



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

12 January 2025 – 10:30 AM
The Baptism of Christ

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

PRELUDE *Wayfaring Stranger* Traditional
JAZZ ON HIGH · Luke Shepherd, piano and vocals; Chris Charman, bass; Zack Olsen, drums

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.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP Suzanne McLean, liturgist

One: Our God is a God of power and strength,

All: Creating us in tender care.

One: Our God is a God of majesty and awe,

All: Walking with us every step of the way.

One: Our God is a God of glory and wonder,

All: Loving us with tenderness and passion.

One: Our God calls each of us by name

All: To worship, to serve, to live in praise of the One from whom all blessings flow.

*HYMN 270 [hymn sheet] *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song* BRIDEGROOM

*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.

*GREETING OF PEACE African-American Spiritual

ANTHEM *Have You Ever Seen the Rain* arr. Luke Shepherd

SCRIPTURE

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Suzanne McLean

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

SERMON

All the Difference

Pastor Dave

MEDITATION

Songs & Prayers from Taizé

**Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life. (repeating)**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor Dave

OFFERTORY

Invitation

www.PeaceUnited.org/Giving

Offertory Music

Come to the Water

John Foley

*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 417 [hymn sheet]

This Is A Day of New Beginnings

BEGINNINGS

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Feeling Good

Bricusse/Newley