

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 12, 2025

We are glad you're here!

Opportunities to Know Christ and Make Christ Known

Call to Worship

Today, we remember Jesus' baptism and celebrate the Spirit's presence among us.

We are God's beloved children, marked by grace and called to live in love.

In the waters of baptism, we are claimed, cleansed, and made new.

Let us follow Christ with hearts full of faith and lives full of purpose.

Come, let us worship the God who claims us, renews us, and sends us forth in power.

With joy and thanksgiving, we gather to praise the One who leads us in the waters of life!

To God Be the Glory

PH 485

Prayer of Adoration & Confession

Scripture

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The Message

“Remember”

Leslie Mansell

Affirmation of Faith

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

Sing the Faith 2251

Sacrament of Communion

Installation of Elders

Benediction

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

PH 398

Sharing Our Messages

Sunday, January 19

Rev. Joshua Kerr

Sunday, January 26

Rev. Robin Norris

Opportunities to Know Christ and Make Christ Known

Sunday, January 19, Noon

Rev. Joshua Kerr leads us in discerning where the Holy Spirit is leading us!
A box lunch will follow worship.

Wednesday, January 22, 5-7pm

Session meeting; planning and budget preparation post Sailboat Church discussion on the 19th.

Sunday, January 26

Celebrating Reading buddies, teachers and students of Fairview Elementary School in worship and afterwards with a reception to meet and greet!

Communion Liturgy

Invitation

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and Earth. In the beginning, darkness covered the face of the deep, but You swept over the waters and brought forth abundant swarms of life. You watered the face of the ground and formed a human creature from the dust and mud, breathing life into it and leading it to a beautiful garden. You created a second creature so it would not be alone, and man and woman were created. But these creatures, these humans turned their backs on you and were expelled from the garden.

Yet you did not abandon them then, and you do not abandon us now. Throughout our history, you have come through the sustenance of water and bread to call us back to paradise. In the days of Noah, you saved those on the ark through water, and 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, and then sustained them with manna, bread that covered the dessert like dew. You brought their children through the Jordan to a land flowing with milk and honey. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

You told us when we pass through the waters, you will be with us. You told us that you love us so much, and because we are precious in your sight, you will redeem us. You saved our ancestors and us through water, but the story doesn't end there. You continued to nourish us through the fullness of time by sending Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb.

When he grew up, your Spirit descended upon him like a dove, proclaiming his belovedness as he emerged from the water. He began his ministry preaching new life because the time of redemption had come. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. Yet so many feared and still now fear the new birth he offers all of us. We rejected the fullness of the feast he gave to us. And we turned our backs on Jesus, on the nourishment he offered. And we gave him up to die, even after sitting at table with him.

Words of Institution

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:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit to bless this gift of water and those who receive it. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. May these two gifts, the water and the meal, redeem us again by washing away our sin and filling us with good things.

By your Spirit, incorporate us into God's new creation, making us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until we come to the table, cleansed of all hatred and sin to welcome all people in joy and thanksgiving as members of the family of Christ. May your spirit work within us, that being born through water and of the Spirit, and fed through Christ's body, we may be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion: *Heavenly Father, we thank you for the waters of our baptism - the waters that claimed us as Your own, washed away our sin, and set us on the path of new life in Christ. Touch our hearts once again with the coolness of those waters, reminding us that we are beloved, we are forgiven, and we are called to live as Your children. We give You thanks for the gift of this holy meal, a reminder of Your boundless love and grace poured out for us. As we leave this table, may the bread and cup nourish our spirits, strengthen our faith, and empower us to be Your hands and feet in the world. Through Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray...*

The Lord's Prayer