father has the Lord's compassion been.

As it was without beginning, so it lasts without an end, to their children's children ever shall God's righteousness extend.

Unto such as keep God's covenant and are steadfast in God's way, unto those who still remember the commandments and obey.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 the Offering From the fullness of God we have all received grace upon grace. Let us offer our lives to the Lord and support our church's mission.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

O Lord, you are full of majesty! Your Son Jesus set aside his majesty and was baptized in order to be in solidarity with us. Thank you for the gift of baptism. Send your Holy Spirit anew to guide us. By your power, make us people who proclaim the joy of your good news. Let us become bearers of goodness and generosity to all. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

God Sends Us into the World

Hymn of Dedication "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to you we raise, manifested by the star to the sages from afar; Branch of royal David's stem, in your birth at Bethlehem. "You are Christ," by us confessed, God in flesh made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme; and at Cana, wedding guest, in your Godhead manifest, you revealed your pow'r divine, changing water into wine.

Manifest in making whole palsied limbs and fainting soul; manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might; manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill.

Invitation to Discipleship and Benediction

Dr. Anderson