



Sunday, January 7, 2024
Baptism of the Lord

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

Luke 3:21-22 (NIV)

Greeters: Judy & Bruce Schmoyer, Glenda Burross, Linda Edwards, Trixi Ray, Cammie & Doug Camens
Ushers: Randy Heller, Gary & Sandy Cross, Henry & Wendy Hershey

The white rose recognizes and bears witness to the life and memory of James "Fred" Young

The Chancel Flowers are Presented By:

Louise & Walt Bryde, in honor of Helen Emmitt
Jane Hartin, in memory of her mother Ann Wardlow

Gathering in God's Name

Chimes

Prelude

Welcome & Ministry Highlights

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

*Please sign and pass the "Friendship Pad" down the pew.
At the end of the row, pass it back so that we can greet one another by name after the service.*

* Call to Worship

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Leader: We are beloved.

People: We are heirs of salvation.

Leader: We are children of the promise.

People: We are claimed.

Leader: We are marked.

People: We are named by God alone.

Leader: We are chosen and blessed

People: We are charged to love

Leader: And to witness through word and deed

All: Let us worship the God who claims us as His own!

* Opening Hymn #356

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Proclaiming God's Word

Call to Confession

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Our scripture passage for today tells the story of Jesus being baptized. The Gospel of Luke tells us that the sky opened up and the voice of God was heard saying, "You are my Son, whom I love; with whom I am well-pleased" (Luke 3:22). Friends, I don't think that's the only time God has said words like that. God delights in you. God created you. God loves you with the same passion that we hear God express in today's scripture. So trusting that good news, trusting that we are beloved, let us go to God in prayer. For we know that the one who listens, listens with love.

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Loving God, from the very beginning, you breathed life into us and called us good. However, somewhere along the way we replaced "good" with "not enough." Somewhere along the way we turned the volume up on that phrase and began to doubt our own self-worth. Forgive us, for this is not what you have taught us. For when the world tells us we are not enough, you call us beloved. Show us how to return to that truth. Show us how to let go of our weariness and rest in that good news. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison 572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Leader: Our story begins with belovedness. Even when we lose our way, even if we stumble and fall, God never stops breaking through the clouds to claim us. We are known. We are forgiven. We are beloved. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Leader: As we are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ Jesus, let us be reconciled to one another. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

* Gloria Patri 579

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.

*At this time, children through 4th grade are invited to attend Sunday School. Teachers are stationed at the main doors of the sanctuary and will walk the children to the children's classrooms in the Narthex.
Parents/Guardians may pick up their children after the service in the classroom.*

Scripture Reading

Luke 3:21-22

Message

"We Trust Our Belovedness"

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Responding to God's Word

Choir Anthem

"Cradle Hymn"

by Craig Curry

Invitation To The Lord's Table

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

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.

Words of Institution

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Distribution of Elements

*It is our custom at Highland to eat the bread, representing your individual relationship with God.
However, please hold the cup until all are able to partake together, representing our relationship as the body of Christ.*

Prayer After Communion

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Invitation to the Offering

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Wooden offering boxes are located in the narthex

Going in God's Name

* Closing Hymn #443 "O Christ, the Great Foundation"

* Charge and Benediction

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Postlude

*PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT

MUSIC: DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

JONATHAN LEFEVER, ORGANIST

A/V: MARK ANDERSON, GUS BEAULIEU

A description of the stained Chancel window can be found in the front of the hymnal.
FM sound devices are available. Please ask an usher for your own personal receiver.

Cell Phones should be silenced during the worship service.

Video Recordings of the service can be found on the Highland website at www.HighlandPC.org

In the event of an emergency, please refer to the card in the pew racks for evacuation and re-assembly information.