

The Worship of God
Baptism of the Lord – January 12, 2025 – 9:00 Morning Worship
Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!

PRELUDE

“Prelude”

Daniel Rawthorn

WELCOME

GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Keith: Do not fear, for I have rescued you.

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you cross deep waters, I will be with you;

and the rivers they shall not overwhelm you.

Tom & Judy: **We move through deep waters toward you, O God.**

Judy: God’s voice is heard over the waters; the God of glory thunders,
over the mighty waters.

Tom & Judy: **We move through the storm and thunder toward you, O God.**

Tom: God sits beyond the flood, enthroned as ruler forever.

Tom & Judy: **We move through overwhelming waters toward you, O God.**

Keith: When Jesus had been baptized a voice came from heaven saying,
“You are my Beloved Child, and I am pleased with you.”

Tom & Judy: **We hear your voice calling and move toward you, O God.**

Tom & Judy: **Come, let us worship God.**

OPENING PRAYER

Many voices speak to us.

We are torn in many directions.

To whom should we listen?

To what should we pay attention?

Which voices are the right ones?

How do we hear the voice of God in all the noise?

Help us, God, to listen with our hearts.

To open ourselves to your voice: that forgives us when we do wrong,
that calls us to serve you and others,

that invites us to use our own voices to challenge injustice in our world.

Speak to us, God.

We are listening.

(silent prayer)

SING

“Baptized in Water”

#482

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, giver of all gifts,

when we do not recognize the gifts that lie within us, forgive us.

**When we do not recognize the gifts you have granted
to our brothers and sisters, forgive us.**

When we are reluctant to hear your voice calling us by name,
for fear of where that voice might lead us, forgive us.

**When we fear wherever tomorrow might take us,
remind us that you are always there.**

(silence for reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Loving God, who calls us Beloved, break into our lives
and surprise us with your wondrous presence that can calm all fears.

We pray in Christ's name.

Amen.

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

I invite you to turn to one another and share a sign of peace:

You're invited to unmute yourselves and exchange peace with one another

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:1-7

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

...The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

Reverend Susan Phillips

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SING

"I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"

#488

ORDINATION/INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

There are different gifts,

but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God,

but it is the same God who is served.

God works through different people in different ways,

but it is the same God who achieves holy purpose through them all.

Each one is given a gift by the Spirit,

to use it for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,

and individually members of it.

...

Do we, members of the church accept Richard Amoako, Sohail Aslam, JoAnne Durkee, John Handley and Diana Harris as Elders and Denise Bockmier-Sommers, Jennie Clafin, Scott Doubet, Becky McHenry, Brian Pfeifer, and Tamika Seymore, Jr. as Deacons chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus the Christ, who alone is head of the church?

We do.

PRAYERS

...

CHARGE

You are deacons and ruling elders, ordained officers, in the Church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of Jesus, giving thanks to God through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

WELCOME BY CONGREGATION

The peace of God be with you.

And also with you.

GIVING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

#609

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

To the north, to the south, to the west, to the east, we pray:

for all that is possible, wonderful, and joyful as we seek and serve Christ,

God’s beloved, in all places and all people.

May God be well pleased.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT

THE LORD’S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

SENDING INTO GOD’S WORLD

SING

“How Firm a Foundation”

#463

SENDING

Do not fear, for God goes with you wherever you may go.

Even when we pass through rough waters, God will be with you.

Go in peace to love and serve your God.

Hallelujah! Amen!

POSTLUDE

“March in D”

George Frederic Handel