

Preparation for Worship and Announcements

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, till all the world adore his sacred name.

***Passing of the Peace**

Chiming of the Trinity

Noel Johnson

Prelude

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Gordon Young

***Call to Worship**

Shell Dula

Leader: A voice of power and majesty calls out to us: I am your God; I have called you in righteousness.

People: **We are amazed that God knows us and calls us. By God's breath and spirit, we receive life.**

Leader: God takes us by the hand and leads us. In covenant with God, we extend light to the world.

People: **Eyes are opened and prisoners are freed. Justice and peace prevail, by God's strength.**

Leader: Worship with joy and give glory to God's name. Listen for the new thing God declares.

People: **We remember that we have been baptized. May we live as those with whom God is pleased.**

***Hymn No. 189**

Fairest Lord Jesus

St. Elizabeth

***Invocation**

The Revered Terry C. Martin

Come, Holy Spirit to dwell in us and among us. Make us more than dimly-burning wicks, that we might share enough light to make a difference in your world. Where there is injustice, help us as we work to change the minds and hearts of those who benefit from it. Show us again the new possibilities you have in mind for us. May we reflect your peace amid the frantic, busy pace of the marketplace. Amen.

Psalter

Psalm 29

page 761

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

Page 820 (OT) in pew Bibles

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem (See insert for words)

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart
Chancel Choir

Robert Lau

Pastoral Prayer

The Revered Terry C. Martin

Lord's Prayer (In Unison)

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

arr. Gordon Young

***Doxology 94**

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Children's Message

All children are invited to the front of the Sanctuary for a special message. Following Children's Time, 3-year-olds through Kindergarteners may leave the Sanctuary for Extended Session.

Alice Dorn

***Hymn No. 420**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Trentham

†*Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:13-17

Page 3 (NT) in pew Bibles

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Why?"

The Revered Terry C. Martin

Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant

(See Insert)

Reaffirmation Hymn No. 606

Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine

Kingsfold

***Hymn No. 252**

When Jesus Came to Jordan

Complainer

***Benediction**

The Revered Terry C. Martin

***Benediction Response No. 666**

Shalom to You

SHALOM

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

***Postlude**

**Please stand if you are able*

Nursery Provided

**CONGREGATIONAL
REAFFIRMATION OF
THE BAPTISMAL
COVENANT**

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through the reaffirmation of our faith we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy church.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representative in the world?

I will.

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal Father:

When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

Declare his works to the nations, his glory among all the people.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and by this gift of water call to our remembrance the grace declared to us in our baptism. For you have washed away our sins, and you clothe us with righteousness throughout our lives, that dying and rising with Christ we may share in his final victory.

All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever. Amen.

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit work within you, that having been born through water and the Spirit, you may live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

Let us rejoice in the faithfulness of our covenant God.

We give thanks for all that God has already given us. As members of the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we will faithfully participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit that you may live in grace and peace.