

For Young worshipers: Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan River. Jesus was baptized so that he could be like we are, and so that we might become more like he is. Do you see the dove coming down? Do you see the fish in the water?



Service for the Lord's Day

January 12, 2020
Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Gathering Around the Word

Striking of the Hour

Welcome

Prelude

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Haig Mardirosian

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call To Worship

In the beginning, at creation, the Spirit of God hovered over the waters of the deep.

The Water is Poured

By the flood in the time of Noah, God cleansed the earth.

God caused the waters to part, so Israel could cross from slavery into freedom.

The Water is Poured

God has formed each of us in the waters of our mothers' wombs.

Jesus was baptized in the water of the Jordan River.

A woman at a well was the first person to recognize that Jesus is the Christ.

Jesus offered the woman Living Water.

The Water is Poured

Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus.

God meant him to be the firstborn of a large family, baptized in his name.

“Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation any one who fears him and does what it right is acceptable to God.”

Acts 10:34-35

Opening Hymn 109

Blest Be the God of Israel

MERLE'S TUNE

Call to Confession

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Loving God, we thank you for new life in Jesus Christ, and for the sign of that new life, made when we passed through the maternal, eternal, saving waters of baptism. Still we confess, we have a hard time throwing off our old lives. We remain selfishly preoccupied; we cling to destructive habits; we hold on to old ways. Have mercy on us, and free us from our sin. Remind us of the promises you have made, and let us feel ourselves lifted in your gracious mercy. Amen.

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Declaration of Good News

Response Hymn 482

Baptized in Water

BUNESSAN

*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!*

Passing the Peace of Christ

We greet one another in the unity of the Spirit.

Hearing the Word

All Sit

Prayer for Illumination

Reading from the First Covenant

Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, **my chosen, in whom my soul delights;** I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. **He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;**

A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; **he will faithfully bring forth justice.**

He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; **and the coastlands wait for his teaching.**

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:**

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,

To open the eyes that are blind,

To bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,

From the prison those who sit in darkness.

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

Anthem

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

CUM RHONDDA/arr. James

Kirby

In the revealing light of Christ, we see ourselves as we truly are.

Isaiah's words are meant to comfort people long afflicted. The servant mentioned here sounds like a single individual at first, but later, the servant sounds like Israel.

All Stand

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Sermon

Baptism of the Lord

Matthew Covington

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 488

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

WATERLIFE

Affirmation of Faith (Responsive)

Based on: A Declaration of Faith

The sacraments confirm the Word of God.

We believe that in the washing with water the Holy Spirit demonstrates and confirms the promises of the embodied, written, and preached Word with vividness and power.

Trusting in the mercy of God, we turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world.

In baptism we give ourselves up in faith and repentance to be the Lord's.

Baptism is a reminder that God loves us.

God loves us long before we can love God.

And both God's grace and our response to it continue to deepen throughout this life.

This is love, not that we have loved God but that God loved us and sent God's son to be the relief of our sins.

All Sit

Offering

Offertory

Meditation

Raymond Haan

Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sealing the Word in the Sacrament

The Lord's Supper

Hymn

Sanctus

Joseph Roff

(congregation and choir)

*Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of power and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry.*

Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est.

Communion Anthem

Jesus, the Living Bread

Joy Sanford/arr. John F. Wilson

Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the only sacraments of our Church.

Rise Against Hunger has been fully funded. Buck in a Basket will address other hunger projects.

Communion Connects us to Christ. He is our host at the table, and he offers himself to us here.

Prayers of the People and 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 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.

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

Closing Hymn 32 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* ELLACOMBE

Benediction

Postlude *Out of Deep Unordered Water* RUSTINGTON

WELCOME VISITORS! We invite you to pick up visitor's information on your way out. Ushers will be standing by to help you find the information. Always know that a cordial greeting is extended by ministers, officers, and congregation.

The Presbyterian Church Staff

<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Dr. Matthew W. Covington</i>
<i>Organist, Pastoral Assistant</i>	<i>Thomas N. Moody</i>
<i>Choir Director</i>	<i>Dr. Wayne Pope</i>
<i>Director of Christian Education</i>	<i>Leslee Kirkconnell</i>
<i>Youth Ministry Intern</i>	<i>David Clarke</i>
<i>Financial Administrator</i>	<i>Terry Johnson</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Steve Moore</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Cheryl Gregory</i>
<i>Director, Preschool Learning Center</i>	<i>Dana Patterson</i>
<i>Children's Music</i>	<i>Heather Kirkconnell</i>
<i>Custodian</i>	<i>Cedric Whitney</i>
<i>Sunday Sexton</i>	<i>Barbara Solberg-Hale</i>
<i>Clerk of Session</i>	<i>Tim Leigh</i>

Donate Online: The church website is able to accept online donations. Just go to the website below & fill out the simple form. Donations can also be made from your smart phone. You may also scan the QR code, right. <https://bgpresdonate.cloverdonations.com/online-donations/>



The Presbyterian Church, 1003 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101
270-843-4707 • www.bgpres.org

Our church Elders: Karol Ahmed, Mark Bigler, Pam Bratcher, Mary Evans, Mike Kanan, John Kernohan, Jean Harris, Wayne Hendrix, Tim Leigh, Nathan Love, Nancy Moore, Mike Morse, Pamela Napier, Bud Schlinker, and David Sears. Our church Deacons: Angie Alexieff, Rider Allen, Rob Byrd, Sally Calkins, Judy Clark, Shannon Dyche, Ray Elms, Kim Ferguson, Kathleen Gildersleeve, Cathey Green, Linda Leigh, Debbie Morse, David Muffett, Annette Parkerson, Teri Polen, Charlotte Prow, Ken Royse, Susan Thomison and Judy Whitson.

Announcements

USHERS: The Polen and Thomison families

LAY READER: Ernie Small

COMMUNION SERVERS: Pam Bratcher, Mary Evans, Rob Hale, Matt Hunt, John Kernohan, Pamela Napier, Alan and Sheila Reeves, Bud Schlinker

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Barbara Solberg-Hale and Matt Hunt

NURSERY ATTENDANTS: Alisia Mosley and Kimberly Watkins

LIBRARIAN: Arnie Petrus, arfrance@msn.com

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY, January 19: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-111; Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42.

TODAY

DEACON OF THE WEEK this week will be Debbie Morse.

Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

OUR REGULAR SCHEDULE has returned! 8:30am coffee fellowship with light breakfast, 9:30am Sunday School for all ages, 10:30am worship. Make a resolution to join a Sunday School class this winter and grow your knowledge and faith!

BUCK IN A BASKET for January will benefit our Rise Against Hunger project. This is a new program for us and one that will culminate in packing 15,000 meals together on Sunday February 2.

BIBLE STUDY TOGETHER. Join us in this venture in this new year. Read through the Bible! . You can download an app from the app store (search for Bible Study Together) that will play videos of scripture and read the daily selection, as desired. Why read through the Bible? You can't understand the whole story of God's people, of the love God has for us and more unless you read through the entire Bible! While it sounds daunting, this program is designed to make it manageable - YOU CAN DO IT! Visit www.biblestudytogether.com for more information. Or speak with Matthew Covington.

WHAT ARE WE LEARNING? Each Sunday we come together to worship and learn about God. During the Sunday School hour, our children and youth attend class to hear the Bible and learn to apply it to their lives. Parents can follow up and continue learning at home! **Preschoolers** heard about Jesus' baptism from Mark 1:9-11. The Ark and the Tent, from Exodus 25-31, 35-40 was what **our Kindergarten - 3rd grade students** in Godly Play learned. **4th and 5th Graders** also heard about Jesus' baptism in Matthew 3:13-17. **PLEASE READ** the scripture stories at home and ask your children what they heard. Wonder together what God wants you to know and do because of these stories! If you need a good storybook, ask Leslee or visit our Children's Library-we have a good selection. Especially with younger children, a good Bible storybook is important!

COMING UP:

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY is February 2. We will need your soup, sandwiches or dessert! Please sign up here: <https://perfectpotluck.com/meals.php?t=IIRT4741> This meal is by donation (suggest giving what you would spend on a lunch out) with all proceeds benefiting Rise Against Hunger.

MONTREAT DEPOSITS ARE DUE not later than January 15. \$100 for either Middle School (July 15-19) or High School (June 13-20). Please give to David Clarke.

Calendar

Sunday, January 12

8:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
9:00 a.m. Children's Music
9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Circle
10:30 a.m. Worship
5:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, January 13

11:30 a.m. Circle 9
5:00 p.m. Round Table Pulpit

Tuesday, January 14

8:00 a.m. Staff planning meeting
11:00 a.m. Special Care
7:00 p.m. Evening Circle
7:00 p.m. Sunny 16 Camera Club

Wednesday, January 15

9:15 a.m. Wed. Morning Circle
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, January 16

6:00 p.m. Room in the Inn

RISE AGAINST HUNGER: this is a new project for our congregation (visit www.riseagainsthunger.org for more information). On February 2, we will be joined by leaders from Nashville, who will join us for our luncheon and then guide us in packing 15,000 meal packages. Our efforts will actually multiply as each package we put together actually contains 4 meals. A generous donation has allowed us to meet the costs. Additional funds will be applied to other hunger programs, which is why we are dedicating our Buck in a Basket during January for this, as well as the funds donated for our Feb. 2 meal. Our youth are helping us with this important project. We need YOU! Help provide our lunch on Feb. 2 (see separate article); and then stay to help us pack meals. Fun, food and fellowship!

ROOM IN THE INN meets every Thursday. Help is needed in some areas. Please see the sign up sheets in the 10th Ave Lobby to find a time to help. We have many faithful volunteers, but need YOU too!

CIRCLES CIRCLE 9 will meet on Monday, January 13th at 11:30am. The TUESDAY EVENING CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, January 14th at 7:00pm. The WEDNESDAY MORNING CIRCLE will meet on Wednesday, January 15th at 9:15am in the youth room (date change).

OTHER NEWS:

ART EXHIBIT Artworks is currently featured in Fellowship Hall for a new exhibit. Be sure to stop by and see it! This show will run until January 16th.

OUR CHURCH PANTRY distributed 101 bags of food in the month of December. Please consider bringing canned goods in for the needy to receive from our Food Pantry. Donations of food goods may be left in the designated drawers under the stairs in the 10th Street lobby. We thank all who help to contribute to this ministry.