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## Welcome, we're glad you joined us!

We welcome you to join us on a transformative journey.

**Seeking God**, we strive to know God and love God.

**Serving others**, we follow our Servant Savior to help bring fullness of life to others.

**Sharing Christ's love with all**, we proclaim the unconditional love of Christ filled with joy and hope.

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Judy Schiller, liturgist

### WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

#### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** – "Baptized and Set Free" setting, Jacob B. Weber

#### CALL to WORSHIP

One: In the beginning, darkness covered the deep, and God said: Let there be light.

**All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

Through the words of the prophet, the Lord said: When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.  
**The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

When Jesus was baptized by John, suddenly the heavens were opened.  
**The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

And as Jesus was coming out of the water, the Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.  
**The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

And a voice said: You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.  
**The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

**HYMN** – "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (vs. 1 & 3) #475

Come Thou fount of every blessing;  
tune my heart to sing, thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
mount of God's unchanging love!

O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart; O take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

#### PRAYER of CONFESSION

Merciful God,  
**in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,  
making us part of the body of Christ.  
We confess that we remain  
preoccupied with ourselves,  
separated from one another.  
We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges,  
and show reluctance to welcome one another.  
We allow the past to hold us captive.**

**In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us,  
and free us from sin.  
Fulfill the promises of our baptism  
so that we may rise to new life,  
and live together in grace. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

As a voice from heaven said to Jesus,  
so, in Christ, God speaks to us:  
You are my child, my beloved;  
with you I am well pleased.

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.**

#### A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

#### UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

**Saving God, source of our calling,  
your Word is full of power and glory.  
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so  
that we may receive your grace  
and live as your beloved children;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE** – Mark 1:4-11

The voice of the Lord, powerful and full of majesty.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** – "Continuous Improvement" Pastor Lawrence

### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

**HYMN** – "He Came Down" (vs. 1-2) #137

He came down that we may have love;  
He came down that we may have love;  
He came down that we may have love,  
Hallelujah forevermore.

He came down that we may have light;  
He came down that we may have light;  
He came down that we may have light,  
Hallelujah forevermore.

#### PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER (sins...sin)

#### MUSIC for OUR OFFERING

"Here I Am, Lord"  
Daniel L. Schutte  
arr. Lloyd Larson  
Kate Trybus, soprano soloist

Click here <https://onrealm.org/oxfordpresbychurch/-/give/now>  
to give online

#### PRAYER of DEDICATION

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Worship continues on Zoom with the Ordination & Installation of Church Officers within five minutes. [Click this link](#)

Meeting ID: 813 8629 8140

Passcode: 708466

Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 813 8629 8140

Passcode: 708466

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#### ORDINATION & INSTALLATION of CHURCH OFFICERS

#### SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

**I Cor. 12: 4-7, 27**

**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.

#### STATEMENT ON ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

#### PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR ORDINATION/INSTALLATION

**Elders:** Matt Benzing, Danny Cross, Steve Flee,  
Pat Gifford, Deb Sayers, Jenn Walter

**Deacons:** Cornelia Browne, Jill Grajewski, Stephanie  
Hartman, Savannah Hofer, Joni Marcum,  
Becky Quay

**Trustees:** Rick Bailey, Tom Holmes, Joe Simpson

#### CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES

#### QUESTIONS OF THE CONGREGATION

#### SYMBOLIC LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR THE ORDINATION OF ELDERS & DEACONS

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

**Gracious God, pour out your Spirit upon your servants whom you have called through baptism as your own and marked as your own. Grant them the same mind that was in Christ Jesus.**

**Give them the gifts of your Holy Spirit to build up the church, to strengthen the common life of your people, and to lead with compassion and vision.**

**In the walk of faith and for the work of ministry, give to your servant's gladness and strength, discipline and hope, humility and humor, courage and an abiding sense of your presence. Amen.**

**HYMN – "He Came Down" (vs. 3-4) #137**

He came down that we may have peace;  
He came down that we may have peace;  
He came down that we may have peace,  
Hallelujah forevermore.

He came down that we may have joy;  
He came down that we may have joy;  
He came down that we may have joy,  
Hallelujah forevermore.

**BLESSING**

**We go now, and live in the spirit of our baptism, even when we are led into wild and hard places. With repentance and trust, we give ourselves to follow Jesus the Christ.**

And may God enfold you in tender and lasting love.  
May Christ be beside you in times of struggle.  
And may the Spirit guide you back to the path whenever you stray,  
that you may keep the covenant of the baptismal waters.

**We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

**POSTLUDE** "Arise, Your Light Has Come!"  
setting, Jacob B. Weber

*Congregational Meeting begins on Zoom immediately following the Postlude.*

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**The flowers** are given by Johanna and Jan Reinhart in memory of their mother, Betty Reinhart, whose lovely daisies graced her yard and whose loving presence graced their lives.

**Congregational Concerns:** Betty Barnhart, Jim Baer, Rodger Cromer, John Curry, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Ruth Miller, Jan Reinhart, Becky Rudolph, Sarah Soika, John & Jean Woodruff.

**Email congregational concerns to Judy Fisher, fisherrh@miamioh.edu, or contact the church office.**

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**MINISTRY NEWS**

**Congregational Meeting** – TODAY we will gather for the Annual Congregational Meeting of OPC ONLINE via Zoom at this [link](#).

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**Fellowship in the Virtual Molyneaux Lounge** – Join us following the Congregational Meeting at this [link](#) on Zoom.

Once again, [click here for the link](#).  
Meeting ID: 836 5120 3672 | Passcode: 916856

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**Worldchanging 101 at Youth Group Meets – CORRECTION**  
Youth Group is back **this evening at 6:30 p.m. (not 7:45)** with a new 6-week book club series entitled, "Worldchanging 101" based on the book (by the same title) written by David LaMotte. The book explores the complexities and ambiguities around how communities can affect real change and impact without feeling paralyzed or overwhelmed. The book is available in both paperback and Kindle form. If you would like for the church to provide you with a physical copy of the book, please contact Pastor Marc.

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**Confirmation Class Next Monday: Be a Blessing!** – Our next confirmation class will be meeting in the **Seminary Building Monday, January 18 at 7:45 p.m.** Carrie Ann will be leading a lesson on blessing and service. If you would like to be added to the confirmation class e-mail list, please contact Pastor Marc.

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**Media Content Creators Needed!** – The communications team at Oxford Presbyterian Church is so thrilled with our new audio-visual upgrades to our sanctuary and our facilities...and now it's time to start dreaming about how to use them! We are looking to put together a new Media Content Team of volunteers to help envision, oversee, and curate the ways that we communicate across all forms of digital, physical, and social media. If this is an area that you might have some interest in, please contact Gene Krebs or Pastor Marc.

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**Oxford Presbyterian Church**  
**for a full ministry calendar, please visit:**  
<https://oxfordpresbychurch.org/calendar/>  
**Lawrence Bartel, Pastor**  
**Marc van Bulck, Associate Pastor**  
**Kent Peterson, Music Director**  
**Lynn Jacobs, Organist**

# Baptism of the Lord



**Sunday, January 17, 2021**



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[oxfordpresbychurch.org](http://oxfordpresbychurch.org)

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