

Baptism of Jesus Sunday

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

PRELUDE: "Shall We Gather at the River"

WELCOME STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CONNECTION

(Please check in on Facebook and/or on Twitter @ChicagoBUMC, wifi password is 7733482679, and pass the friendship pads to register your attendance and any updated contact information.)

Welcome to worship, God's beloved! YES, I Am Welcome! Bienvenidas y bienvenidos!

OPENING PRAYER

One who walks beside us, the calling of love is full of risk. Oppressive forces and institutions seem so permanent, and our individual lives, so vulnerable and fleeting. Deepen our faith in your abiding promises, that we may be brave for each other. In community, we pray, Amen.

OPENING HYMN: "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry" The Faith We Sing # 2051

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

The people were full of anticipation, wondering in their hearts whether John might be the Messiah. John answered them all by saying, "I am baptizing you in water, but someone is coming who is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not fit to untie! This One will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and in fire." ... When all the people were baptized, Jesus also came to be baptized. And while Jesus was praying, the skies opened and the Holy Spirit descended on the Anointed One in visible form, like a dove. A voice from heaven said, 'You are my Own, my Beloved. On you my favor rests."

Here ends the reading of the Gospel. This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Bold type indicates congregational response.

MESSAGE Rev. Alka Lyall

REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

BAPTISMAL VOWS

Do you accept God's call to resist evil, injustice and oppression in whatever guise they present themselves? **I do.**

Do you truly and earnestly recognize your human limits and brokenness and desire to grow in grace? I do.

Do you accept Jesus as the symbol of unconditional grace, the source of your freedom to act — to act boldly — in this world? I do.

BLESSING OF THE WATER

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and by this gift of water call to our remembrance the grace declared to us in our baptism. For you have washed away our sins, and you clothe us with righteousness throughout our lives, that dying and rising with Christ we may share in the eternal gift. **Amen.**

REMEMBERING THE BAPTISM

Remember your baptism and be thankful. Amen.

MISSION MINUTE: REFUGEEONE

[RefugeeOne creates opportunity for refugees fleeing war, terror, and persecution to build new lives of safety, dignity, and self-reliance. Every year, RefugeeOne serves more than 2,500 refugees and immigrants of all ages, ethnic groups, faiths, and backgrounds. Having fled violence, persecution, and war, vulnerable refugees from around the world come to the U.S. to rebuild their lives. RefugeeOne's primary focus is to assist these resilient individuals in becoming an independent, self-supporting member of their new community. As the largest resettlement agency in Chicago, RefugeeOne has welcomed more than 18,000 refugees through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program since 1982. RefugeeOne walks along-side refugees from the moment they land at O'Hare International Airport—welcoming them to Chicago and providing furnished apartments, English classes, job search support, mental health care, youth programming, and mentors to help them adjust to life in the U.S. Resettlement is a long and often difficult process. With your support, RefugeeOne not only equips refugees with the skills needed to survive, but provides a full range of coordinated services that empower refugees to build the foundation for a flourishing life here in the United States. Please visit Broadway's donation page to read more about our Mission Minutes and how to give.]

THE INVITATION TO OFFERING

[Broadway is committed to the financial support of its identity, vision, and ministry by tithing. Consider making an offering this morning of 10 percent of your income from this past week.]

When we feel as if we're drowning, let us remember that water also brings life, brings You. Let us remember to share that life and that water with others, as we prepare to bring our offerings to God.



God is inviting you to the specific ministry of sharing your resources. Please be as generous as you can in your giving. To give online, go to broadwaychurchchicago.com/give or scan the QR code at left. Thank you for your commitment to God's purposes through our faith community!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving One, we dedicate these offerings to the work of Your kin-dom, to the work of hope, that the spirit of baptism not be solely confined to our communities but be shared among all the people of the earth you have made. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE PRAYER OF JESUS [You are invited to say this prayer in the language of your heart.]

Our God in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kindom 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 kindom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Let us go forth

- in the remembrance of our baptisms and of the grace they represent,
- in the knowledge that you are with us,
- in the assurance that grace does not end when the water is gone.

And in the hope that even in the depths of the ocean when we can feel the weight of all the water above us, You hold us close. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE: "Wade in the Water"

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CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL PEOPLE

We are black, brown, red, yellow, white, and all the colors of God's created rainbow. We are lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, and straight. We are transgender, intersex, female, male, gender fluid. We are queer. We are questioning. We are every age. We are every ability.

We are every economic & theological location. We are YOU.

Welcome to God's Beloved Community at Broadway.



BROADWAY'S MISSION STATEMENT

"God calls Broadway United Methodist Church to be a faith community embracing the diversity of our Chicago neighborhood and larger community. We welcome all persons – celebrating the human family's God-given diversity of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, and physical or mental capacity. We also welcome persons of all social and economic classes and faith backgrounds. At Broadway, we are accepted into God's nurturing family, which invites us into spiritual growth through worship, study, mission, and social action. We are grateful for the opportunities God gives us to experience and share the love of Christ."

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