

# Baptism of the Lord



**January 10, 2021  
at 10:30 a.m.  
on Facebook **Live****

**or on our church website at  
[westminsterakron.org](http://westminsterakron.org)**

## COME

Opening Voluntary      Deck Yourself, My Soul, with Gladness      Theodore Beck

*We welcome you to Westminster's online worship service this Sunday. To set a more worshipful tone while watching this service at home, we encourage you to find a quiet space and light a candle.*

*Today, we will be celebrating The Sacrament of Holy Communion together. Please have your bread and juice nearby and be prepared to partake at the appropriate time.*

*If you are joining us on Facebook Live, then you can find a copy of today's bulletin on our church website at [westminsterakron.org](http://westminsterakron.org).*

\*Call to Worship

Barb Shriner

All who thirst, come to the water and drink deeply of these living streams.  
**Come, all who are weary; come all you who yearn for forgiveness.**  
Our gracious God beckons and blesses us.  
**Let us give praise for new life in Christ.**

\*Hymn 300 Down to Earth, As a Dove (see end of bulletin)

PERSONENT HODIE

## ENCOUNTER

### Call to Confession

A prophet appeared in the wilderness, calling people to repent, be baptized, and prepare the way of the Lord. We return to the water to confess our sins, giving thanks for the grace of Jesus Christ, the one who has come to save us.

### Prayer of Confession

**God of all glory, you look from heaven and see us as we are - not worthy to kneel at your feet, not ready to welcome your way. Forgive us, gracious God. In Christ, stoop down to save us; loosen the ties that bind us to sin and set us free to love and serve you; in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*Silence is observed.*

Response 574

Lord, Have Mercy

*Kyrie*

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

### Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the good news of the gospel: As a voice from heaven said to Jesus, so God says to each of us: You are my beloved child, and with you I am well pleased. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*Response 567

Glory Be to the Father

*Gloria Patri*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever, Amen. Amen. Amen.**

\*Passing the Peace

We invite you now to greet one another saying, **The peace of Christ be with you.**

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering

Let us be faithful stewards of our time, our talents, and our financial resources so that our treasure is in heaven and our giving pleases God.

Anthem

I See the Morning Breaking

*I see the morning breaking through the valleys and the hills, I see the morning breaking as I go, as I go. I see the morning breaking through the valleys and the hills, when I walk each day with Jesus by my side, by my side.*

*I feel a fresh wind blowing through the valleys and the hills, I feel a fresh wind blowing as I go, as I go. I feel a fresh wind blowing through the valleys and the hills, when I walk each day with Jesus by my side, by my side.*

*I hear the sweetest music through the valleys and the hills, I hear the sweetest music as I go, as I go. I hear the sweetest music through the valleys and the hills, when I walk each day with Jesus by my side, by my side, when I walk each day with Jesus by my side.*

\*Response                      Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow                      *Doxology*  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Time with Young Disciples

## GROW

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, before this world's days even began, your Word was in the beginning, and it was with you and it was you. The mystery of that brings us to our knees. Yet today you allow us to open your Word and know you better. So we ask that you would give us eyes to see and ears to hear. Give us hearts open to your Spirit as we seek you. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Genesis 1:1-5

Old Testament

1 In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 2 the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

4 John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 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. 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 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. 8 I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." 9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 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. 11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

In the Beginning

The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

## SERVE

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Hear the words of our Savior: "Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

**We come not because we ought, but because we may, not because we are righteous, but because we are penitent, not because we are strong, but because we are weak, not because we are whole, but because we are broken.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The minister offers thanksgiving for the work of God in creation.*

We give thanks that in the creation of the world, you laid the earth's foundation and set its cornerstone in place. By the power of your Spirit you made the universe; by the might of your Word you gave us life. We give thanks that in the new creation, when you gave your Son to raise us up again, since we and all our human race had fallen, you claimed for us your own people, that we might proclaim the glorious deeds of him who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. By the power of your Spirit you fill the hearts of the faithful, by the light of your Word you give us strength and love.

Therefore, with your people of all places and times and with the whole company of heaven we proclaim your greatness and sing your praise:

1 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly! Lord God Al-might-y! ear-ly in the  
morn-ing our song shall rise to thee; ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly!  
mer-ci-ful and might-y! God in three per-sons, bless-ed Trin-i-ty!

*The minister offers thanksgiving for the work of Christ and the Holy Spirit.*

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation. Baptized in Jordan's waters, Jesus took his place with sinners, and your voice proclaimed him your beloved. Your Spirit anointed him to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives, to restore sight to the blind, to free the oppressed.

He lived among us in power and grace, touching broken lives with your healing peace. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your church and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

God's Spirit is with us still: **Through him, with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.**

In one voice, let us offer the words of the Lord's Prayer:

**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

"The bread of life." "The cup of salvation."

Communion Motet    *Deck Yourself, My Soul, with Gladness*    Johann Crüger  
(Sung by the choir)

Prayer following Communion

Most holy and loving God: For being present among us, **we thank you!**  
For making us one with you, **we thank you!**  
For enabling us to know you more, **we thank you!**  
For feeding us with the bread of life, **we thank you!**  
For uniting us with your people, **we thank you!**  
For the reminder of your covenant promises, **we thank you!**  
For this sign of forgiveness, **we thank you!**  
For the time to express our gratitude, **we thank you!**  
For the promise of a future together, **we thank you! Amen.**

\*Hymn 411

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey; show  
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door; pro -  
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born, bind  
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song! Rise

forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.  
claim the cap-tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.  
up the bro - ken-heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

## \*Charge and Benediction

Go out into the world in peace: have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; help the suffering; honor all; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Voluntary

Postlude on "Festal Song"

William Walter

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Flowers in the Chancel** are given by Inky Malone in honor of front-line workers.

**The White Rose in the Chancel Today** is in memory of Emily "Arlene" Pierson who died peacefully on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, at the age of 97.

**Script February/March** Deadline is Tuesday, January 12. Please send your articles and pictures to Adam Kalcic at [wpcsmedia1250@gmail.com](mailto:wpcsmedia1250@gmail.com).

**Confirmation Class will start Sunday, January 10 at 7 p.m. via Zoom.** Please join the meeting at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82315128448?pwd=QoZCOXRqVWlwalVYWU5nbHdmNmZkdzo9> Passcode: 743737

### CALENDAR of CHURCH EVENTS for the week of January 10 - 16, 2021

#### **Sunday, 1/10**

9:00 am Youth Zoom Conversation  
9:15 am Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
9:45 am Tween Sunday School via Zoom  
10:30 am Worship Service on Facebook Live  
7:00 pm Confirmation Class via Zoom

#### **Monday, 1/11**

7:00 pm Zoom Bible Study  
7:00 pm Zoom Book Discussion

#### **Tuesday, 1/12**

7:00 pm Properties Meeting via Zoom

#### **Wednesday, 1/13**

6:00 pm Outreach Zoom Meeting  
7:00 pm Discipleship Zoom Meeting

#### **Thursday, 1/14**

9:30 am Zoom Staff Meeting  
7:00 pm Zoom Adult Education

#### **Saturday, 1/16**

8:00 am Food For Life in the Kitchen



**Giving Online** During these difficult times, the church remains grateful for your faithful support. To give electronically on the WPC website click under the tab "online giving" and use this QR Code.



The church office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Staff schedule in the office: **Monday** - Pastor Jon, Claudine Schooley, Debby Evrard and Dave Bodnar. **Tuesday** - Pastor Jon, Debby Evrard, Sheila Svoboda, and Dave Bodnar. **Wednesday** - Debby Evrard, Claudine Schooley, and Dave Bodnar. **Thursday** - Claudine Schooley, Debby Evrard, Sheila Svoboda, Adam Kalcic, and Dave Bodnar. **Friday** - Pastor Jon, Claudine Schooley, and Adam Kalcic.



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N.C. Dm Am C F Dm  $\frac{G}{D}$

1 Down to earth, as a dove, came to light  
2 This is love come to light, now is fear  
3 Christ the Lord comes to feed hun-gry peo -

$\frac{Em}{G}$   $\frac{C}{E}$  F C F C  $\frac{G}{B}$  Am Dm Em G Em Am Dm

ho - ly love: Je - sus Christ from a - bove bring-ing great sal - va - tion  
put to flight. God de - feats dark - est night, giv - ing for our sor - rows  
ple in need; in the house there is bread: Je - sus in a sta - ble,

8vb ----- 8vb -----

*Refrain*

Em F Em Am G Dm  
 G C C

meant for ev - ery na - tion.  
 hope of new to - mor - rows. Let us sing, sing, sing, dance and spring,  
 in the church a ta - ble.

*r.h.*  
*r.h. l.h.*

(8vb) - - - - -

Dm C Dm C C Asus Am D  
 C C C C C C C C

spring, spring, Christ is here, ev - er near! Glo - ria in ex - cel - sis.

(8vb) - - - - -