

Astoria First United Methodist Church
January 10, 2021

Baptism of the Lord

ORDER OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Frances

CENTERING MUSIC

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

Stephen Morden

WORDS OF WELCOME

Pastor Michael

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sue Hicks

Come into the presence of the Lord today. Let us come together with all of our joys and sorrows, our hopes, our dreams, and cares. You have been fashioned and shaped our lives by God’s love. You are called across the waters of creation to be a blessing. You have sculpted and shaped every corner of our lives. We are called to be people of hope and light. You have swept over us with waters of love, mercy, and favor and adopted each of us, as your beloved children into the blessing of your divine family. You call to us from waters of healing, giving us strength and blessing, as we call out “Glory to the Name of the Lord!”

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Michael

SCRIPTURE READING

“Acts 19:1-7”

Sue Hicks

And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They said, “Into John's baptism.” And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying. There were about twelve men in all.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“There's a Song in the Air”

Stephen Morden

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sue Hicks

Timeless God, you cast Light into sin's dark places and call us your Beloved. Forgive us: when we still linger in the shadows; when we treat others in hurtful ways when we speak ill of your friends. As he knelt in the waters of Jordan, you proclaimed Jesus as your Beloved Child, pointing to him as the way to you. Forgive us: when we put ourselves ahead of him; when we

think he is no longer needed when we fail to see him in the broken of our world. Baptized and blessed in your living waters, you would have us be your servants in our time. Forgive us: when we fail to welcome the stranger; when we refuse to forgive as we should; when we believe we are too good to kneel down and tie the shoes of the lost, the least, the last, the little.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Sue Hicks

Touched by the waters of life, fed at the feast of grace and hope, embraced in the warmth of God's love and hopes, we embrace the Good News of God in Christ. Blessed by baptism's tears, called to serve one another by God's beloved child, filled with the peace of the Spirit, we are indeed God's people - redeemed, restored, refreshed to serve, and always forgiven. The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, for all eternity. Rejoice, dear friends, this is the Good News of our Lord. **AMEN.**

HYMN OF PREPARATION

“I Love to Tell the Story”

**Mary Frances
UMH#156**

GOSPEL LESSON

“Mark 1:4-11”

Pastor Michael

SERMON

*“You are My Beloved Children,
in You I am Well-Pleased and Delighted!”*

Pastor Michael

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mary Frances

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Michael

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Michael

*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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. **AMEN.***

BENEDICTION:

Pastor Michael

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We welcome to our friends from the Warrenton UMC
as they join us for worship.**

**As a follow-up to our recent Four Week Advent Study,
We are beginning another study in the new year.
Topic: Extraordinary Men and Women in the Bible
Start Date: January 12, 2021 End Date: March 23, 2021
Time: 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. by Zoom
January 12, 2021
“Adam and Eve”**

**All of January we will be doing our Stewardship / Pledge Drive.
Please send your pledge cards into the church office As Soon As Possible.**

**We still need volunteers for liturgist each week.
Please call Sue Hicks or Mary Frances Gunn if you wish to help.**

If you want to provide special music – let Mary Frances know.

We now have recordings of the worship services available as a link.
