

**ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH**  
A UNITED METHODIST/PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) COMMUNITY  
**WILDE LAKE INTERFAITH CENTER • COLUMBIA, MARYLAND**  
**UNITED IN LOVE – UNITED FOR SERVICE**

**January 22, 2023**

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY // IN-PERSON & ONLINE SERVICE

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Liturgist: Tony Powell

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**WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

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PRELUDE

Patricia Hammer  
Accompanist

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

GTG #721

You have come up to the lakeshore  
Looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones  
You only asked me to follow humbly

***Refrain:***

*O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me  
And while smiling have spoken my name  
Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me  
By your side I will seek other seas*

You know so well my possessions  
By boat carries no gold and no weapons  
You will find there my nets and labor

***Refrain***

You need my hands, full of caring  
Through my labors to give others rest  
And constant love that keeps on loving

***Refrain***

You, who have fished other oceans  
Ever longed for by souls who are waiting  
My loving friend, as thus you call me

***Refrain***

CALL TO WORSHIP

The God of all creation makes us one in the flesh.

**Let us join hearts and voices in praise.**

In Jesus Christ, we are made one in the Spirit.

**Let us be united in truth through the same one Spirit.**

We practice our faith in many different ways.

**Yet we confess one Lord Jesus Christ.**

We render different forms of ministry.

**Yet our calling is one because Christ is undivided.**



PREPARATORY SONG FOR  
BAPTISM

“Wade in the Water”

(The Spirituals Choir; video)

*Chorus:*

*Wade in the water  
Wade in the water, children  
Wade in the water  
God said He's gonna trouble the water  
Wade in the water  
Wade in the water, children  
Wade in the water  
God's gonna trouble the water*

We are the sons and the daughters  
We gotta stand up and make it loud  
Just like our God told the Pharaoh  
Let my people go, go

We are a new generation  
From the ones who have gone before  
He's calling us into freedom  
Let my people go, go  
*Chorus*

We are the sons and the daughters  
We gotta stand up and make it loud  
Just like our God told the Pharaoh  
Let my people go, go

We are a new generation  
From the ones who have gone before  
He's calling us out of bondage  
Let my people go, go  
*Chorus*

We no go shy no go shake  
E be our Papa God wey he make the heavens  
If you no say you no want trouble  
Let my people go, go

The blood sweat and the tears  
That we've gathered through the years  
If you no say you no want trouble  
Let my people go, go  
*Chorus*

BAPTISMS (Cai Anthony Wong, Kaylee Evelyn Wong)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

(Jen McClurg, Ingrid Sampson, William Wesseh, Bruce Wong, Jennifer Wong)

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these young people now before you in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these young persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.**

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sister and brother in Christ.

**Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus. With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as members of the family of Christ!**

Members of the household of God, I commend these young persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you, Kaylee and Cai, and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this union congregation of The United Methodist Church and Presbyterian Church USA, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

CLOSING SONG

“We Are Marching”  
(*Siyahamba*)

GTG #853

We are marching in the light of God  
We are singing...  
We are praying...  
We are dancing...

BENEDICTION

*Derek Weber, Discipleship Ministries, July 2022*

As we leave this gathered worship, we know that we do not leave alone. We go with God into a world resonant with God's presence. We go with one another, bound together in Spirit and in truth, a mighty company of disciples of Jesus Christ. Let us go, then, separately but together, as we seek to be the on-going sign that God is at work in the world. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Patricia Hammer  
accompanist

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*Readings are NRSV unless otherwise noted. CEB=Common English Bible; CEV=Contemporary English Version; KJV=King James Version; MSG=The Message; NIV=New International Version; NLT=New Living Translation; TIB=The Inclusive Bible*

## **1 Corinthians 1:10 – 18**

1:10 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 united in the same mind and the same purpose.

1:11 For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters.

1:12 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."

1:13 Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

1:14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,

1:15 so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name.

1:16 (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.)

1:17 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.

1:18 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.

### **Matthew 4:12 – 23**

4:12 Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee.

4:13 He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,

4:14 so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

4:15 "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles

4:16 the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."

4:17 From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

4:18 As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea for they were fishermen.

4:19 And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people."

4:20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

4:21 As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.

4:22 Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

4:23 Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

