



Our hope in this season of COVID-19 is that all who worship virtually feel welcome and a sense of God's love through Jesus Christ.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

FOR WORSHIP

In Mark's Gospel, John the Baptist proclaims a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins and declares the coming of Jesus, who will baptize with the Holy Spirit. In an act of humble obedience, Jesus, the sinless One, is baptized by John. As Jesus rises up from the water, the heavens are opened, and the Spirit descends on Jesus, with his Father declaring "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

PRELUDE

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star
Pastorale on "Of the Father's Love Begotten"
Janice Robison, Organist

Johann Pachelbel
Albert Zabel

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Robert E. Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: *In the beginning, God created the world, and God blessed it:*
P: **"It is good."**
L: *In the beginning, God created light, and God blessed it:*
P: **"It is good."**
L: *In the beginning, God created life, and God blessed it:*
P: **"It is good."**
L: *Since the beginning, God has not stopped creating,*
P: **calling us closer to all that is good.**

HYMN

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN

**1 Morning has broken
like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.
Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing
fresh from the Word!**

**2 Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness
where God's feet pass.**

**3 Mine is the sunlight!
Mine is the morning,
born of the one light
Eden saw play!
Praise with elation;
praise every morning,
God's re-creation
of the new day!**

*In the presence of a holy God,
we become aware of the ways
we fall short of God's best
hopes for us, and the ways we
have hurt others. We turn to
God in prayer, asking for
forgiveness.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess our tendency to focus our world on our individual self. We miss the opportunities you bring before us to remember our collective history, to connect with our community and learn from one another. As John prepared the way for Jesus and Jesus makes a way for us, help us find joy and strength in the connection of community, for this faith journey is one we cannot do alone. Amen.

We express gratitude that through God's grace and Christ's giving of himself on the cross we are forgiven and restored to God and one another.

On behalf of the congregation, the Pastor expresses the corporate prayers of the congregation. These prayers are for world, local and personal concerns.

Reversing the usual order, this hymn began with the music rather than the words. The composer (from Singapore) sent this tune to the author (in New Zealand) to see what text it might inspire from her. She also suggested the tune name, a Maori phrase meaning "Holy Spirit."

DECLARATION OF PARDON

L: Friends, believe the good news.

P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

ANTHEM

The Work of Christmas
AFPC Small Ensemble

Howard Thurman/arr. Dan Forrest

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Nana Jenkins

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE Psalm 29

Mark 1: 4-11

L. This is the Word of the Lord!

P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Baptism of the Lord

Rev. Robert E. Martin

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Martin

HYMN

As the Wind Song

WAIKUA TAPU

1 As the wind song through the trees,
as the stirring of the breeze,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
as the heart made strangely warm,
as the voice within the storm,
so it is with the Spirit of God.
Never seen, ever known
where this wind has blown
bringing life, bringing power to the world,
as the dancing tongues of fire,
as the soul's most deep desire,
so it is with the Spirit of God.

2 As the rainbow after rain,
as the hope that's born again,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
as the green in the spring,
as a kite on a string,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
making worlds that are new,
making peace come true,
bringing gifts, bringing love to the world,
as the rising of the yeast,
as the wine at the feast,
so it is with the Spirit of God.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

As With Gladness Men of Old
Janice Robison, Organist

Paul Manz