

*An Open & Affirming, A2A-Accessible to All  
Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

11 January 2026 – 10:30 AM  
**Baptism of Christ**

**\*indicates the congregation is invited to stand.  
Please feel free to remain seated if you prefer.**

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PRELUDE

*To Jordan Came Our Lord, the Christ*  
Vlada Volkova-Moran, organist

Dieterich Buxtehude

WELCOME

the Rev. David Pattee, pastor

\*GATHERING SONG #742      1) in unison 2) repeated as a round

**Gathered here in the mystery of this hour,  
Gathered here in one strong body,  
Gathered here in the struggle and the power,  
Spirit draw near.**

\*PREFACE

from *Jonah*, chapter 2

Joliene Wade Gatlin, liturgist

One: Jonah prayed to the LORD from the belly of the fish, saying,

**All: 'You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood  
surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me.**

One: The waters closed in over me; the deep surrounded me.

**All: As my life was ebbing away, I remembered the Lord. Deliverance belongs to  
the LORD!'**

One: Then the LORD spoke to the fish,

**All: And it spewed Jonah out upon the dry land.**

\*HYMN 290 [hymn sheet]

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

MORECAMBE

\*PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT OF JESUS

**Earth-Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Source of all that is and all that shall be,**

**Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is Heaven:**

**May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe.**

**May your Heavenly will be done by all creatures great and small.**

**And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need this day, feed us. For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.**

**Through times of temptation, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us.**

**From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love.**

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

\*GREETING OF PEACE

## SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 42:5-7

Joliene Gatlin

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.

## GOSPEL

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 God's Spirit  
 descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my  
 Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

## ANTHEM

*Beautiful Savior*

arr. F. Melius Christiansen

CHANCEL CHOIR • Cheryl Anderson, director

## SERMON

*Beware the Sneaker Waves*

Pastor Dave

## RESPONSE 584

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

**I am the light of the world!  
 You people come and follow me!  
 If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery,  
 Of what you were meant to do and be.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joliene Gatlin

## OFFERTORY

Invitation

Offertory Music

[www.PeaceUnited.org/Giving](http://www.PeaceUnited.org/Giving)*Down to the River to Pray*

arr. Sheldon Curry

## \*COVENANT

**We covenant with God and with each other:  
 to walk together in all God's ways as the Holy is revealed to us;  
 to give ourselves freely and without reserve to Jesus' ministry in this church;  
 to celebrate through worship God's amazing gifts of unity and diversity;  
 to take up Christ's mission around the world, striving for justice and peace;  
 to care for the earth and all her creatures, reconciling ourselves to them in love;  
 for God gives immeasurable grace into all life and every life.**

## \*HYMN 542 [hymn sheet]

*Born of God, Eternal Savior*

WEISSE FLAGGEN

## \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Fugue in C Major* (BuxWV 174, "Jig")

Dietrich Buxtehude

## Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

290

George Croly, 1854; alt.

Gal. 5:25; Matt. 22:37; John 1:32

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;  
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,  
 3 Have you not bid us love you ev - ery way?  
 4 Teach me to feel that you are al - ways nigh;  
 5 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,

wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;  
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,  
 All, all your own: soul, heart, and strength, and mind;  
 teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,  
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;


Stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as you are,  
 No an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;  
 I see your cross—there teach my heart to stay:  
 To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;  
 The bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed dove,

and make me love you as I ought to love.  
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.  
 O let me seek you, and O let me find.  
 teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.  
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.


George Croly, ordained in the Church of Ireland, was well known in London literary circles and served a poor parish. This hymn is from a collection he compiled for that congregation. Hellespont was the original name for the tune Morecambe.

Tune: MORECAMBE 10.10.10.10.  
 Frederick C. Atkinson, 1870


## Born of God, Eternal Savior

*1 Pet. 4:8-11; John 17:11; Matt. 6:10**Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1893; alt.*



1 Born of God, E - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life, of truth and grace,  
 2 Christ, as you have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live;  
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, grant - ing love and joy and peace;  
 4 See the Christ-like host ad - vanc - ing, high and low - ly, great and small,



Hu - man One, whose birth in - car - nate hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed, free - ly may your ser - vants give.  
 Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.  
 Linked in bonds of com - mon ser - vice, an - swer - ing the Sav - ior's call.



Come a - gain, in all your glo - ry; come to us, in - spire and lead;  
 All the wealth that we may gath - er is for use in caus - es just.  
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,  
 Je - sus Christ, we hear your plead - ing that your peo - ple should be one.



Fill us with your lov - ing-kind-ness; heal our wrongs, and help our need.  
 We are stew - ards of the boun - ty loaned to us in sol - emn trust.  
 Quench our fe - vered thirst for plea - sure, shame our self - ish greed for gain.  
 Grant, O grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth, your will be done.

*Born in Dublin, Ireland, Somerset T. C. Lowry was a priest of the Church of England and author of several prose and poetic works. This hymn, originally titled "For Unity," was written while he served in North Holmwood, Surrey.*

Tune: WEISSE FLAGGEN 8.7.8.7.D.  
 Tochter Sion, Cologne, 1741  
 Alternate tune: BEECHER