

**January 25, 2026**  
**3rd Sunday after Epiphany**



**Worship Leaders:**

Pastor Brian Entz & Eric Ellwoods

**Music Leaders:**

Ralph Johansen & Worship Team

*Please read along with all **Bold** text  
All are invited to stand when there is an \**

**Larger Print:** Please see an usher if you would like larger print hymns and/ or bulletin.

**Children's Bulletins:** Please see an usher if you are interested in a children's bulletin.

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

*I put off baptism because I felt like I was in a state of sin, like I wasn't good enough or fit enough to be baptized. But then I realized that baptism is done at the beginning of your faith journey, not the middle or the end. You don't have to have everything together to be baptized.... God's grace is enough. -Andrew as quoted in 'Searching for Sunday' by Rachel Held Evans*

**GATHERING**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**from Psalm 121 (MSG)**

I look up to the mountains;  
**does my strength come from mountains?**  
No, my strength comes from God,  
**who made heaven, and earth, and mountains.**  
God's your Guardian,  
**right at your side to protect you**  
Come, let us worship God!

**\*OPENING SONG**

**Come Thou Fount (Above All Else)**

**Verse 1**

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 Thy redeeming love

**Verse 2**

Here I raise my Ebenezer  
Hither by Thy help I'm come  
And I hope by Thy good pleasure  
Safely to arrive at home  
Jesus sought me when a stranger  
Wand'ring from the fold of God  
He to rescue me from danger  
Interposed His precious blood

### Verse 3

Oh to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be  
Let Thy goodness like a fetter  
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee  
Prone to wander Lord I feel it  
Prone to leave the God I love  
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it  
Seal it for Thy courts above

### Chorus 2x

**(Above)** All else I adore Your name  
Above all else tune my heart to sing Your  
praise

Above all else I adore Your name  
Above all else tune my heart to sing Your  
praise

Prone to wander Lord I feel it  
Prone to leave the God I love  
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it  
Seal it for Thy courts above

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all and teaching us to renounce what is evil in this world. Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

**Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.**

**We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Receive the good news! Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and hold on to hope.

**Alleluia, Thanks be to God!**

### \*RESPONSE

**#447 We Are Forgiven**

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

### \*SHARING THE PEACE

Since we have been made righteous through Christ's faithfulness, we have peace with God. Let us also share peace with one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*The people may exchange with their neighbors, by words or gesture,  
signs of peace and reconciliation.*

## WORD

### PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Open our hearts and still our minds, O God, so that as your word is read and proclaimed we might renew our commitment as your followers today. Amen.

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:1-4

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

**2** The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

**3** You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

**4** For the yoke of their burden  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

**10** Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. **11** For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. **12** What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." **13** Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? **14** I thank God <sup>[a]</sup> that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, **15** so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. **16** I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. **17** For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

**18** For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF PRAISE

**#482 Baptized in Water**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3:13-17

**13** Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. **14** John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" **15** But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. **16** And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. **17** And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

The Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Rev. Brian Entz

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

BAPTISM of BRANT DAVID STEINHOFF

**Question asked of the Parents:**

Do you desire that Brant David be baptized? **We do.**

**Vow made by Godparents:**

Will you, by your prayers and witness, help Brant to grow into the full stature of Christ? **I will.**

**Vows made by the Congregation:**

Do you as members of the Church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Brant by word and deed, with love and prayer? **We do.**

Will you encourage him to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his Church?  
**We will.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I renounce them.**

Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love? **I will, with God's help.**

## THE APOSTLE'S CREED

**I BELIEVE** in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by  
the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he  
rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the  
right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to  
judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe** in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the  
communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the  
body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## BAPTISM

## WELCOME

## OFFERING

## Down to the River to Pray

Arr. Curry

*"Let us present ourselves to God as those who have been delivered from death to life."  
To contribute to our mission and ministry online, please scan the QR code.*



## \*PRAISE REFRAIN

**#698 Take, O Take Me as I Am**

**Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

## \*OFFERING PRAYER

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gracious and merciful God, from whom comes all that is good, we praise you for your mercies, for your goodness that has created us, your grace that has sustained us, your discipline that has corrected us, your patience that has borne with us, and your love that has redeemed us. Help us to love you, to love our neighbors and our enemies, and to be thankful for all your gifts by serving you and delighting to do your will, through Jesus Christ our Sovereign Lord.

Loving God, you cause rain to fall on the just and the unjust.  
Hear our prayers for your church and world:

for the hungry and the overfed,

**may we all have enough;**

for the oppressed and the oppressors,

**may we pursue justice and equity wisely;**

for the peacemakers and the warmongers,

**may clear truth and stern love lead us to just harmony;**

for the silenced and the propagandists,

**may we speak our own words in truth and hold space for others to speak truth;**

for the unemployed and the overworked,

**may all have work that is kind, life giving, and creative;**

for the doubters and the certain,

**may we find trust in you;**

for those experiencing homelessness and those who are pampered,

**may we all have homes that are simple, warm, and welcoming;**

for the sick and the healthy,

**may we care for one another with love and compassion;**

for the vibrant and the dying,

**may we all remember the gracious truth, that in life and in death we belong to you.**

Let us lift up those in our congregations and community in need of healing, support, and care...

Eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and on earth, accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Sovereign Lord. In his name we join our voices, using whatever words we know, to pray...

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**People: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

## SENDING

### \*CLOSING SONG

### River of Life

#### Chorus 1

Brothers sisters come on down to that river  
Guaranteed you'll never be the same  
There's a fountain flowing  
From the heart of the Savior  
Bring your sins and all your guilty stains  
Let that river of life wash it all away

#### Verse

If you've been searching  
Carrying burdens  
If you've been lost and looking for a home  
If you've been drifting  
And something is missing  
You should know that you are not alone

#### Interlude

(Oh) Come on down to the river  
(Oh)

#### Bridge

Come as you are  
No time to waste  
Open your heart  
Don't be afraid  
Jump on in  
The water is fine  
There's healing in  
The river of life

#### Chorus 2

Brothers sisters come on down to that river  
Guaranteed you'll never be the same  
(REPEAT)  
There's a fountain flowing  
From the heart of the Savior  
Bring your sins and all your guilty stains  
By the blood of Jesus everything will change  
Let that river of life wash it all away

## Ending

(Oh) Come on down to the river  
(Oh) Come on down to the river  
(Oh) Come on down to the river  
(Oh) Let that river of life wash it all away

## \*BLESSING

## \*SENDING REFRAIN

The Blessing x2

The Lord bless you and keep you  
Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you  
The Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace

Amen Amen Amen

## POSTLUDE

*Our Mission is:  
Loving all People, Living our Faith, and Following Jesus*

## WORSHIP NOTES

All liturgy comes/is adapted from the Book of Common Worship (2018) or is written in house.

**Come Thou Fount (Above All Else)** CCLI Song # 7029505 Robert Robinson | Shane Barnard 2013 Songs From Wellhouse

**#447 We Are Forgiveness** Text: Trad. Liturgical text Music: Hal H. Hopson, 1995 copyright Hal Hopson 1995

**Baptized in Water** Text: Michael Saward, 1981 Music: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985 Text: ©1982 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company) Music Arr. © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources

**#698 Take, O Take Me as I Am** TEXT and MUSIC: Isaiah Jones Jr. 1969|Text and music © 1970 Davike Music Company, assigned 1986 Fricourt Music Company

**River of Life** CCLI Song # 7177102 Ethan Hulse | Jonathan Smith | Mac Powell © 2021 Capitol CMG Genesis; Songs Of J Mac Powell; Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; EGH Music Publishing

**The Blessing** CCLI Song # 7147007© 2020 Capitol CMG Paragon | Kari Jobe Carnes Music | Worship Together Music | Writer's Roof Publishing | Music by Elevation Worship Publishing

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Annual Meeting & Potluck:** The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will happen directly after worship on Today. Please join us for a Sunday Dinner Potluck in the fellowship hall following the annual meeting.

**Community Chili & Cornbread Supper:** Another community supper is approaching on January 31st from 4:30pm to 6:00pm. Please sign up in the narthex if you are interested in helping with this event.

**Immigration Aid Collection:** There is a bin outside the Fellowship Hall gathering donations of bath & body soap, dish soap, and laundry detergent.

**Meal Kit Collection:** BPC is now one of the distribution sites for meal kits put together by Neighbors Feeding Neighbors. Meal kits include a recipe and shelf-stable ingredients to make the meal. Need a meal? Take a meal. Know someone who needs a meal? Bring them one. The kits are in the hutch near the water fountain and bathrooms.

## UPCOMING THIS WEEK

<b>Today</b> <b>January 25</b>	9:30am: Worship 10:30am: Annual Meeting and Potluck
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>January 27</b>	9:00am: Crafty Ladies 9:00am: Men's Breakfast at Forget Me Not Cafe
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>January 28</b>	7:00pm: Adult Choir
<b>Thursday</b> <b>January 29</b>	7:30am: People of Faith via Zoom 10:00am: Women of Faith 5:30pm: Racial Justice Reading Group via Zoom
<b>Sunday</b> <b>February 1st</b>	9:30am: Worship with Communion 10:30am:

## ***How Can We Pray for You?***

*Scan the QR code to submit prayer requests.*



### **BPC Prayer List:**

- Family of Larry Pattee
  - Milla Spike, Kevin's granddaughter
- Rich Dahl
- Christy Wood
- George Thole
- Mary Gillis, fighting cancer
- Steve Grittman
- Dennis Stanley, fighting cancer
- Marquietta Shupe
- Arthur James, Tanya's niece's baby
- Diane Ellis
- Family of Don Olsen
- Anne Marie Wille, Bonnie Morek's daughter
- Daniel & Gloria Elliot, Bonnie Morek's brother & sister-in-law
- Dennis Sletten, friend of Diane
- Sherry Sletten, friend of Diane
- Lois Lindstrom
- Theresa
- Madree
- Jim, Elaine Thole's brother, following a diagnosis
- Donna, a friend of Lana Kopplin, who has cancer
- Jill, the niece of Al DeBellis, who has a terminal illness
- Jonathon, a friend of Barb & Larry Janski
- Shannon, Virginia's former daughter-in-law
- Erva Hance
- Barb and Tom Stone
- Jan Brown, People of Faith
- Rochelle Tandrian, Angela's daughter
- Jim and Jodi Underwood, Lanny & Shirley's son-in-law and daughter
- Brittany Daniels
- John and Charlotte Collins
- The Family of Ann Tansill, family friend of Pastor Brian



FORGIVENESS

447

# We Are Forgiven

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to  
God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.  
We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

To sing, rather than simply say, a response to the Declaration of Forgiveness has the effect of making the moment both more affirmative and more corporate. The musical repetition of the two sentences also strengthens awareness of what it means to be assured of God's pardon.

## 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.

# 698 Take, O Take Me as I Am

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall

The first system of musical notation is for the first line of the hymn. It consists of a treble and a bass staff, both in 4/4 time and E-flat major (three flats). The treble staff begins with a C4 quarter note, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes: D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6. The bass staff begins with a C3 half note, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes: D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5. The lyrics 'Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall' are written below the notes.

be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

The second system of musical notation is for the second line of the hymn. It consists of a treble and a bass staff, both in 4/4 time and E-flat major (three flats). The treble staff begins with a C4 quarter note, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes: D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6. The bass staff begins with a C3 half note, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes: D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5. The lyrics 'be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.' are written below the notes.

The brevity of this text and tune invite repeated singing, either as a sustained chain of sound or as a sung response in a series of prayers. It offers a more reflective approach to the same theme of self-dedication.