

The Downtown Presbyterian Church
Order of Worship for January 10, 2021
Baptism of the Lord

Opening Voluntary Chorale Prelude on *Liebster Jesu*, BMW 731 J.S. Bach
Melody for hymn “Dearest Jesus, We Are Here”

Welcome

Call to Worship

A voice in the wilderness, a voice from the heavens, a voice like a trickling stream or a roaring sea. God is calling us into a life that finds purpose in God’s grace. We know what that grace is because of Jesus Christ . . . who brought life out of death, creation out of nothingness, and hope from despair. We gather here to witness . . . to remind each other and everyone we meet that Jesus is good news. Amen.

Hymn “Baptized in Water”
Amy Finka, cantor

Call to Confession

A voice in the wilderness, a voice from the heavens, a voice like a trickling stream or a roaring sea. God is calling us into a life that finds purpose in God’s grace. We know what that grace is because of Jesus Christ . . . who brought life out of death, creation out of nothingness, and hope from despair. We gather here to witness . . . to remind each other and everyone we meet that Jesus is good news. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (unison) based on Luke 1:26-38

Lord of all creation, you have called us each by name. We are yours, and yet, what is yours is not ours. We seek control where we have none. We mock the work of others, your work, because we’re too lazy to pick up after ourselves. We neglect our holy covenant with you and with our neighbors. Grant us your grace and peace in the midst of our brokenness. Forgive us, O Lord. (Silent prayer) Help us to trust more in you and your timing. Guide us to be good stewards of all your creation. Teach us to delight in your promises to us. And inspire us, in all that we do, to cling to your Word. Amen.

(Silent prayer)

Assurance of God’s Grace

You’re forgiven and loved and welcome here; it’s not an easy peace, it’s not an insignificant peace, it’s not a half-hearted peace, but it is the peace of Christ that is with you.
And also with you.

Announcements

Children’s Message Rev. Lindsey Groves

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

New Testament Reading

Mark 1:4-11

Sermon

remembering our baptism

Rev. Lindsey Groves

Hymn

“Dearest Jesus, We Are Here”

Amy Finka, cantor

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER (people read **bold**)

based on Psalm 29; Acts 19:5

We pray for the world you have made...

Move again over the turbulent waters, let your voice take command over the forces of chaos.

Our city is still shaken by human anguish or madness, and our neighbors struggle to piece their lives back together.

Let your majesty restore order, goodness and life.

Bless us with your strength, bless us with your peace

We pray for the church you have redeemed...

Renew in us the gifts of your Spirit and the call to Christian discipleship.

Make us one in the baptism we share.

Bless us with your strength, bless us with your peace

We pray for the peoples you have created...

Give to the leaders of all nations the wisdom to know what is good.

Where people are poor and hungry provide justice and daily bread.

Where there is hopelessness, bring the rejuvenating currents of the Holy Spirit

Bless us with your strength, bless us with your peace

We pray for the loved ones you have given us...

Keep our families, friends, and neighbors safe from trouble and danger.

Where there is sorrow, sickness, or suffering send your Spirit of comfort and healing.

Bless us with your strength, bless us with your peace

Take care of our sister Judy Barr, a bright light from our community, as she reunites with you in glory.

Be with those who grieve, and speed the recovery of those who have been sick, including Andy, Chuck and John as they recover from COVID, Scott recovering from knee surgery, and Tom’s sister Margaret as she starts chemotherapy.

Remember those others we name to ourselves

[please name those you would include in our prayers in the comments]

Bless us with your strength, bless us with your peace

All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, God’s Son, who taught us these words.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be they name.

Thy kingdom come, they 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.

Hymn “Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice”
Amy Finka, cantor

Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary Chorale Prelude on *Liebster Jesu* J.G. Walther
Melody for “Dearest Jesus, We Are Here”

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here 483

1 Dear - est Je - sus, we are here, glad - ly your com -
 2 Your com - mand is clear and plain, and we would o -
 3 This is why we come to you, in our arms this
 4 Gra - cious Head, your mem - ber own; Shep - herd, take your

mand o - bey - ing. With this child we now draw near
 bey it du - ly: "You must all be born a - gain,
 in - fant bear - ing. Tru - ly, here your grace we view.
 lamb and feed it; Prince of Peace, make here your throne;

in re - sponse to your own say - ing that to you it
 heart and life re - new - ing tru - ly, born of wa - ter
 Let this child, your mer - cy shar - ing, in your arms be
 Way of life, to heav - en lead it; pre - cious Vine, let

shall be giv - en as a child and heir of heav - en.
 and the Spir - it, and my king - dom thus in - her - it."
 shield - ed ev - er, yours on earth and yours for - ev - er.
 noth - ing sev - er from your side this branch for - ev - er.

As the similarity of their opening lines suggests (they are identical in German), this text for the baptism of a child was written in imitation of the sermon hymn "Blessed Jesus, at Your Word" (no. 395), which is the text usually associated with the tune they share.

TEXT: Benjamin Schmolck, 1704; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.
 MUSIC: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1664; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach, alt.

LIEBSTER JESU
 7.8.7.8.8.8

BAPTISM

482

Baptized in Water

1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
 2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
 3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

blood of Christ our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing the
 tomb with Christ our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

Each stanza of this compact and carefully constructed text about baptism begins with allusions to John 3:5 and Ephesians 1:13. The interplay of constant and changing lines accentuates each added image. It is set here to a Gaelic tune first transcribed in the 19th century.

TEXT: Michael A. Seward, 1981

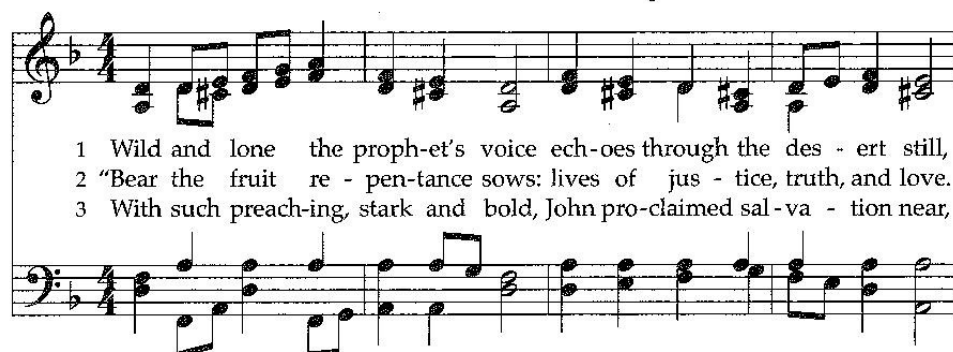
MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

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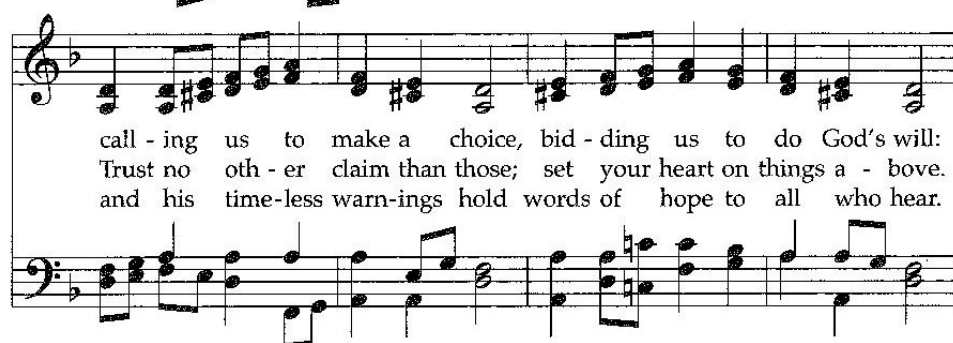
Music Arr. © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources

BUNESSAN
5.5.8.5.5.9

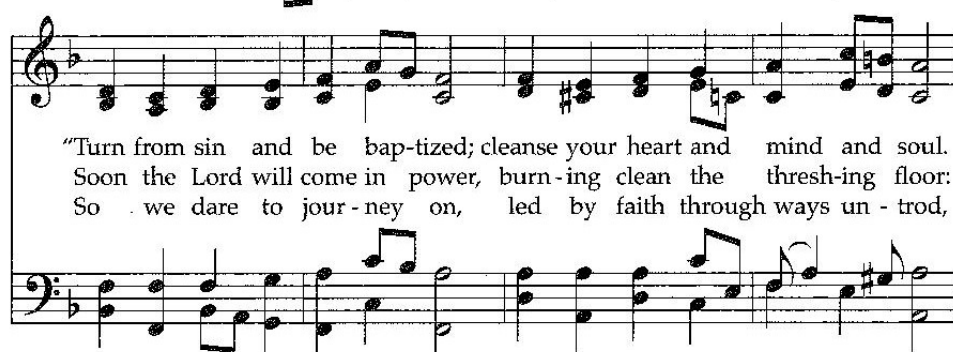
163 Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice



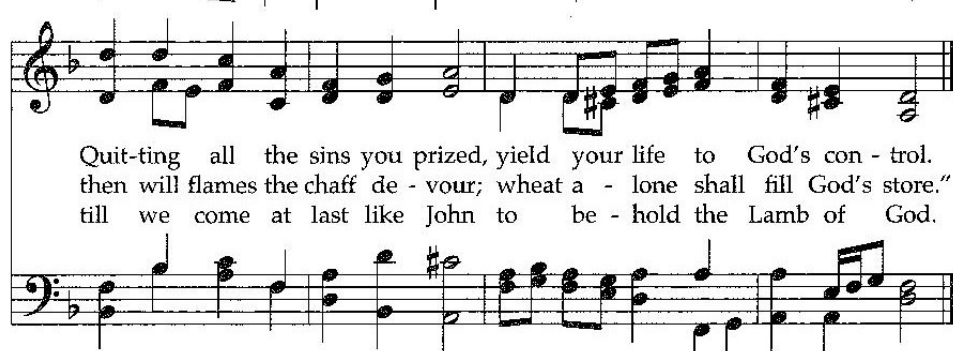
1 Wild and lone the proph-et's voice ech-oes through the des - ert still,
 2 "Bear the fruit re - pen-tance sows: lives of jus - tice, truth, and love.
 3 With such preach-ing, stark and bold, John pro-claimed sal - va - tion near,



call - ing us to make a choice, bid - ding us to do God's will:
 Trust no oth - er claim than those; set your heart on things a - bove.
 and his time-less warn-ings hold words of hope to all who hear.



"Turn from sin and be bap-tized; cleanse your heart and mind and soul.
 Soon the Lord will come in power, burn-ing clean the thresh-ing floor:
 So we dare to jour-ney on, led by faith through ways un - trod,



Quit-ting all the sins you prized, yield your life to God's con - trol.
 then will flames the chaff de - vour; wheat a - lone shall fill God's store."
 till we come at last like John to be - hold the Lamb of God.

While all four gospels identify John the Baptist with the prophecy of Isaiah 40:3, this text (well set to a vigorous Welsh tune) draws on the report of his preaching in Matthew 3:1-12. The final lines recall that he was the first to name Jesus "the Lamb of God" (John 1:29, 36).

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1985
 MUSIC: Joseph Parry, 1876
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ABERYSTWYTH
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