



**ORDINATION + INSTALLATION
SUNDAY**

BAPTISM OF THE LORD ORDINATION + INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

January 9, 2022

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *Holy God, you sent your Son to be baptized among sinners, to seek and save the lost. May we, who have been baptized in his name, never turn away from the world, but reach out in love to rescue wayward people; by the mercy of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

How Firm a Foundation
Dr. Terry McRoberts

arr. by Parks

*LITANY FOR THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: In the beginning, darkness covered the deep, and God said: Let there be light.

ALL: *The voice of the Lord is over the waters!*

One: God says to us: When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

ALL: *The voice of the Lord is over the waters!*

One: Do not fear, says the Lord: I am with you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

ALL: *The voice of the Lord is over the waters!*

One: When Jesus was baptized by John, suddenly the heavens were opened.

ALL: *The voice of the Lord is over the waters!*

One: As Jesus was coming out of the water, the Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.

ALL: *The voice of the Lord is over the waters!*

One: And a voice said: You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.

ALL: *The voice of the Lord is over the waters!*

One: Let us pray. Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit, and revealed him as your beloved Son.

ALL: *Keep us, you children born of water and the Spirit, faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen*

***HYMN OF PRAISE: 475** *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Courtney Bowen

We belong to God. Nothing can break this covenant. Let us, then, with confidence approach God to honestly confess our sins in prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: Isaiah testified to God's call on his life – a call he lived out through his prophetic words and actions. We confess that so many voices clamor for our attention that

God's word is hard to hear. When we have been called to be witnesses of God's activity in the world and in our lives, and we have been unwilling to respond,

ALL: *Merciful God, forgive us.*

One: When Jesus' disciples heard the call of Christ, their lives were changed forever as they turned to follow Jesus. When we do not expect to hear life-changing words, and fail to discern God's call on our lives,

ALL: *Merciful God, forgive us.*

One: We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to recognize and to respond to the invitation of Jesus to follow him, even when that means traveling unknown and unfamiliar paths...

ALL: *Merciful God, forgive us when we fail, and take from us the fear and uncertainty that hinder us. Cleanse us from all that hinders our hearing your voice, and fill us anew with the Holy Spirit, that we may joyfully respond to Christ's call on our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: As children of the Holy One, God forgives us and loves us eternally. By the power God's Spirit, let us forgive ourselves and forgive others as God in Christ has forgiven us.

ALL: *In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.*

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:** *Breathe on Me, Breath of God (Hymn: 286)*
(Verse 1)

TRENTHAM

*Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a-new,
That I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.*

THE WORD

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Libby Smith

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. John White

***HYMN: 623** *I've Got Peace Like a River*

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. John White

GOSPEL READING

John 15: 1-15 (Page 109)

Rev. John White

One: This is the word of God. The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of the Lord endures forever.

Many: *Thanks be to God.*

**Congregation standing, if able*

SERMON

Staying Connected

Rev. John White

RESPONSE

***HYMN: 695** *Change My Heart, O God*

CHANGE MY HEART

**SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION
COMMISSIONING OF OFFICERS**

(see insert)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Heidelberg Catechism*

Rev. Courtney Bowen

How does baptism remind and assure you that Christ's one sacrifice on the cross benefits you personally?

In this way: Christ instituted this outward washing and with it promised that, as surely as water washes away the dirt from the body, so certainly his blood and his Spirit wash away my soul's impurity, that is, all my sins.

Why then does the Holy Spirit call baptism the water of rebirth and the washing away of sins? ***God has good reason for these words. To begin with, God wants to teach us that the blood and Spirit of Christ take away our sins just as water removes dirt from the body. But more important, God wants to assure us, by this divine pledge and sign, that we are as truly washed of our sins spiritually as our bodies are washed with water physically.***

(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew, sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)

**OFFERING
OFFERTORY**

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Rev. Courtney Bowen
arr. by Parks

*Doxology (Tune: 591)

OLD HUNDREDTH

***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.***

*Dedicatory Prayer

Rev. Courtney Bowen

***ACT OF REAFFIRMING THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

***HYMN: 482** *Baptized in Water*

BUNESSAN

SENDING

***CHARGE + BENECTION**

Rev. John White

(We request that you remain seated until after the Postlude, and ask that you use the Postlude as a time to reflect upon the scripture that was read in today's service.)

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in B-Flat Major
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Brunner