

Worship Celebration: January 13, 2019

10:00 a.m. (BLENDED WORSHIP)

EPWORTH: *a United Methodist Church*

Baptism of the Lord (Year C)



Today, we remember our baptism and claim the identity of sharing in the family of God. Baptism is God's gift of acceptance and belonging. We sometimes overlook the power of belonging and the grace that is offered through this gift. Remembering our baptism does not mean that we remember the day of our baptism or the pastor or the place, but rather that we remember the fact that we are baptized. What does it mean to be the baptized of God? What gift and responsibility does it carry? Today we look at those questions and more, as we study God's word and message for this Baptism of the Lord Sunday. Thank you for joining us in worship today!

EPWORTH

a United Methodist Church

19285 Holland Glade Road, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

(302) 227-7743 ☩ www.umcrb.org*VISION: Exploring Faith, Embracing Community**MISSION: Inviting All, Finding Your Place, Connecting to God, Demonstrating Care*

✠ WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY ✠

Gathering Music

Doug Yetter, organ

Welcome & Sharing the Mission & Ministry of Epworth

Gwen Osborne

*Passing the Peace

*Call to Worship

L: Sisters and brothers, today we recall:
Jesus came to the waters of baptism.

P: **In baptism, our Creator claims us
and frees us from the power of hatred and death.**

L: In baptism we are joined to Christ
and we are joined together in unity, recalling

P: **“There is no longer Jew or Greek
there is no longer slave or free
there is no longer male or female
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.”**

L: In baptism, the Spirit of God anoints us for ministry
and makes us signs of divine love.
It is the mark of acceptance into the church
and the beginning of our growth
into full Christian faith and discipleship.

P: **Therefore on this day, the whole church,
the Body of Christ, remembers and celebrates.**

L: Let us worship God!

*Hymn

Lord, You Give the Great Commission (vs. 1, 2, & 5)

UMH 584

1. Lord, you give the great commission: “Heal the sick and preach the word.”
Lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.
With the spirit’s gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

2. Lord, you call us to your service: “In my name baptize and teach.”
That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community.
With the spirit’s gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

5. Lord, you bless with words assuring: “I am with you to the end.”
Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity.
With the spirit’s gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

☞ WE ENGAGE THE WORD ☞

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 43:1-7

Gwen Osborne

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

***Gospel Lesson**

Luke 3:15-17; 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened,

and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased."

Brothers and Sisters,

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

☞Thanks be to God

☞ WE RESPOND TO THE WORD ☞

***Gospel Acclamation**

Down by the Jordan

W&S 3045

1. Down by the Jordan, a prophet named John was baptizing, preaching a message the people found bold and surprising.
"God will forgive! Show that you'll change how you live!
Surely God's new day is rising!"

2. There by the river, the crowd came with great expectation:
“Are you God’s Chosen One, sent here to rescue our nation?”
“No!” John replied. “He who is mightier than I
judges and offers salvation.”
3. Here in the Church, we are baptized and filled with God’s Spirit.
Freed and forgiven we’re welcomed with joy! Can you hear it?
This is God’s sign! This is how God says, “You’re mine!”
Let’s take the good news and share it!

Sermon

Named and Claimed to Serve

Rev. Vicky Starnes

☞ REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISMAL PROMISES ☞

Vicky: Do you promise, by the grace of God,
to be a disciple, to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
to resist oppression,
to show love and justice,
and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ,
as best you are able?

(Let people answer silently to themselves; pause)

Vicky: And do you promise, according to the grace given to you,
to grow in your faith and to be a faithful member of the church,
celebrating Christ’s presence and furthering God’s mission in all the world?

☞ REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM ☞

Vicky: If you choose, you may come forward to recall the promises of your baptism—
made either by you or on your behalf by your parents/guardians.
If you have never been baptized,
consider whether this is the day
you would like to start the journey toward your formal commitment.

Please come forward to the font and as you touch your forehead with the water, say,
“I am God’s beloved!”

☞ PRAYER OF RECOMMITMENT ☞

All: By your Spirit, Almighty God, Grant us
Love for others,
Joy in serving you,
Peace in disagreement,
Patience in suffering,
Kindness toward all people,
Goodness in evil times,
Faithfulness in temptation,

Gentleness in the face of opposition,
Self-control in all things.
Then strengthen us for ministry in your name. Amen.

We Are Called

FWS 2172

1. Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God!
*We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly,
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God!*
2. Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless so all hatred and blindness will be no more!
*We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly,
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God!*

Sharing Joys & Concerns and Morning Prayer

Susan Jimenez

The Lord's Prayer

(Sung Responsively)

FWS 2278

Invitation to Offering

Please sign the blue Connections Pad and pass it down the row.

Gwen

*Offerings are given through cash and check, on-line giving, Texting at 302-488-0038
and by using our Giving Kiosk in the main lobby. There are Giving Cards in the pews to place in the plate, if you wish
Bless your heart for supporting our ministries!*

Offertory:

Shall We Gather at the River?
Robert Lowry; setting by Joel Raney

Doug Yetter, piano

***Acclamation**

To God Be the Glory

UMH 98

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he has done.*

✠ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ✠

***Benediction**

Rev. Vicky

***Sending Forth**

Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? *(Refrain)*
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? *{Refrain}*

Postlude

Rejoice, My Soul, Rejoice! ... James Paxton

Doug Yetter, organ

* = *Please stand as you are able*; S = *congregational response*

Bulletins for the month of January are sponsored by Epworth

Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and:

- In honor of all the Immanuel Shelter volunteers who are helping with the homeless during this wintertime;
- In memory of his mother, Renie Vitak, by Michael Cockey;
- In loving memory of Mark Palmer by Ken Johnson.

Stephen Ministers, wearing blue name badges, will be at each service if anyone in the Epworth family wants to talk about any life challenges.

The special Peace Candle on the Chancel shines to remind us of God's desire for peace throughout our world and our call to be God's peacemakers.

DVD and Broadcast Ministries: All Church Service at Epworth are presented using multimedia technology. The screens above the Chancel area are used for text, videos, photographs and live cameras. Each service is digitally recorded for archive purposes as well as for distribution to our homebound members on DVD. These recording may also be broadcast or archived on our web page. Therefore; you may, at any time, be seen and recorded on camera - anywhere throughout the Sanctuary.

Assisting with today's service as

Greeters: Fay Henry
Acolyte: Chase Reynolds
Sound: Ken Mahan, Sharon Wert, Josh McGee, Arne Jerfsten, Karen Kaufman
Ushers: Head Usher: Russ Mullen
Usher Coordinator - Worship Pathway:
Harvey Waltersdorf, Chet Sprague, Jim Larsen

Ministers: The Church Family... *Lay Leader:* Gwen Osborne

Senior Pastor: Rev. Vicky Starnes ... *Associate Pastor:* Rev. Todd Shultz

Director of Music Ministries: Doug Yetter ... *Accompanist:* Linda Jo Hess ... *Coordinator of Caring Ministries:* Mickie McManamon

Communications & Technologies Manager: Kenneth Mahan ... *Office Manager:* Darlene Ford

Special Projects: Debbie Hunt ... *Administrative Assistant:* Diana Young ... *Sound Tech:* Josh Megee ... *ASL Interpreter:* Lynn Kohler

Preschool Director: Betsy Plowman ... *Nursery:* Cathy Crawford ... *Interim Cemetery Superintendent:* Jay Stevenson

Custodian: Wanda Hudson...*Maintenance:* Mike Harrigan



EPWORTH
REHOBOTH BEACH
a United Methodist Church
Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

19285 Holland Glade Road Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
302.227.7743 www.EUMCRB.org



Large-Print Bulletins &
Hearing Assist Devices are Available
Please see an Usher for assistance



American Sign
Language
at 9:15 Service



Affiliated with other
United Methodists for
greater inclusiveness
through the
Reconciling Ministries
Network
www.RMNetwork.org

worship@epworth
7:45 & 11:15 - Traditional 9:15 - Contemporary