

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Introduction to the Service
UMH 39

Presentation of Charles Walter Lane
UMH 39

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith
UMH 40-41

Thanksgiving Over the Water
UMH 41-42

Holy Baptism
UMH 42

Commendation and Welcome
UMH 43

Baptismal Hymn *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* STUTTGART
UMH 611 (vv. 1, 3, 4)

Bringing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*
 Parish Choir

 Doxology OLD 100TH
 UMH 94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit that, as the Scriptures are read and the Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Epistle Reading Philippians 4:1-9 CEB

¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters whom I love and miss, who are my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord. Loved ones, ²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to come to an agreement in the Lord. ³Yes, and I'm also asking you, loyal friend, to help these women who have struggled together with me in the ministry of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my coworkers whose names are in the scroll of life. ⁴Be glad in the Lord always! Again I say, be glad! ⁵Let your

gentleness show in your treatment of all people. The Lord is near.

‘Don’t be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. ⁷Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus. ⁸From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise. ⁹Practice these things: whatever you learned, received, heard, or saw in us. The God of peace will be with you.

Response to the Word

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

 Hymn of Preparation
 Baptized in Water
BUNESSAN
 (vv. 1, 2, 3)

 Gospel Lesson Matthew 22:1-14 CEB

Jesus responded by speaking again in parables: ²“The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding party for his son. ³He sent his servants to call those invited to the wedding party. But they didn’t want to come. ⁴Again he sent other servants and said to them ‘Tell those who have been invited, “Look, the meal is all prepared. I’ve butchered the oxen and the fattened cattle. Now everything’s ready. Come to the wedding party!’ ⁵But they paid no attention and went away – some to their fields, others to their businesses. ⁶The rest of them grabbed his servants, abused them, and killed them. ⁷The king was angry. He sent his soldiers to destroy those murderers and set their city on fire. ⁸Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding party is prepared, but those who were invited weren’t worthy. ⁹Therefore, go to the roads on the edge of town and invite everyone you find to the wedding party.’ ¹⁰“Then those servants went to the roads and gathered everyone they found, both evil and good. The wedding party was full of guests. ¹¹Now when the king came in and saw the guests, he spotted a man who wasn’t wearing wedding clothes. ¹²He said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without wedding clothes?’ But he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to his servants, ‘Tie his hands and feet and throw him out into the farthest darkness. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.’ ¹⁴Many people are invited, but few people are chosen.”

Response to the Word

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Rejoice!*

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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.

✚ Invitation to Christian Discipleship

SENDING FORTH

✠ Sending Hymn	<i>Take My Life and Let It Be</i>	MESSIAH
UMH 399	(vv. 1, 2, 3)	

✚ Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

✠ Benediction

⦿ Postlude
The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Baptism is a Sacrament of Christian initiation in which God claims us, incorporates us into the church, gives us new birth through water and the Spirit, and begins a covenant relationship that continues throughout our lives.

Baptism is a proclamation of what God has done and is doing for us.

*Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are initiated into Christ's holy church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit.
All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.*

The Baptism of Infants

United Methodists baptize infants because Baptism is grounded in God's grace rather than a person's intellectual understanding or spiritual accomplishment.

An infant cannot profess faith independently. Therefore, parents or sponsors promise to nurture the child, and the congregation promises to surround the child with a community of love and forgiveness.

The child will later be called to claim the faith personally, ordinarily through Confirmation.

Infant Baptism teaches us something essential: Grace comes before understanding.