

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

January 12, 2025

BAPTISM OF THE LORD // IN-PERSON & ONLINE SERVICE

All music used by permission. CCLI License #1325764; CCLI Streaming License #20116748

Liturgist: Rich Parker

[CC] = closed-captioned

WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

PRELUDE

Patricia Hammer
Accompanist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

GTG #35

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly for aye we adore him.

CALL TO WORSHIP

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descend on him like a dove.

And a voice came from heaven,

“You are my beloved son, with you I am well pleased.”

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him to be your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Help us to know that we too are your beloved children and use that knowledge to give you glory and enjoy you forever. Amen.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SCRIPTURE READING #1

Mark 1:1 – 8

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

“Baptized in Water”

GTG #482

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
heirs of salvation, trusting the promise,
faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our King;
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our King;
born of the Spirit, we are God's children;
joyfully now God's praises we sing.

SCRIPTURE READING #2

Mark 1:9 – 13

TIME WITH
YOUNG DISCIPLES

“A Stranger from a Different World”

Pamela Love

MESSAGE

“THE BEGINNING OF THE GOOD NEWS
OF JESUS CHRIST, SON OF GOD”

Pastor Steve Nofel

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our God 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 forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY SONG OF REFLECTION

“Change My Heart, O God”

GTG #695

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

PRAYER OF GENEROSITY

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just our money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

Refrain:

*Lead me, guide me, along the way,
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.*

I am weak and I need thy strength and power
to help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness thy face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,
be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am putting all my trust in thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain

I am lost if you take your hand from me,
I am blind without thy Light to see,
Lord, just always let me thy servant be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Patricia Hammer
Accompanist

REMINDER!**Sunday, January 19 Worship Service**

Everyone will join the service on Zoom from home while our worship space is closed for ceiling demolition and asbestos abatement.

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309361390?pwd=DL3LGwi3Xoik24mloRONedVm5dROwi.1>

Meeting ID: 853 0936 1390

Passcode: 584280

The link will also be posted in the Flash and on our website (sjunited.org)

Sunday, January 26 Worship Service and Annual Congregational Meeting

We will return to in-person worship in Room 4. The congregational meeting will also be in-person immediately following worship in Room 10. Those who are unable to participate in person will be able to access both the worship service and the meeting from the Zoom link above.

CALENDAR: SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF JAN 12 – JAN 19

All meetings are via Zoom (unless otherwise noted).

All meetings are open to the members and affiliates of SJU unless otherwise noted. Members are encouraged to connect to, engage, and invest in the life and leadership of this Body of Christ, the church! Contact SJUColumbia@gmail.com if you wish to receive meeting and contact information on anything below:

Sun, 1/12	8:30 am	CHRISTIAN APPLICATION
	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person & streaming</i>) (<i>Liturgist: Rich Parker</i>)
Mon, 1/13	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
	4:00 pm	FINANCE TEAM
	7:00 pm	COUNCIL
Tue, 1/14	7:30 pm	PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Sun, 1/19	8:30 am	CHRISTIAN APPLICATION
	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>Liturgist: TBA</i>)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP

The SJU office is closed on MONDAY, JANUARY 20th, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

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

Mark 1:1 – 8

¹ The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight" ',

⁴ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

Mark 1:9 – 13

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

¹² And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

