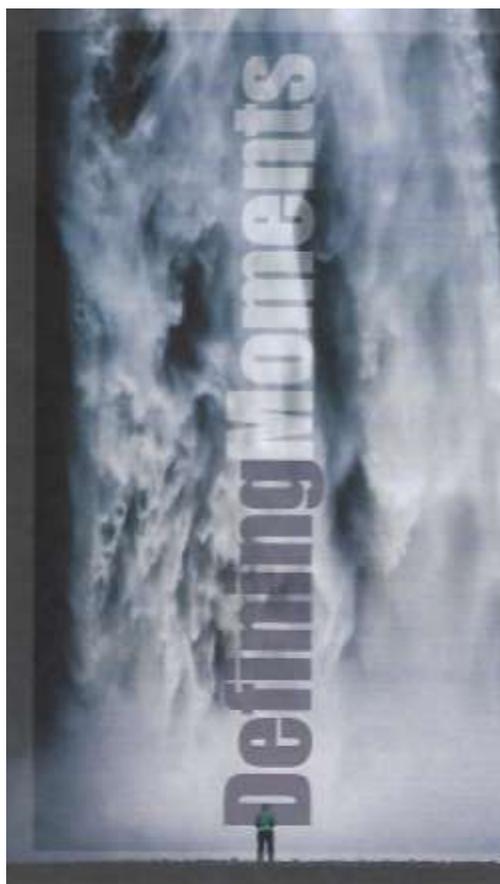


FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
36721 Lake Shore Blvd.
Eastlake Ohio 44095 440.951.0291



Baptism of Christ

WELCOME TO FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
36721 Lake Shore Blvd.
Eastlake Ohio 44095 440.951.0291

Website: firstucceastlake.org
Email: pastorfirstucc@gmail.com

*No matter who you are
or where you are in life's journey,
you are welcome and wanted here!*

Ministers - All of us!

Pastor & Teacher - Rev David T Herrin—216.832.3453

Director of Music – Jeffrey Jaskolka

Moderator - Diana Kurzawa

Christian Education - Pastor David

Financial Secretary - Donna Finch

Treasurer - Jim Lutz

Clerk - Judy DePasquale

Facilities Ministry - Charles Rumbold

Leadership Development Ministry - Betsy Taylor

Membership Ministry - Sherry Boyce

OCWM Ministry - Nancy Reeb

Spiritual Life Ministry - Betsy Taylor

Stewardship Ministry - Diana Kurzawa

*** Please rise in body or spirit.**



MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP

Mark 1:10–11

Send down your Holy Spirit, O God—tear open the veil of heaven and speak to us as beloved children so that we may hear and believe the good news of your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Living God, maker of light, thank you for the gift of this day. Let me be a light in your world so that people will look at me and see the goodness of your creation. Amen.

WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE WE ARE USING THE BLUE HYMNALS TODAY

Prelude ♪

Welcome

Pastor David

Ringling of the Bell

***Gathering Hymn** ♪ #218 *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

***Call to Worship** *Genesis 1: 1-2 Mark 1:1,9-11*

One: In the beginning, when God was creating the heavens and the earth. The Spirit of God swept over the face of the waters;

All: **Then God said: Let there be light, and God saw that it was good.**

One: At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus was baptized by John. The heavens opened, and the Spirit descended like a dove;

All: Then God said: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

One: Come all you faithful joyful and triumphant

All: Come let us go and worship God!

***Opening Hymn** ♪ #668 *Wonderful Words of Life*

***Invocation and Lord's Prayer**

Genesis 1. Psalm 29 Acts 19, Mark 1

God of heaven and earth, we gather in the name of Jesus to hear your holy Word and to be immersed in your Spirit. Speak to us with grace and truth and pour out your love upon us so that this temple may resound with joyful shouts of glory; and for those who do not yet believe, we boldly say—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

***Glory Be to God** #174 *twice*

*Pre-pare the way of the Lord. Pre-pare the way of the Lord,
And all peo-ple will see the sal-va-tion of our God*

Right Hand of Fellowship—Bow of Namaste

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S MESSAGE

Genesis 1.1-5 **Psalm 29**

Acts 19.1-7 **Mark 1.4-11**

Word with young worshippers & Pastoral Message

***Hymn of Prayer** ♪ #676 *Come, Be Baptized*

A RENEWAL OF BAPTISM



RENEWAL OF BAPTISM

God calls us to the water to find a new way:

a new grace,

a new hope,

a new faith,

a new life.

God calls; we come.

Come to the water and let go of the worn out:
worn out habits,
worn out pains,
worn out angers,
worn out burdens.

God calls; we come.

God blesses the water and it
heals us,
cleans us,
renews us,
refreshes us.

God blesses; we praise.

Come to the water and receive
blessing,
freedom,
mercy,
love.

God blesses; we praise.

Gracious God, your spirit moved over the waters of chaos to bring forth cosmos. Your spirit moves in the waters of the womb to bring forth life. Your spirit rains and pours and floods in rivers and oceans and veins; cleansing, purifying, anointing all creation for your service. Bless this water with your presence. Amen.

God has created you and named you Beloved. Live for God.

WE PREPARE TO SERVE THE WORLD

Prayers of the People—

Give strength, O God, and bless us with peace.

*Doxology *Old 100th #34*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, the Word in flesh born low;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen!

Holy Communion on Epiphany

Pastor: The Lord is here.

People: The Lord's Spirit is with us.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Communion Hymn ♪ *There's a Quiet Understanding*

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Holy One, creator of heaven and earth. From everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth! You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away,

and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: Holy are you, O God of love and majesty, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself to be our light and our salvation. You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born; and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world, you have led your people from far places to Christ's Light. By the baptism of his suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." **People: Amen!**

Pastor: Likewise, when the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new

covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." **People: Amen!**

Pastor: 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:

People: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Love, O Lord, until you come again.

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

People: Through your Son Jesus Christ, with your Holy Spirit in your Holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Gracious God, now and forever. Amen!

Pastor: Because there is one loaf we, though we are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break, it is a means of sharing in the body of Christ. And the cup over which we give thanks, it is a means of sharing in the outpoured blood of Christ. Come for all things are ready.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We, from among the gentiles give you thanks for the gift of the Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Holy God you have poured out on us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that the same light enkindled in our hearts may shine forth in our lives. May this light be revealed to all the nations of the world.

***Closing Hymn** ♪ #198 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

After the Closing Hymn, we make a circle around the outside of the pews for the Commissioning and Blessing.

***Commissioning** *Genesis 1:3 Psalm 29:2*

Go forth in the light and love of God, washed by your baptism, giving glory to God in all that you do.

♪ Joy to the world! The Lord is come, let earth receive her king; let every heart prepare him room and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and hevean, and heaven and nature sing.

Commented [DD1]:

Commented [DD2R1]:

***Blessing** *Mark 1:10-11*

Beloved children of God, Spirit, Son, and Father, all the blessings of heaven are yours. Alleluia!

♪ Joy to the world! The Lord is come, let earth receive her king; let every heart prepare him room and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and hevean, and heaven and nature sing.

***Postlude** ♪

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Next Sunday –2nd Sunday after Epiphany

1 Samuel 3.1-20 **Psalm** 139.1-6,13-18

1 Corinthians 6.12-20 **John** 1.43-51

Please pick up your 2021 Offering Envelops today.

Thursday January 14 Thursday Theology/Family Education
Gospel of Mark Part 2 6.30-8

Questions for Reflection

What is the difference between baptism with water alone (John's baptism; see Acts 19.3, Mark 1.8) and baptism with the Holy Spirit (baptism into Jesus; see Acts 19.4-5, Mark 1.8?) Why is it still important to use water in baptism? What does water mean in your daily life? What difference does the Holy Spirit make in baptism? What difference does the Holy Spirit make in your daily life?

Church Council Meeting TODAY

Congregational Meeting Next Sunday



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 10, 2021

Mark 1:4-11

**The Baptism of Christ
Defining Moments**

A rite of passage is a defining moment. Standing in the moment between two ages or phases of life, a rite of passage defines both who we were before the ritual and who we will become after it is completed. Anthropologists and theologians both know that we need rites of passage not only to know who we are individually but also to know who we are as part of our community. Without rites of passage, we cease to have these vital markers of our self and communal definition.

Baptism is a rite of passage for us, as it was for Jesus. Jesus goes to the river Jordan, where his cousin John is baptizing and calling for repentance or turning from sin. In the hundreds of pieces of art depicting this scene, we most often see Jesus alone with John - and sometimes the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove. But Jesus was hardly alone. The scripture tells us that *everyone* in Jerusalem was there, along with many from the countryside. There would have been a giant crowd with Jesus, to take part in and witness this important rite of passage.

Many cultures and religions, including the Judaism of John and Jesus' time had a ritual of washing. Jesus' baptism was an evolution of that ancient rite. It was not meant to replace the old ritual, but the meaning shifted to accommodate new understandings about God, society, and individuals.

Think about the rites of passage in your own life. Consider the times when you made a change from one stage or age to another. Who was there to witness and to participate? How did the presence of the wider community help you feel God's presence? In our changing time, how have new rites of passage grown out of old ones?