

# Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—January 11, 2026



## Baptism of the Lord

*The second Sunday after Epiphany is traditionally called Baptism of the Lord Sunday. At its core, there is the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the person being baptized! The power and the presence of the Christ in his baptism is given fresh testimony in every baptism.*

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Dr. Lisa Hancock

LEADER: Come! Let us follow Jesus to the edge of the Jordan River to be baptized.

PEOPLE: **We come to be cleansed and made whole.**

LEADER: Come! Let us worship God who leads us into the baptismal waters and salvation life.

PEOPLE: **We come to remember and embody who we are as beloved children of God.**

#### \*HYMN

*Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters*

#605

Wash, O God, our sons and daughters  
Where your cleansing waters flow  
Number them among your people  
Bless as Christ blessed long ago  
Weave them garments bright and sparkling  
Compass them with love and light  
Fill, anoint them, send your Spirit  
Holy Dove and heart's Delight

We who bring them long for nurture  
By your milk may we be fed  
Let us join your feast, partaking  
Cup of blessing, living bread  
God, renew us, guide our footsteps  
Free from sin and all its snares  
One with Christ in living, dying  
By your Spirit, children, heirs

Oh, how deep your holy wisdom!  
Unimagined all your ways  
To your name be glory, honor!  
With our lives we worship, praise!  
We your people stand before you,  
Water-washed and Spirit-born  
By your grace our lives we offer  
Re-create us; God, transform!

Author: Ruth Duck (1987)

Words ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed* #881

**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 Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at 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 Spirit,  
the holy catholic\* church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*Universal

#### SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 42:5-9 (NRSVUE)

<sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens  
and stretched them out, who spread out the earth  
and what comes from it, who gives breath to the  
people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:  
<sup>6</sup> I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I  
have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have  
given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the  
nations, <sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out  
the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison  
those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup> I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no  
other, nor my praise to idols. <sup>9</sup> See, the former things  
have come to pass, and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

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

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TIME SINGING OUR FAVORITE HYMNS—8:20am

TIME WITH CHILDREN—9:40am

HYMN

*Cares Chorus*  
#2215 *Faith We Sing*

I cast all my cares upon you --.  
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet,  
And anytime that I don't know what to do,  
I will cast all my cares upon you.

Words & Music: Kelly Willard  
Psalm 55:22; 1 Peter 5:7

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## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

written by Rev Abi

God who shows no partiality, show your blessings on all your people. Send forth your justice for all to see. Save us your people. Empower us to preach and testify to your great love and mercy.

God who makes and keeps covenant with your people, You called us to be a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to set the prisoners free, Help us to answer your call that these things come to pass.

God of grace and glory, we pray for those who suffer from pains and sorrows.

We pray for those whose hearts are broken.  
We pray for those whose families are fractured.  
We pray for those whose lives are ravaged by war.  
We pray for those who struggle with poverty and starvation.  
We pray for our brother and sisters in Christ who are being martyred for their beliefs.

Thank you for hearing our prayers. Thank you for pouring out your Spirit on your Son and pouring your spirit out on us too.

We pray in boldness and confidence through faith in Christ the Lord: **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*Offer the peace of Christ by saying:*

**The peace of Christ be with you.**

*Respond: And also with you!*

HYMN

*Cares Chorus*  
#2215 *Faith We Sing*

I cast all my cares upon you --.  
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet,  
And anytime that I don't know what to do,  
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## GIVING

**\*RESPONSE**

#95, UMH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE

Acts 10:34-43 (NRSVUE)

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

*Water-washed and Spirit-born*  
Rev. David W. Brown

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## REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISMAL VOWS

All people stand in need of the grace that God alone can give. In our baptism, God acts to claim us as beloved children. God has chosen through the ministries of the church to provide the means of grace to everyone in Christian Baptism. The reaffirmation of this faith is made each time we witness the sacrament.

Baptism is the way to recall the gracious act of God by which we enter into Christ; we are raised to walk in newness of life; and become a member of the family of God.

Water is a symbol of the Holy Spirit and the life-transforming grace Christ alone supplies.

We are especially moved to hear the gospel call again, and are urged to renew our profession of faith—

I invite all who are baptized to join in the Reaffirmation of your Baptismal Covenant, responding as indicated:

Do you in the presence of God desire to reaffirm the covenant which you made or which was made for you at your baptism?

**I do.**

Do you renounce evil and seek to walk in the life of faith as a person who trusts in God alone for life, strength and salvation?

**I do.**

Do you believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, the Savior of the world; and do you declare him Lord of your life?

**I do.**

(POUR WATER INTO BAPTISMAL FONT)

## THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Gracious God, we thank you that in every age you have made water a sign of your presence. In the beginning your Spirit brooded over the waters and they became the source of all creation. You led your people through the waters of the Red Sea to their new land of freedom and hope. In the waters of the Jordan, your Son was baptized by John and anointed with your Spirit for his ministry of reconciliation. May this same Spirit bless this water by which we

remember our baptisms today, that we may be refreshed and renewed to walk faithfully as your disciples—buried and raised in Christ, strengthened by His resurrection to rejoice in you. Defend all who present themselves before you with your heavenly grace, and confirm within them the presence of your Holy Spirit; for we pray in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen

## SIGNS OF WATER AND BLESSING

Remember your baptism, and be thankful!

### \*HYMN

*Spirit of the Living God*

#393 UMH

Spirit of the Living God,

Fall afresh on me,

Spirit of the Living God,

Fall afresh on me.

Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.

Spirit of the Living God,

Fall afresh on me.

Words & Music Daniel Iverson (1926)

© 1935, renewal 1963 Birdwing Music (ASCAP)

## BENEDICTION

Nancy Townley

People of hope and peace, go into the world. Bring God's healing love to all whom you meet. Be washed in living water and cleansed by the Holy Spirit. In God the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen!

## POSTLUDE

*\*Stand in body or in spirit*

*Liturgist at 8:20 – Lisa Dayton*

*Liturgist at 9:40 – Shelley Bamberger*

*Greeters at 9:40 – Charlene Pfingstag Lewis & Audrey Miller*



*Gather for coffee and treats in the Atrium following the 9:40 service!*

REGISTER YOUR  
ATTENDANCE



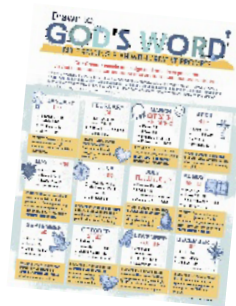
ONLINE  
GIVING



# Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—January 11, 2026

***Our gift to you for 2026 is a Bible reading plan with creative prompts. Our Creator excels at design and artistic expression. As God's image-bearers, we can use our creative gifts to learn about and worship him.***

*With this yearlong Scripture-reading guide, you can draw, doodle, color, and journal as you reflect on God's Word. After reading the weekly Bible passages—which are grouped according to monthly themes—grab some markers, colored pencils, or pens to respond. Close each devotional time with prayer, thanking the Master Artist for making, sustaining, and blessing you!*

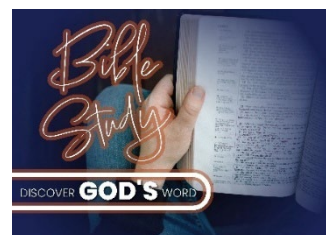


Pick up a copy of the reading plan at the desk in the Atrium or print yours at home: <https://bit.ly/4pDMbqs>

## WOMEN'S STUDIES

[ArmstrongChapel.org/womenunited](https://ArmstrongChapel.org/womenunited)

- **Mondays at 9:30am** in the Armstrong Room. New study begins 1/12. *The Good Shepherd: Caring for People Even When It's Difficult* by Heather Thompson Day. In John 10, Jesus famously called himself the Good Shepherd, inviting us into a life of flourishing when we follow him. But what makes a shepherd good, and how can we recognize true spiritual leaders in our midst? Explore the way Jesus modeled the qualities of a good shepherd, showing us what it means to shepherd others in grace and truth. Led by Serena Tsuang.
- **Mondays at 6:00pm** in the Armstrong Room. New 8-week study begins January 19. *The Chosen Season 5: The Stronghold of the Chosen* by Amanda Jenkins, Dallas Jenkins, Dr. Douglas S. Huffman. This study follows each episode in Season 5 and teaches readers to run to Jesus when life is hard or confusing and to trust Him as their place of refuge. If you haven't seen *The Chosen*, it is highly recommended to view Seasons 1-4 in *The Chosen* app, or at [www.thechosen.tv](http://www.thechosen.tv), or through Amazon Prime prior to participating in this class. This foundational knowledge will enhance your discussions and understanding of the themes presented. We watch each episode and complete each lesson in advance, so we are prepared for every class. For more details and to register for class, please reach out to Victoria Rhodus.
- **Tuesdays at 9:45am** at the home of Julie Holland. Short study (TBA) beginning in January before reading the new Laurie Short book, *Tracking God in your Life*, in late February.
- **Thursdays at 6:45am** in the Armstrong Room. Reading William Barclay's study of Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. Led by Jan Bell.



## MEN'S STUDIES

[ArmstrongChapel.org/men](https://ArmstrongChapel.org/men)

- **Friday Morning Bible Study:** Verse-by-verse study of scripture led by Pastor David Brown. Fridays at 7:00am in the Armstrong Room and via Zoom.
- **Burgers, Brews & the Bible:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 7:00pm at 50 West Burger Bar. Studying Romans. Led by Gordon Miller. Arrive at 6:30 if you plan to eat.
- **715BC:** Breakfast Wednesdays at 7:15am at the National Exemplar in Mariemont. Studying the Galatians. Led by Garen Wisner.
- **Armstrong Men "Nooners":** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at noon for lunch at Ferrari's in Madeira. Discussion on the life application questions from the *Upper Room* devotional. Led by Bryan Holland.



Stay connected with

**Armstrong**  
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Follow us on...

[armstrongchapel.org](https://armstrongchapel.org)



A Welcoming Community Alive in Serving Christ

Rev. David Brown, Lead Pastor

Amy Voss, Director of Preschool

Rev. Elizabeth Brown, Congregational Care Pastor

Shanon Rice, Director of Digital Communications

Rev. Brandon Long, Director of Discipleship



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ROOT KIDS IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD



**RAINFOREST FALLS**  
Exploring the Nature of God

**Vacation Bible School**  
**Registration Opens**  
**January 26**

Show kids what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their safe place in life's storms.

**INSPIRATIONAL TALK AND LUNCHEON**  
*How to See God's Work in Your Past, Experience His Presence, and Trust Him with Your Future*



Women UNITED  
at Armstrong Chapel



Featuring  
**LAURIE POLICH SHORT**

**CALLING ALL WOMEN**  
Invite family and friends  
*All ages welcome!*

**JANUARY 24**  
in the Worship Center  
Followed by lunch in the Atrium



For complete details and registration, visit [armstrongchapel.org/womenunited/](http://armstrongchapel.org/womenunited/)



Women United  
Monthly  
**Luncheon**  
**JANUARY 14**

Share in a lunch filled with laughter, fellowship, and joy!

**12:30 pm - 1:30 pm**  
National Exemplar  
6880 Wooster Pike

Don't forget to invite a friend to share in the warmth and connection!

**Saturday Men's BREAKFAST**  
**FEBRUARY 21**

JOIN US FOR A morning filled with good food, fellowship, and genuine camaraderie.

in the Armstrong Room  
**8:00 - 9:30 am**



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