



Church Bells (Chiming the Hour)

Prelude

Introduction

This year's hymn festival invites us to reflect on the meaning of baptism. Baptism is not a one-time event, but a lifelong journey of grace. In baptism, we are united with Christ, adopted into God's family, and called to live as members of His Body.

Baptismal vows are not only personal—they are communal. They are a shared commitment to love, to serve, and to build one another up in faith and life. These vows are then lived out as promises - strengthening the baptized to grow in faith and help the Church grow in love.

Whether you have been baptized or are exploring what that means, we invite you to enter into this time of worship with open hearts. May this time inspire all of us to live faithfully, building one another up in love as an authentic community of grace.

Choral Introit (10am only)

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

Words: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680 trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878 Music: LOBE DEN HERREN arr. Andrew Huish © 2022 Choristers Guild Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #M-401809 All rights reserved

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
praise him in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth.
He shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth.
Has thou not seen how thy desires have been,
thy desires have been granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!

Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!
Gladly forever adore him!

Call to Worship - *PSALM 100:1-5*

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;

**All: Come into His presence with singing.
Know that the Lord is God.**

Pastor: It is He that made us, and we are His; We are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise.

**All: Give thanks to Him, bless His name. For the Lord is good;
His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.**

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION UMH 545

Words: Samuel J. Stone, 1866 Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is His new creation by water and the Word.
From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
with His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace evermore;
till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

Prayer

FATHER WELCOMES ALL HIS CHILDREN

Song by Kevin Mayhew Ltd © 1986 Kevin Mayhew Ltd.

*Father welcomes all his children to his family through his Son.
Father giving his salvation, life forever has been won.*

Little children, come to me, for my kingdom is of these;
Life and love I have to give, mercy for your sin.

In the water, in the word, in his promise, be assured:
Those who are baptised and believe shall be born again.

Let us daily die to sin, let us daily rise with him
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord, live in the peace of God.

Scripture Reading - *GALATIANS 3:23-29*

“Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”

WASH, O GOD, OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS

Words: Ruth Duck, 1987 (Jn. 3:3-8) Music: Attr. to B.G. White, 1844; harm. by Ronald A. Nelson, 1978

Wash, O God, our sons and daughters
where Your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among Your people;
bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling;
compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them, send Your Spirit,
holy dove and heart’s delight

We who bring them long for nurture;
by Your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking
cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps,
free from sin and all its snares,
one with Christ in living, dying,
by Your Spirit, children, heirs.
O, how deep Your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all Your ways!

To Your name be glory, honor!
With our lives we worship, praise!
We Your people stand before You,
water-washed and Spirit-born.
By Your grace, our lives we offer.
Re-create us; God, transform!

The Thanksgiving Prayer over the Water

Pastor: Eternal Father, when nothing existed but chaos, You moved across the dark waters and created light. In the days of Noah You saved the people in 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.

All: Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.

Pastor: In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptised 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.

All: Declare Christ's works to the nations, His glory among all the people.

Pastor: Pour your Holy Spirit, and by this gift of water call to our remembrance the grace declared to us in our baptism. For you have washed away our sins, and you clothe us with righteousness throughout our lives, that dying and rising with Christ we may share in his final victory.

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

Remembering our Baptism

Pastor: Remember your baptism and be thankful.

WASHED ANEW

Words & Music: Thomas Keesecker © 1995 Augsburg Fortress Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #M-401809 All rights reserved

Washed anew with life-giving water, Bathed and cleansed,
Kyrie, kyrie eleison!

Thirsting for knowledge, thirsting for truth, Jesus, you have set us free.
Like gentle rainfall, like morning dew, clear and clean our hearts will be.

Cast off all weakness, cast off all sin, with his death we've been reborn.
A mighty ocean, a quiet stream, rising, greet a glorious morn.

Come sing God's praises, come to the feast, Christ is risen from the grave.
A flooding river, a raging sea, trembling, stand among the saved.

The Thanksgiving Prayer over the Water

Just as the waters of baptism wash away our sin, the Spirit renews us—claiming us as God's children, sealing us with love, and calling us to faithful discipleship. Washed anew in grace, we are sent to live in love, build one another up, and walk as one body in Christ.

Reflection Prompts

- What does your Baptism mean to you?
- What are the changes you are going to make in your spiritual life?

- What Image/Worship song comes to mind when you hear the phrase “Living out our faith”?
- What are you wishing for the church as a congregation to do more of?



If you would like to share your responses with us, scan the QR code or use this link to send us your responses to the reflection prompts:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/rGz0kTH7mX>

We'd love to hear from you!

Anthem

I WILL BE A CHILD OF PEACE

Words and Music: Traditional Shaker Hymn arranged by Elaine Hagenberg, edited by Dan Forrest

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O Holy Father I will be a child of peace and purity
for well I know Thy hand will bless
the seeker after righteousness.

THE SERVANT SONG

by Richard Gillard. 1977 Scripture In Song

Will you let me be your servant
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I might have the grace to
Let you be my servant too

We are pilgrims on a journey
We are travellers on the road
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load

I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night time of your fear
I will hold my hand out to you
Speak the peace you long to hear

I will weep when you are weeping
When you laugh I'll laugh with you
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through

When we sing to God in heaven
We shall find such harmony
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony

Brother sister let me serve you
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too

Pastoral Prayer

GOD OF THE SPARROW

by Jaroslav J. Vajda, Carl F. Schalk. 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda; music, 1983 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

God of the sparrow God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise

God of the earthquake God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save

God of the rainbow God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks

God of the hungry God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life

God of the neighbour God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

God of the ages God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

Offertory Prayer & Anthem

THANKFUL

Composer: Mark Burrows

For the little bird that sings, for the joy that gives me wings
I'm thankful, I'm thankful.

For the gentle rain you send, for the kindness of a friend,
I'm thankful, I'm thankful.

For each and every blessing, for all the good you do.
O Lord of all, I'm thankful for you.

For the acorn of the tree, for the love of family,
I'm thankful, I'm thankful.

For each and every blessing, for all the good you do,
O Lord of all, I'm thankful for you.

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies
For the love which from our birth, over and around us lies.
Lord of all to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise!

For each and every blessing, for all the good you do,
O Lord of all, O Lord of all, O Lord of all, I'm thankful for You.

Doxology

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW (OWENS)

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674 Music: Jimmy Owens. © Hal Leonard Publications Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #M-401809 All rights reserved

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.

Sending Forth

O GOD OUR HELP IN AGES PAST UMH117

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 90) Music: Attr. to William Croft, 1708; harm. by W.H. Monk, 1861

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!

Under the shadow of Thy throne, still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is Thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
from everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages, in Thy sight, are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night, before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all who breathe away;
they fly, forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come;
be Thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Benediction

GO NOW IN PEACE UMH665

by Natalie Sleeth. 1976 Hinshaw Music Inc.

Go now in peace, go now in peace,
may the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere you may go.

Postlude