

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

THRESHOLD MOMENT – COME AND SEE AT THE RIVER

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 29)

Leader: The Lord gives strength to God's people;

People: The Lord blesses God's people with peace.

Leader: The voice of the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

People: The voice of the Lord strikes with flashes of lightning.

Leader: The voice of the Lord shakes the desert;

People: The voice of the Lord twists the oaks, and in God's temple all cry, "Glory!"

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name

People: Let us worship the Lord in the splendor of God's holiness.

HYMN #69 "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

O Morning Star, how fair and bright Thou beamest forth in truth and light!

O Sovereign meek and lowly!

Thou root of Jesse, David's Son, My Lord and Savior Thou hast won

My heart to serve Thee solely!

Thou art holy, Fair and glorious, all victorious Rich in blessing.

Rule and might o'er all possessing.

Though heavenly brightness! Light divine! O deep within my heart now shine,

And make Thee there an altar!

Fill me with joy and strength to be Thy member, ever joined to Thee

In love that cannot falter!

Toward Thee longing

Doth possess me; Turn and bless me; Here in sadness

Eye and heart long for Thy gladness!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 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. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of 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 descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

SERMON

RESPONSE – #474 Verse 1 – “O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright”

O splendor of God’s glory bright, From light eternal bringing light;
Thou light of life, light’s living spring, True day, all days illumining.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: God, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

SILENT 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.

HYMN #70 “Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized”

Christ, when for us You were baptized, God’s Spirit on You came,
As peaceful as a dove and yet As urgent as a flame.

God called You “My beloved Son,” The suffering servant true,
Sent You the kingdom to proclaim, God’s holy will to do.

Straightway and steadfast until death You then obeyed God’s call
Freely as Son of Man to serve And give Your life for all.

Baptize us with Your Spirit, Lord, Your cross on us be signed,
That, likewise in God’ service we May perfect freedom find.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

Offertory

COMMISSION

Leader: Let us leave here with open hearts, to share God's unconditional love with all we meet.

All: We will go with courage; holding fast to what is good; rendering to no one evil for evil.

We will strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, and help the afflicted.

Honoring all beings, we will serve God; rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way

Through this and every coming day,

That in Your Spirit, strong and true

Our lives may be our gift to You.

POSTLUDE