

Faith United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

No Matter who you are, or where you are in life's journey,
You are welcome here!

January 13, 2018

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM



Baptism of Jesus

Prelude

“On the Shores of Babylon”

J. Pachelbel

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the registration pads at the ends of the pews on the center aisle.

We ask that you please shut off cell phones
and practice quietness during the service.

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments after the worship
in Romig Hall (lower level of elevator or stairs).

* = You are invited to stand as you are able

Pastoral Welcome

Bringing in the Light

Here in this place new light is streaming, now the darkness is vanished away. See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to God in the light of this day. Gather us in the lost and forsaken, gather us in the hurting and the hopeful; Call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name being called.

Call to Worship

Leader: We are baptized by water and Spirit to renew our lives of faith.

People: The waters of baptism calls us to be a witness of your love in our communities.

L: We are baptized to serve and support.

P: We will speak up for the voices not always heard, we will bring justice to those who have none.

L: We are baptized to speak and to soothe.

P: We will heal and not hurt; we will bless and not curse.

L: We are baptized to do what is right, by God's grace.

P: We will not play favorites, but treat each human as your Beloved.

*Opening Hymn

You are the Salt of the Earth, O People

#181

Words: Paraphrased by Marty Haugen; Music: Bring Forth, Marty Haugen

1. You are salt for the earth, O people:
salt for the reign of God!

Share the flavor of life, O people:
life in the City of God! **Rf**

Rf

Bring forth the reign of mercy,
bring forth the reign of peace;
Bring forth the reign of justice,
bring forth the City of God!

2. You are a light on the hill, O people:
light for the City of God!

Shine so holy and bright, O people:
shine for the City of God! **Rf**

3. You are a seed of the Word, O
people:

bring forth the reign of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,
grow in the City of God! **Rf**

4. You are a blessed and a pilgrim
people:

bound for the reign of God!
Love our journey and love our
homeland:
love is the City of God! **Rf x2**

*Prayer of Confession

God, you are the light of the world and You shine in our lives to illuminate our fears with your peace. Help us to be people who shine your light by our acts of justice, in our offerings of compassion, and in the dignity we offer those who are marginalized. Be merciful to us when we disappoint ourselves and others. Hold us close to Your love by your grace.

Moment of silent reflection

***Assurance of God's Love**

Leader: God is love and in love there is no fear. Christ has reconciled us to each other and to God. The light of God shines in you and surrounds you with peace. You are the beloved of God Almighty. God has picked you to shine God's light.

***Sung Response**

(refrain #181)

**Bring forth the reign of mercy, bring forth the reign of peace;
Bring forth the reign of justice, bring forth the City of God!**

***Sharing Christ's Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(As a sign of our reconciliation with God and with one another, greet and welcome those around you and share "the peace of Christ." If you are sick and prefer not to spread your germs you can place your hands over your heart and welcome people as a peace offering.)

A Time for All God's Children

Following the Children's message, the nursery is available for infants and toddlers under 4 years old. The nursery is located through the door at the right front of the sanctuary, and up the stairs. Church school is available for children and youth (4+ years) in Asendorf Hall (3rd floor). Children are always welcome to remain in the worship service.

Reading of Scripture

Isaiah 43:1-7

Anthem

Deep River

Traditional Spiritual

Mark 1:4-11

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon:

You are my Beloved

*Hymn

Breathe on Me Breath of God

#292

Text: Breathe on me, Breath of God Author: Edwin Hatch

Tune: Trentham

Composer: Robert Jackson

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew
That I may love the way you love,
and do what you would do.

3. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
stir in me one desire:
That every earthly part of me
may glow with holy fire.

2. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
Until with you I will one will,
to do and to endure.

4. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
But live with you the perfect life
of your eternity.

Offering

“Rain Down”

J. Cortez, arr. MF

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Open our ears to the struggles around us;
Open our voices to speak out for justice;
Open our hearts to welcome the forgotten;
Open our treasures so they may be used to care for all your children.
This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayers of the People

We believe that each joy and/or concern expressed is indeed a prayer.
After each expression, the people may respond: **God, hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Ever loving God, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the
glory forever. Amen.**

***Closing Hymn**

Shall We Gather at the River

#597

Text: Shall We Gather at the River Author: Robert Lowery
Tune: Hanson Place Composer: Robert Lowery

1 Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God? **Rf**

Rf Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

2 On the margin of the river,
Washing up its silver spray,
We will talk and worship ever,
All the happy golden day. **Rf**

3 Ere we reach the shining river,
Lay we every burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver,
And provide a robe and crown. **Rf**

4 Soon we'll reach the silver river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace. **Rf**

***Benediction**

Our worship has ended and our individual ministries have begun.

By the light we have found here, nourish us to bring that light into our week.

May the peace of Christ and the light of God's love surround You.

May God's face shine upon us, and in us, and grant us joy.

You are God's beloved. Nothing can take away that love that God has for you.

May the Holy Spirit sustain us in the week ahead. Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Presto from Organ Concerto in F Major, Op. 4, no. 5 G. F.

Handel

*Our worship is fulfilled, and our purpose is confirmed,
through our service as God's stewards to the world and all creation.*

*Use the blessings God has given you as you share
the joy in your heart, the wisdom in your mind,
the love in your spirit, and the peace in your soul.*

Thank you for sharing sacred fellowship with us.

Faith UCC is an open and affirming church, embracing diversity in our congregation and community, and affirming the dignity and worth of every person. We are an inclusive community of faith that celebrates God's presence through worship and the sharing of God's word. We welcome all persons into the full life and ministry of the church, regardless of race, ethnic background, gender identity, sexual orientation, capability, or circumstance of life.

Our Ministry

Ministers — All the Congregation Pastor — Rev. Jes Kast
Trustee — Tom Daubert Liturgist — Clif Merchant
Ushers — Tom Daubert, Jane Lee Childs

Church Staff

Custodian — Scott Luzier Church School Coordinator — Barbara Chellman
Organist—Mark Ferraguto Choir Director — Marinda Jenkins
Administrative Assistant — Jeff Stormer

Prayers for healing and wholeness:

Robin S., Patty Bittner (Jean's daughter), Cyndi V.'s Family (mourning brother Steve), the family of Susie Keck, the family of Bunnie Hartswick, the family of JoAnn Edwards, Allen Killpatrick, Ben and Louise Harris, Jane Sheckells, Dan and Eileen Pfaff, Lisa V. (John Vincenti's daughter), Brandon G., Lisa Neidigh, Katelynn Wilson, Darlene Ripka, April S., Randy Brown (Aimee's Dad), the Piggot's family.

Please help us keep this list up to date. Notify the office of additions or removals.

*Prayer is the best
wireless connection*