



**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**  
**First Sunday After Epiphany**  
**January 10, 2021**

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin  
Senior Minister

**MUSIC OF PREPARATION**

*Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice*  
Mr. Rick Massengale, organ

Daw, White

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Martin

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God*

Yardley, Evans

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Psalm 29:1-4, 10-11*

Dr. Martin and **People**

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

**The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

**May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!**

**\*HYMN**

*Jesus! the Name High Over All*

GRAFENBERG

*Jesus! the name high over all, in hell or earth or sky;  
angels and mortals prostrate fall, and devils fear and fly.*

*O that the world might taste and see the riches of his grace!  
The arms of love that compass me would all the world embrace.*



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*His only righteousness I show, his saving truth proclaim;  
'tis all my business here below to cry, "Behold the Lamb!"*

*Happy, if with my latest breath I may but gasp his name,  
preach him to all and cry in death, "Behold, behold the Lamb!"*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The Apostles' Creed*

Dr. Martin and People

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy \*catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**      *\*universal      UMH 881*

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

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.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:  
"The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you."*

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Dr. Martin

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Dr. Martin

**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.**

**ANTHEM**

*Come to the Water*

Pepper Choplin

*Come to the water on this holy day. Our Lord has called us, we come to obey.  
Follow the One who has shown us the way and live in God's kingdom forever.*

*Gathering under God's heaven above, brothers and sisters surround you in love.  
God's Holy Spirit will come like a dove now to be with you forever.*

*God gives us water to spring through our years, water for life and water for tears,  
and, though life runs dry and hope disappears, God will be with us forevermore.*

*Here as we meet at the water's face, we come to celebrate wonderful grace.  
And as we come, we discover our place, joined with God's family forever.*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

OLD 100th

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Dr. Martin and **People**

**Lord, open our hearts and minds  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that, as the Scriptures are read  
and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

**\*SCRIPTURE LESSON**

*Mark 1:4-11*

Dr. Martin

*<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."*

*<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."*

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*More than Water*

Dr. Martin

**\*HYMN**

*When Jesus Came to Jordan*

COMPLAINER

*When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John,  
he did not come for pardon but as the sinless one.  
He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins,  
to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.*

*He came to share temptation, our utmost woe and loss,  
for us and our salvation to die upon the cross.  
So when the dove descended on him, the Son of Man,  
the hidden years had ended, the age of grace began.*

*Come, Holy Spirit, aid us to keep the vows we make;  
this very day invade us, and every bondage break.  
Come, give our lives direction, the gift we cover most:  
to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

Dr. Martin

*May the peace of Christ go with you wherever he may send you.  
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.  
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.  
May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our arms.*

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

*Please exit by the chancel only.  
Place bulletin in recycling bin or take it with you.  
Offerings will be received by the chancel as you exit.*

**Please remember in your prayers:**

Billy Arnold  
Van Askew  
Carolyn Broady  
Annelle Burch  
Joe Byers

Richard Clayton  
Summer Dorsey  
Howard Dunham  
Bob Garrett  
Margaret Grainger

Martha Hale  
Cindy Jennings  
Doris Kerlin  
Lurlene Perry  
Claudia Rhodes

Jon Wade  
Mabel Wilbanks  
Brad Wilkinson

In Memoriam  
Bill Grist  
December 30, 2020

In Memoriam  
Quentin Cash  
January 6, 2021

**Our Christian prayers and sympathy are with**

Catherine Grist and family upon the death of Catherine's husband, Bill Grist, on December 30, 2020.  
David and Lynn Deason and family upon the death of David's mother, Elizabeth Joan Deason, on January 1, 2021.  
Judy Cash and family upon the death of her husband, Quentin Cash, on January 6, 2021.



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GIVING



*A Service of Holy Baptism  
January 10, 2021*

*Alexander Callaway Evans  
Robert Tillman Schott*

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

Brothers and sisters in Christ:  
Through the Sacrament of Baptism  
we are initiated into Christ's holy Church.  
We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation  
and given new birth through water and the Spirit.  
All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

*The pastor addresses the parents, Richard and Rachel Schott and  
LuAnna and David Evans:*

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:  
Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,  
reject the evil powers of this world,  
and repent of your sin?

**I do.**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you  
to resist evil, injustice, and oppression  
in whatever forms they present themselves?

**I do.**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,  
put your whole trust in his grace,  
and promise to serve him as your Lord,

in union with the Church which Christ has opened  
to people of all ages, nations, and races?

**I do.**

Will you nurture these children  
in Christ's holy Church,  
that by your teaching and example they may be guided  
to accept God's grace for themselves,  
to profess their faith openly,  
and to lead a Christian life?

**I will.**

*The pastor addresses the congregation:*

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church,  
reaffirm both your rejection of sin  
and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Let us pray.

Eternal Father:

When nothing existed but chaos,  
you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light.  
In the days of Noah  
you saved those on the ark through water.  
After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.  
When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,  
you led them to freedom through the sea.  
Their children you brought through the Jordan  
to the land which you promised.

**Sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
tell of God's mercy each day.**

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,  
nurtured in the water of a womb.  
He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit.  
He called his disciples  
to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection  
and to make disciples of all nations.

**Declare his works to the nations,  
his glory among all the people.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit,  
To bless this gift of water and those who receive it,  
To wash away their sin  
And clothe them in righteousness  
Throughout their lives,  
That, dying and being raised with Christ,  
They may share in his final victory.

**All praise to you, Eternal Father,  
through your Son Jesus Christ,  
who with you and the Holy Spirit  
lives and reigns for ever.  
Amen.**

BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

*Robert Tillman*, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of  
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Alexander Callaway*, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and  
of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Holy Spirit work within you,  
that being born through water and the Spirit,  
you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. Amen.

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

*The pastor addresses the congregation:*

Members of the household of faith,  
I commend to your love and care these children,  
whom we this day recognize as a members of the family  
of God.

Will you endeavor so to live  
that they may grow in the knowledge and love of God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ?

*The congregation responds:*

**With God's help  
we will so order our lives after the example of Christ,  
that these children, surrounded by steadfast love,  
may be established in the faith,  
and confirmed and strengthened  
in the way that leads to life eternal.**

*The pastor addresses the baptized and family and sponsors:*

The God of all grace,  
who has called us to eternal glory in Christ,  
establish you and strengthen you  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
that you may live in grace and peace.

**Amen.**

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