

# Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church  
Classic Worship, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.  
January 7, 2024

(\* The asterisk indicates to stand, as you are able.)

**WELCOME** Rev. Kathleen McMurray

**OPENING VOLUNTARY** *Invocation in B flat Op. 18, No. 3* Alexandre Guilmant  
Sungyun Kim, organ

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: As the weak realize their strength, as the poor eat and are satisfied

**People: God's love abides in us.**

Pastor: As the stranger finds a friend; as the family offers forgiveness,

**People: God's love abides in us.**

Pastor: Let us worship our God of love this day.

\* **PROCESSIONAL HYMN 100** *God Whose Love is Reigning o'er Us* LAUDA ANIMA

\* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada) Dr. Jeffery Hampton

**We are not alone; we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\* **GLORIA PATRI 70** MEINEKE

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

**ANTHEM** *The Gift of Love* Hal Hobson  
Chancel Choir

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,

who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

**O God, we join with our sisters and brothers around the world in remembering our belovedness in Christ Jesus. For the life we have received in you, we give you thanks and praise. In the abundance of your many gifts, grant us grace to fill one another's lives with love. Forgive us when we fall short, when we do not care for our neighbors, instead deciding who is worthy of the name beloved and who deserves the love we have to give. Forgive us we pray. Redeem, restore and remold us until we are made new. Transform our daily bread into the bread of life, and the cup that we drink into the cup of salvation. We pray all of this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Pastor: Hear the good news. Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

**All: Glory to God. Amen.**

**HYMN 561** *Jesus, United by Thy Grace* ST. AGNES  
Verses 1-3

\* **SCRIPTURE LESSON** 1 John 4:7-12 Rev. McMurray  
This is the Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## \* GREETING

**SERMON** The Power of Love  
SERIES: SHARE THE DREAM

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Rev. Ellen Rowland

## GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERING

**OFFERTORY** *Go, tell it on the Mountain* Richard Elliott  
Sungyun Kim, Organist

\* **DOXOLOGY 95** OLD 100<sup>th</sup>  
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**  
**Praise God, all creatures here below.**  
**Praise God above, ye heavenly host.**  
**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** Rev. Jay Clark  
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The pastor gives thanks, remembering God's acts of salvation, and concludes:*

And so, with your people on earth, and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

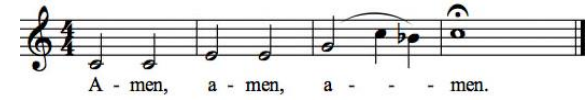
*The pastor continues the thanksgiving and concludes:*

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, We offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a-gain!



The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding:  
All honor is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.



#### 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 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.

#### SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

#### INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

- \* **CLOSING HYMN 384**      *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*      BEECHER
  
- \* **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**  
We rejoice to recognize you as a member of Christ's holy church, and we welcome you to Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church. With you we renew our vows to uphold it with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.
  
- \* **BENEDICTION**
  
- \* **CLOSING VOLUNTARY** *Toccata on "He who allows dear God to rule him"*      Paul Frey  
Sungyun Kim, organ

#### WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Kathleen McMurray, *Pastor of Connecting Ministries and Worship*  
Rev. Jay Clark, *Executive Pastor*  
Dr. Jeffery Hampton, *Pastor of Caring Ministries*  
Rev. Ellen Rowland, *Pastor of Youth and Families*  
Dr. Frode Gundersen, *Director of Music, Worship & Arts*  
Sungyun Kim, *Organist & Associate Music Director*

#### ACOLYTES

(9:00) Jackson Womack & Mary Margaret Womack  
(11:00) Clark Stewart & Grant LaRue

#### USHERS

(9:00) Geoff Gwinn (Lead), Caroline Beauchamp, Rick Fleetwood, Jesse Gibson, Walker Lampley  
(11:00) Jan Sullivan (Lead), Amy Ezell, David Ezell, Anne Laidlaw, Marilyn Micheletti

#### ALTAR GUILD

Debbie Benson, Jan Hundley, Becky McCoy, Patti Coleman

#### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are placed for the glory of God.

#### COLUMBARIUM FLOWERS

The flowers in the Columbarium Garden are placed to the glory of God and in loving memory of all interred there by the Columbarium Board.

