

First United Methodist Church - Westfield, MA
Baptism of the Lord - January 10, 2021



Prelude

Welcome

*Call to Worship

Leader: God's strong voice calls us to worship,
People: calling us to sing and offer praise.
Leader: God's creative voice calls us to worship,
People: calling us to life and light.
Leader: God's loving voice calls us to worship,
People: calling us to love and be loved.
Leader: Listen, for God's voice calls to us now.

*Gathering Hymn:

"When Jesus Came to Jordan"

UMH #252

Opening Prayer: Let us pray together.... **Word of God, speak, for Your servants are listening. (Pause for silent prayer.)**

Spirit of creation and renewal, hover over our gathering this day, as You hovered over creation on that first day. Enter into our hearts and our lives, as You did at the day of our baptism. Descend on us like a dove, as You did on Jesus's day of baptism, that we may hear again Your words of love and adoption. Speak from the heavens into our minds, that we may perceive Your words of guidance and wisdom. Amen.

Children's Time

Rev. Bruce T. Arbour

Prayer of Confession: Let us pray together.... **When our hearts are hard as stone, soften us with Your grace. When our lives are riddled with sin and pain, heal us with Your mercy. When our ears are ringing with self-doubt and cynicism, strengthen us with words of faith and love. When our minds are muddled with confusion and fear, enlighten us with the radiance of Your wisdom. Speak to our spirits from the truth of Your being, the reality of Your love, and the promise of Your forgiveness, that we may hear Your voice clearly and follow where You call us to go. Amen.**

Words of Assurance: Hear the truth of God's voice breaking through the clouds of our lives: "You are my child, the one I dearly love. I delight in your creation."

People: "You are my child, the one I dearly love. I delight in your creation."

Concerns and Celebrations

Pastoral Prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer (# 895 U.M. Hymnal)

First Lesson:

Genesis 1:1-5

OT Pg. 1

Second Lesson:

Acts 19:1-7

NT Pg. 131-132

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Renewal of Baptism Vows

*Gospel Lesson:

Mark 1:4-11

NT Pg. 33

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Call to Offering: With hearts wide open and ears ready to hear, we bring our very lives to this time of offering. May we bring more than just gifts in a plate, but hearts and minds ready to hear God's call and respond where God's voice leads us.

Offertory Anthem

*Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH #94

*Prayer of Dedication: Let us pray... **Bless these gifts with Your voice of creation, Your healing, and Your love, Mighty God. Transform our eager offerings into abundant gifts for a world in need of Your light and life. Amen.**

*Hymn "Shall We Gather at the River" UMH #723

*Benediction

Leader: Amidst a noisy world, make way to listen for God. In the busiest of days, find time to listen for God. For in the listening, we finally hear this truth:

People: We are beloved children of God— created in love, created for love, created to love.

Leader: Let's go out there to listen and love.

*Postlude

(* Let those who are able stand to the glory of God. **Bold** print is read in unison.)

TODAY: January 10, 2021

THROUGH THE WEEK:

Tuesday: 7:30am Bible Study Gospel of Mark via zoom

Thursday: 7pm Virtual Hymn Sing

Friday: FUMC at Soup Kitchen

Welcome to First United Methodist Church

Rev. Bruce T. Arbour, Pastor

16 Court Street, Westfield, MA

Tel: 413-568-5818 E-mail: fumc01085@juno.com

Website: umcwestfield.org

Epiphany Sunday Worship January 10, 2021 10:00 AM
A Stephen Ministry Church