

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ

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Rev. Danielle E. Neff, Senior Pastor

Rev. Amy Northridge, Transitional Minister

Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director

Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church
Administrator

Ms. Donna Gross, Custodian

Baptism of Christ

8:00 AM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

The Power of Your Love

by Holstein

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER¹

L: We are marked as God's beloved ones.

P: What have we done to deserve God's love.

L: God's love is God's free gift to us, always and forever.

P: Even when we are difficult and turn away from God,

L: God's love never vanishes from us.

P: Thanks be to God who is ever faithful to us, AMEN.

L: Let us pray. Holy God of glory and majesty, you have called us by name. We pray in this moment for the courage and the strength to answer your call... We pray in the name of our brother, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 322** (BH, see p. 3)

Take Me to the Water

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, the waters of faithfulness run deep, and we have been afraid they will overwhelm us. The fires of your Spirit burn brightly, and we fear we may be consumed if we display too much enthusiasm.

We retreat to safe places where we hope to avoid challenges, conflicts, and uncertainty.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

We fail to live as we should, putting our earthly desires and selfish wants ahead of your command to love and to serve. Forgive us, we pray. By your Spirit, you have given us the breath of life and call us to be your people. By baptism you have adopted us as your children, to be a light to the nations, to be salt of the earth. Free us, once again, to live into the life that our baptism calls us to. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 160 (BH, refrain, see p. 4) *Jesus the Light of the World*

ALL SING: We will follow the light, beautiful light, come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright, Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the light of the world.

SCRIPTURE

1 Thessalonians 5: 13-14

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

MESSAGE

HYMN NO. 354 (BH, see p. 4)

God, When I Came into This Life

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

*HYMN NO. 547 (BH, see p. 5)

Amazing Grace

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

arr. Hopson

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Thank you to Dave Firestone & Joe Vacante for serving on tech team this morning. Thank you to Kathy & Bob Ensminger for serving on the welcome team.

¹The Call to Worship was written by Nancy C. Townley and published on the website Ministry Matters, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3490/worship-connection-january-9-2022>, and accessed on January 4, 2022. The Opening Prayer was written by Laura Jaquith Bartlett and posted on the website, Ministry Matters, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3492/worship-elements-january-9-2022>, and accessed on January 4, 2022.

²The Prayer of Confession is a combination of two prayers of confession. One, written by Lavon Bayler, was published in the book *Gathered by Love: Worship Resources for Year C*, pg. 32, ©1994 by United Church Press. The second was written by Robert Blezard and was published in the book *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2008*, pg. 7, edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu, ©2007 by Abingdon Press.

Take Me to the Water

arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1993

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♩ = 80

Piano



1. Take me to the wa - ter, take me to the
2. None but the righ - teous, none but the
3. I love Je - sus, I love
4. Je - sus is my Sav - ior, Je - sus is my

5



wa - ter, take me to the wa -
righ - teous, none but the righ -
Je - sus, I love Je -
Sav - ior, Je - sus is my Sav -

9



- ter to be bap - tized.
- teous shall see God.
- sus, yes, I do.
- ior for - ev - er more.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Jesus the Light of the World

Refrain



We will fol-low the light, beau-ti - ful light, come where the

22



dew-drops of mer-cy are bright, Shine all a - round us by day and by night,

29



Je - sus the light of the world.

God, When I Came into This Life

Fred Kaan

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Piano ♩ = 80



1. God, when I came in - to this life, you called me by my
2. You give me free - dom to be-lieve; to - day I make my
3. With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as mem - ber of your
4. In all the ten - sions of my life, be - tween my faith and
5. So help me in my un - be - lief and let my life be

5



name; To - day I come, com - mit my - self, re - spond - ing to you
choice, And to the wor - ship of the church I add my learn - ing
cast, I take my place with all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent,
doubt, Let your great Spir - it give me hope, sus - tain - me, lead me
true: Feet firm - ly plant - ed on the earth, my sights set high on

9



claim.
voice.
past.
out.
you.

