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January 10, 2016

Baptism of Jesus

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all.

All points marked * those who are able are invited to stand.)

Approach

- * Gathering Hymn VU #87 – *“I Am the Light of the World”*

Call to Worship

One: The voice of God spoke over the waters,

All: And the voice of God said, “Let there be... and there was.”

One: The voice of God said, “Let there be people, and there was.”

All: And it was good.

One: The voice of God came from heaven,

Women: And the voice of God said, “You are my daughter, my beloved.”

Men: “You are my son, my beloved...”

All: “With you I am well pleased.”

One: In the washing of the baptismal waters, we became light—light to the world.

All: And God saw that the light was good!

- * Hymn – *“Water Has Held Us”* (see insert)

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Loving God, you call us to the font and welcome us into the family of faith. This is a safe place where we are accepted as we are. You take the gifts and skills we have and use us to do your work of compassion in the world. You offer us blessing and promise and ask only in return the simple words: “I believe”.

Sometimes these words penetrate our whole being and transform how we think and act. At other times we toss them off without a thought. Too often we have lost sight of how faith grounds us in the chaos and confusion of our times. Too often we have dismissed the power of the faith community to carry us through the daily blessings and challenges of life with grace.

Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that our “I believe” can be for always. AMEN

Assurance of Pardon

Advent at WPUC Video

Children’s Time / The Lord’s Prayer

- * Hymn – *“Here at Jordan’s River”* (see insert)

The Word

- 📖 Scripture Reading – Isaiah 43: 1-7
Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Meditation – *“A new ritual for a new era.”*

Anthem – *“He Knows My Name”*

The Response

Announcements

- * Offering / Response (VU #93 vs. 4)
**When heaven’s bright with mystery
And stars still lead an unknown way,
When love still lights a gentle path
Where courts of power can hold no sway,
There with the Magi, let us kneel,
Our gifts to share, God’s world to heal.**

Pastoral Prayer

- * Hymn MV #161 – *“I Have Called You By Your Name”*

Benediction / Response (VU #967)

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister
Luci Toews, Church Administrator
Myrna Hagues, Organist
Edna Erickson, Liturgist

Patrick Woodbeck, Associate Minister
Laura Steidl, Music Director
Jessica Steidl & Alex Czehryn, Joyful Noise
Gina Grant, Custodian

Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers

Ushers: Joyce Muir and Sylvia Mann

Greeters: Shirley Goossen and Elaine Ramcharan