



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Service of Worship January 9, 2022 9:30am
Baptism of the Lord

Gathering

PRELUDE "Sheep May Safely Graze" by J.S. Bach
Linda Dover, organ

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT "Little Serenade" by Joseph Haydn
Kat Mason, bass flute

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*spoken together*)

ONE: We have been claimed by the God who calls us children.

ALL: We, the redeemed, have been called by name.

ONE: As with the Israelites, God promises to pass with us through the water.

ALL: We will not fear, for God is with us!

ONE: The rivers shall not overwhelm us for God is our guide and our protector.

ALL: Through God's saving grace, the waters that tested us are now the waters that wash us and nourish us.

ONE: Great is the Fount of Every Blessing, ever flowing, ever redeeming, ever claiming us as God's children.

ALL: Come, let us worship the God who washes us in grace.

*HYMN 164

"Down Galilee's Slow Roadways"

WEST MAIN

Down Galilee's Slow Roadways 164

Capo 3: (A9) (D/A) (A9) (Dsus)(D)
 C9 F/C C9 Fsus F

1 Down Gal - i - lee's slow road-ways a strang-er trav-eled on
 2 A - ris - ing from the riv - er he saw the heav - ens torn;
 3 We too have found a road - way; it led us to this place.

(A9) (D/A) (G) (F#m)
 C9 F/C B^b Am

from Naz - a - reth to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John.
 it seemed the sky so o - pen re - vealed the Spir - it's form.
 We all have had to trav - el in search of hope and grace.

(Bm) (F#m) (Gmaj7) (F#m7) (Em) (A/C#)(Bsus)(Bm)
 Dm Am B^bmaj7 Am7 Gm C/E Dsus Dm

He went down to the wa - ters like sol - dier, scribe, and slave,
 The ho - ly dove de - scend - ed a - mid a glo - rious voice:
 But now be - side this wa - ter a - gain a voice is heard.

(G) (D/F#) (Em7) (G/A) (Asus)(A7) (D)
 B^b F/A Gm7 B^b/C Csus C7 F

but there with - in the riv - er the sign was birth and grave.
 "You are my own be - lov - ed, my child, my heart, my choice."
 "You are my own, my cho - sen, be - lov - ed of your Lord."

When reviewing baptismal resources with other members of the United Church of Canada's Working Unit on Worship, the author was struck by how few hymns had been written for adult baptism. This meditative text on the Baptism of Jesus is an effort to remedy that situation.

PRAYER FOR CLEANSING (*unison*)

**God of justice, in baptism you anointed us to live boldly in
the reality of your coming kingdom.**

We confess that we have not fulfilled our calling.

We have not used your power to serve our neighbors.

We have walked away from oppression and injustice.

**We have turned our backs on your beloved children who hunger
and thirst in a world of plenty.**

**Forgive us, Lord. Make us courageous servants of your justice,
peace, and wholeness, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE & SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: Peace be with you. You are God's beloved

All: Thanks be to God!

Equipping

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 14:15–25

(CEB)

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to get moving. As for you, lift your shepherd's rod, stretch out your hand over the sea, and split it in two so that the Israelites can go into the sea on dry ground. But me, I'll make the Egyptians stubborn so that they will go in after them, and I'll gain honor at the expense of Pharaoh, all his army, his chariots, and his cavalry. The Egyptians will know that I am the LORD, when I gain honor at the expense of Pharaoh, his chariots, and his cavalry." God's messenger, who had been in front of Israel's camp, moved and went behind them. The column of cloud moved from the front and took its place behind them. It stood between Egypt's camp and Israel's camp. The cloud remained there, and when darkness fell it lit up the night. They didn't come near each other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD pushed the sea back by a strong east wind all night, turning the sea into dry land. The waters were split into two. The Israelites walked into the sea on dry ground. The waters formed a wall for them on their right hand and on their left. The Egyptians chased them and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and cavalry. As morning approached, the LORD looked down on the Egyptian camp from the column of lightning and cloud and threw the Egyptian camp into a panic. The LORD jammed their chariot wheels so that they wouldn't turn easily. The Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites, because the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt!"

SOLO

“Go Light Your World”

by Chris Rice

Lindsay Callender, soloist – Christopher Callender, guitar
Miles McDonald, bass guitar – Ronda McDonald, piano
Daniel Cole, drum set

*There is a candle in every soul - Some brightly burning, some dark and cold
There is a Spirit who brings a fire - Ignites a candle and makes His home*

*So, carry your candle, run to the darkness - Seek out the helpless, confused and torn
Hold out your candle for all to see it - Take your candle, and go light your world*

*Frustrated brother, see how he's tried to light his own candle some other way
See now your sister, she's been robbed and lied to still holds a candle without a flame*

*So, carry your candle, run to the darkness - Seek out the lonely, the tired and worn
Hold out your candle for all to see it - Take your candle, and go light your world*

*We are a family whose hearts are blazing, so let's raise our candles and light up the sky
Praying to our Father, in the name of Jesus Make us a beacon in darkest times*

*So, carry your candle, run to the darkness - Seek out the hopeless, deceived and poor
Hold out your candle for all to see it - Take your candle, and go light your world*

*Carry your candle, run to the darkness - Seek out the helpless, confused and torn
Hold out your candle for all to see it - Take your candle, and go light your world*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Mark 1:1-11

(CEB)

The beginning of the good news about Jesus Christ, God’s Son, happened just as it was written about in the prophecy of Isaiah:

*Look, I am sending my messenger before you.
He will prepare your way,
a voice shouting in the wilderness:
“Prepare the way for the Lord;
make his paths straight.”*

John the Baptist was in the wilderness calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins. Everyone in Judea and all the people of Jerusalem went out to the Jordan River and were being baptized by John as they confessed their sins. John wore clothes made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. He announced, “One stronger than I am is coming after me. I’m not even worthy to bend over and loosen the strap of his sandals. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” About that time, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. While he was coming up out of the water, Jesus saw heaven splitting open and the Spirit, like a dove, coming down on him. And there was a voice from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness.”

SERMON

“Passage Through the Waters”

Rev. Sue Trigger

Sending

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN 10

“Sing Glory to the Name of God”
Stanzas 1, 2, and 4

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

10 Sing Glory to the Name of God

(Psalm 29)

Unison

1 Sing glo - ry to the name of God, whose ho - ly splen - dor shines a -
 2 The name of God is full of might: re - sound - ing thun - der, flash - ing
 3 The name of God is wild and free, a - whirl in ho - ly mys - ter -
 4 May God for - ev - er be our peace; may hymns of glo - ry nev - er

Harmony *Unison*

broad.
 light.
 y.
 cease:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

En - throned a - bove the
 The wil - der - ness can -
 A se - cret wrapped in
 Let all the faith - ful

crash - ing waves, the God of grace and glo - ry saves.
 not con - tain the ech - oes of the great re - frain:
 smoke and fire, still chant - ed by the tem - ple choir:
 peo - ple come; sing praise to God, the Three - in - One:

This sweeping paraphrase of Psalm 29 conveys a sense of the Jewish reverence for the sheer power of God's name, regarded as too holy for mortal tongues to pronounce. In keeping with its appointment for Trinity Sunday, the final stanza gives the psalm a Christian interpretation.

THE TRIUNE GOD

Harmony

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia,

The Harmony section consists of two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Unison

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Unison section consists of two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (*seated*)

“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”
Linda Dover, organ

by J.S. Bach

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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