

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of the Church Bell

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

One: Today we celebrate two special baptisms; the baptism of Jesus of Nazareth, and the baptism of Aria Claire Waller.

Of Jesus' baptism God said: Look! See my chosen servant, the One in whom I utterly delight;

All: **I have placed my Spirit on him, he will bring true justice to the nations.**

One: When Jesus was baptized, the heavens opened up, and Spirit came down like a dove; and there was a voice from heaven saying:

All: **"This is my dearly loved Son, with whom I am delighted."**

One: The joy of the Lord be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Most wonderful God, foolish and flawed though we are, we too delight in your beloved Son. In his name we gather in the house of praise, may the heavens be opened for us, that we may catch a glimpse of that Light and Love that transforms our common days with a beauty not of our making. Through Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: **Amen!**

*Hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* #475

*Call to Confession

With our feet still wet from the waters of our baptism, we have sinned yet again. Ever dependent on the grace of God, let us affirm our brokenness and trust God's goodness to carry us through to a new day, with a new name, and a new song. Let us pray,

*Confession of Sin (in unison)

You sent John the Baptist to point to your Son. But too often, we abandon his message and point only to ourselves.

We point to our worship preferences rather than the God we worship.

We point to our status rather than the grace that makes us all equal.

We point to our value rather than the One who values everyone.

We point to our traditions rather than to the One who calls us to let go.

We point to our past rather than to the One who calls us into the future.

Forgive us, Lord, for pointing in all the wrong directions.

*Silent Confession

*Assurance of Forgiveness

One: This is the good news. If we hold our gaze on the baptismal promise, sealed in the life, death, and resurrection of God's Beloved Son, through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will have courage to speak what we have seen and point to the One who takes away the sins of the world. In the name of Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven.

*Gloria Patri # 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen, Amen.

Tune: Gloria Patri, Henry W. Greatorex, 1851, Public Domain.

~Hearing God's Word~

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 42:1-9 page 670

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading Acts 10:34-43 page 129

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 3:13-17 page 3

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Message *You are My Child, the Beloved* Rev. Terry Epling

Sacrament of Baptism

*Affirmation of Faith

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. [The Apostles Creed].

One: Aria Claire Waller has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism. God has made her a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

*Hymn *I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry* #488

~Responding to God's Word~

Installation of Ruling Elders

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Invitation to Become a Joyful Giver

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings & Friendship Pad

Please take a moment to sign your name and contact information in the pew pad. You may also share any joys or concerns on the cards in the pews. Place them in the offering plate for inclusion in the prayers of the people.

Offertory

***Doxology** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* # 606
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Amen.

Offering Prayer

Loving God, we remember our baptismal calling and the promises we've made. Use us and the gifts we share to spread your love in our community and throughout the world you created and blessed. Amen.

*** Closing Hymn** *Called As Partners* #761

***Life in Our Church Community**

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

**Please stand, if you are able.*

Electronic aid for the hearing impaired is available from the usher.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

