



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Online Order of Worship

First Sunday After the Epiphany ❖ Baptism of the Lord

January 10th, 2021

— GATHERING —

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Opening Prayer

Lord, you have helped us remember that we need to see in each other a common humanity that reflects your image... Use us to bring healing and unity to our hurting and divided nation and world. Thank you for what you have blessed our lawmakers to accomplish in spite of threats to liberty.

Call to Worship

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was formless and void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Hymn

"O for a World"

AZMON

O for a world where everyone
Respects each other's ways,
Where love is lived and all is done
With justice and with praise.

We welcome one world family
And struggle with each choice
That opens us to unity
And gives our vision voice.

O for a world preparing for
God's glorious reign of peace,
Where time and tears will be no more,
And all but love will cease.

Prayer of Confession

Our world is fragile. The space you built out of the formless void and declared Good, is so fragile. The words you spoke to bring Light in our world matter, and the words we choose matter as well. So we come to you with words of repentance, aware of our failures as followers of Jesus Christ and failures as neighbor to one another. By your sacred waters we accept that we must commit ourselves over and over again to life in you. May your grace cover us in full. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

One: ...Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

Response

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

ST. ANNE

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

— **THE WORD** —

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Mark 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. 8 I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. 11 And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Sermon

By Water

Hymn

“We Know that Christ Is Raised”

ENGELBERG

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, He broke its fearful hold;
And our despair He turned to blazing joy.
Alleluia!

We share by water in His saving death.
Reborn, we share with Him an Easter life
As living members of a living Christ.
Alleluia!

A new creation comes to life and grows
As Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe, restored and whole, will sing:
Alleluia!

— RESPONSE —

Prayers of the People

A Prayer During a National Crisis, Book of Common Worship, PCUSA © 2018

God of ages
in your sight nations rise and fall,
and pass through times of peril.
Now when our land is troubled,
be near to judge and save.

May leaders be led by your wisdom;
may they search your will and see it clearly.

If we have turned from your way,
help us to reverse our ways and repent.
Give us your light and your truth to guide us; through Jesus Christ,
who is Lord of this world, and our Savior. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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 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.

— SENDING —

Hymn

"Baptized in Water"
BUNESSAN

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
Heirs of salvation,
Trusting the promise,
Faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;
One with his rising,
Freed and forgiven
Thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
Born of the Spirit,
We are God's children,
Joyfully now God's praises we sing.

Benediction