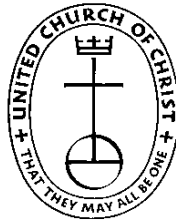


**January 7, 2018 – 10:00 am
BAPTISM OF JESUS**



**ST. JOHN
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**An Open and Affirming congregation
where all are welcome**



**Our mission is to worship and serve God in our church,
community and the world.**

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Rev. Rosemary Captain

Please respond with words in **bold print**.

*Please stand if comfortably able

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BELLS CALL US INTO SILENT REVERENCE.

THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY INTO WORSHIP.

PRELUDE: "Star of the East" Amanda Kennedy

***UNISON CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: The powerful voice of God created all worlds.
That same voice calls us to worship.

**MANY: Attribute to our God glory and strength.
Come before God's glorious majesty.**

One: God's strength shakes the wilderness.
That same strength is offered to people of faith.

**MANY: The flames of God penetrate our cold hearts.
May God bless all people with true peace.**

One: Come together to remember your baptism.
Gather to celebrate the Spirit's gifts.

**MANY: The heavens open to us at the Word of God.
Surely God forgives and makes whole.**

***OPENING HYMN: #126 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"**

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:**

**In the beginning, O God, you fashioned a universe.
Each star and planet had its beginning in you. Out of the void,
you brought light and life. Through eons of creativity, you
have acted, and today we are here, inheritors of an amazing
process, tiny specks in the limitless reaches of time and
space. And you are here, waiting to greet us. As you acted in
our baptism, you are acting still to make all things new within
us and among us. Let your light awaken us and your Spirit
empower us for faithful living. Amen.**

Let us give God our thanks and praise.

*GLORIA: #759

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit,
Three-in-One; As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

FIRST TESTAMENT READING: **Genesis 1:1-5**
Lay Liturgist (Page 1 in pew Bibles)

A UNISON READING FROM PSALMS: **Psalms 29**
(On screen and page 684 in pew Bibles)

EPISTLE LESSON: **Acts 19:1-7**
Lay Liturgist (Page 1352 in pew Bibles)

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

*GOSPEL LESSON: **Mark 1:4-11**
Angie Hausmann (Pages 1214 - 1215 in the Pew Bible)

This is the Word of God. It is true and can be trusted.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

SERMON: Proclaiming the Word

HYMN OF RESPONSE:
#115 "The Baptist Shouts on Jordan's Shore"

PASTORAL PRAYER:
Beginning with a time for silent personal prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy 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.**

PRAYER RESPONSE: **#812 Three-Fold Amen**
Amen, Amen, A-men.

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: "Shall We Gather at the River"
Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

*DOXOLOGY: # 780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

**Mighty God, you have given us everything we have.
You have granted us life. You have poured out abiding love
on our behalf. You have made us rich. We share out of this
awareness. Bless our gifts to do the work you intend. Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN: # 154 "Go Tell it On the Mountain"

DURING THE HYMN THE LIGHT IS EXTINGUISHED AND
CARRIED OUT INTO THE WORLD.

*BENEDICTION:

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: #125 refrain

Glo-ria in excelsis Deo. Glo-ria in excelsis Deo.

THE BELL RINGS AS WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD, TO SPREAD
THE JOY OF CHRIST TO ALL.

*POSTLUDE: "As with Gladness Men of Old" Lani Smith