

Sunday, January 9, 2022  
Third Sunday After Christmas Day  
10:30 AM



*“Therefore the Lord himself  
will give you a sign: The  
virgin will be with child and  
will give birth to a son, and  
will call him Immanuel.”*

*~ Isaiah 7: 14*



Baptism of the Lord

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City  
Rev. Daniel McKenty - Pastor

*“Who We Are is Whose We Are”*

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Hours: 9:00 – Noon, Tuesday-Friday

# Liturgy for Sunday, January 9, 2022

## Third Sunday After Christmas

**We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds:** In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. **Genesis 1:1-5**

### Ringling of the Church Bell

#### Welcome and Announcements

**Call to Worship: Psalm 29** (responsive)

**Deacon Peggy Webster**

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

**The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

**The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace! Amen.**

**Prelude**

**Choral Introit: "Praise Him! Praise Him!"**

**Current Prayer Concerns:** Rose Mary McAleer, Phil Steil, Brad Soulsman, Bill Outten, Amy Perron, Nancy Kaiser, June Todd, Shami Maxwell, Esther Smith, Melissa Fields, Russ Shallcross, Shirley Warren, Jim Phillips, Carol Nelson, Joyce & Jack Vavrek, Carolyn Walston, Jack Hood, Maggie Mazcho, Lynda, Martha Sekely, Terry Campanella, Bob Lebo, Tanya Ehlers, Andy Hales, and Lydia Frasca.

**Those homebound or undergoing treatment:** John Snyder, Debra Latture

**Berlin Nursing Home:** For all those who we were unable to visit or sing with during this time of virus.

### Hearing Assistance

Headphones are available at the back of the sanctuary for hearing assistance.

**Directory Updates:** *No updates this week.*

**Communion:** When we are celebrating communion, we will serve non-alcoholic grape juice instead of wine.

### Food Pantry

We are honored to work for the gospel to feed people who are spiritually and physically hungry. Thank you for participating in this Kingdom work.

Items needed this week:

- \* Disposable razors
- \* Small mayonnaise jars
- \* Mac & Cheese
- \* Tuna cans
- \* Juices
- \* Fruit Cups
- \* Vienna sausages
- \* SPAM
- \* Eggs
- \* Dinty Moore Beef Stew



- \* Chef Boyardee canned pastas
- \* Frozen Dinners

## Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Sun, Jan 9	Boy Scout Troop # 2173	4:00 PM
Tues, Jan 11	Deacons' Meeting	3:00 PM
Tues, Jan 11	Session Meeting	7:00 PM
Tues, Jan 11	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM
Wed, Jan 12	Choir Practice	5:30 PM
Wed, Jan 12	Girl Scouts # 812	6:00 PM
Fri, Jan 14	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

**Birthdays:** Summer Brenner (1/10), Sue Latour (1/14)

## Flowers:

~ A basket of flowers is placed in memory of our parents, Irv and Juanita Mumford. Mom left us 11 years ago this Tuesday, January 11th and Dad will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the beginning of his eternal life on Friday, January 14th. Mom, Dad, Sue, and their parents are all together in Heaven. ~ *David & Julie, David & Liz*

## Reminder:

If you are **not** vaccinated, we require you to wear a mask during worship. Loving each other means keeping each other healthy. Thank you for your cooperation.

\* Masks are available on the ledge in the hallway directly across from the sanctuary.

## In Gratitude

Pastor Dan and Tina thank the congregation for their generous Christmas gift.

## January Fellowship Hosts:

01/09	Nancy Wright & Marty Cropper
01/16	Jackie Bates & Mabel Rogers
01/23	Jan Owens & Peggy Webster
01/30	Sue Latour & Mary Snyder

\* Hymn: "Where He Leads Me" # 373

\* Passing the Peace

**Prayer of Confession** (unison)

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon** (responsive)

In his letter to the Romans the Apostle Paul writes, "Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in the newness of life..."

We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin."

**We believe the good news of the gospel, for it is true, in Christ Jesus we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

\* **Gloria Patri** (unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

**Invitation to the Offering**

God calls us as his own with gifts of water and Spirit, let us now give back to God with gifts of our own. Our morning's offering will now be received.

\* **Doxology** (unison)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly Hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen .

## Prayer of Dedication

Eternal God, accept these gifts as small tokens of the gifts we have received from you. Teach us to live into our baptisms by doing more, giving more, sharing more of ourselves with your magnificent creation. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

## Choral Anthem: "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

### Prayer for Illumination (unison)

As water splashed across our face awakens us in the morn, may your Word awaken us to your presence. Wash us in your wisdom, bathe us in your goodness, refresh us with your grace, by the power of your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## 1st Scripture Reading: Acts 8: 14-17 [NRSV]

### Elder Sue Latour

14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. 15 The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit 16 (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). 17 Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

## 2nd Scripture Reading: Luke 3: 15-22 [NRSV]

### Rev. Dan McKenty

15 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 16 John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

18 So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. 19 But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, 20 added to them all by shutting up John in prison.



We don't really know the number of wise men who visited the Christ child. The Eastern tradition puts it at twelve while the Western tradition puts it at three. Our only clue to their names comes from an eighth century chronicle known as "Excerpta Latina Barbari" and references the names Balthasar, Melchior, and Gaspar. According to Western church tradition, Balthasar is often represented as a King of Arabia or sometimes Ethiopia, Melchior as a King of Persia, and Gaspar as a King of India. In all likelihood, all three were Zoroastrian astrologers from the Near East.

## Epiphany - January 6th, 2022

Matthew 2: 1-12

### *The Visit of the Wise Men*

**2** In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### The Baptism of Jesus

21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

### Time with Children & Youth

Rev. Dan McKenty

Sermon: *"Who We Are is Whose We Are"*

Rev. Dan McKenty

\* Hymn "O Happy Day" # 532

### Ordination of Elders and Deacons

Questions for the congregation to be answered when asked.

Do we, the members of the church, accept Sue Latour, Karen Eberle, Martha Cropper and Peggy Webster as deacons and elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

\* Affirmation of Faith - Apostles' Creed (unison)

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.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (unison)

In the waters of baptism, we were called to be God's children and to minister to one another. Let us therefore pray for ourselves, for one another, and for all those in need of our prayers, by praying "Lord hear our prayer."

For the church, that it may stand fast in the one faith to which it has been called, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the world, that our conflicts may cease, and that peace may reign in this new year, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all Christians who have been baptized into the one family of faith, that our lives reflect the forgiveness and love which was first shown us, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who are blind to the injustices of our world, that their eyes may be opened and that they may work for an end to oppression and injustice, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For this community of faith, that we may love and serve one another in the same way that Christ loved and served us, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those to us who are suffering, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.** And we pray for ....

For the faithful who have gone before us, that we may follow the example of their lives and be reunited with them in the joy of everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

It is to you Father in heaven that we bring these prayers and petitions bound together in the strong name of your Son, our Lord and Savior who taught us to pray by saying **Our Father 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**\*Hymn: "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" # 380**

**Charge**

**Benediction**

**Postlude and Response "Lord, Let Us Now Depart in Peace. Amen."**

## "First Sunday of Epiphany Jesus' Baptism"

Beginning here we glimpse the Three-in-one;  
The river runs, the clouds are torn apart,  
The Father speaks, the Spirit and the Son  
Reveal to us the single loving heart  
That beats behind the being of all things  
And calls and keeps and kindles us to light.  
The dove descends, the spirit soars and sings  
'You are beloved, you are my delight!'

In that quick light and life, as water spills  
And streams around the Man like quickening rain,  
The voice that made the universe reveals  
The God in Man who makes it new again.  
He calls us too, to step into that river  
To die and rise and live and love forever.

~ Malcom Guite ~