



The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell  
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**January 9, 2022**  
**BAPTISM OF THE LORD**  
**Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

**REFLECTION**

*"God's love that claims us in baptism feels like the kind of love that heaven can't contain. A love that is yours quite apart from what you do or don't do. The kind of love that breaks your heart and then makes it bigger, a love that create belovedness in the one it rests upon." ~ Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber*

**PRELUDE**

*"Down to the River"*

arr. Mark Hayes & Douglas Wagner

**WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

God has blessed us and adopted us as God's own beloved children, through the sacrament of Baptism.

**The water of baptism brings to us healing and reconciliation; it is a symbol of nourishment and cleansing.**

This day is the day of the remembrance of Jesus' Baptism.

**As we hear the words of his baptism, let us be reminded of our own adoption by God and celebrate the joyous connection to the Almighty God.**

**\*\*HYMN No. 156**

*"Sing of God Made Manifest"*

SALZBURG

Sing of God made manifest in a child robust and blest,  
To whose home in Bethlehem where a star had guided them,  
Magi came and gifts unbound, signs mysterious and profound:  
Myrrh and frankincense and gold, grave and God and king foretold.

Sing of God made manifest, when at Jordan John confessed,  
"I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do."  
Then from heaven a double sign – dove-like Spirit, voice divine—  
Hailed the true Anointed One: "This is my beloved Son."

Sing of God made manifest when Christ came as wedding guest  
And at Cana gave a sign, turning water into wine;  
Further still was loved revealed as he taught, forgave, and healed,  
Bringing light and life to all who would listen to God's call.

Sing of God made manifest on the cloud-capped mountain's crest,  
Where the law and prophets waned so that Christ alone remained:  
Glimpse of glory, pledge of grace, given as Jesus set his face  
Towards the waiting cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(In Unison)*

**We are incredibly stubborn, O Lord. We have entered the season in which Your Light has been given to the world, your blessings have been poured out on the world, and yet all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. Help us to desire you, Lord. Help us to yearn for your presence. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you. Wash away our jealousy, greed, and all negative thoughts and behaviors that stand in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. Again, let us receive**

**the blessings offered in creation, in the birth and baptism of Jesus, and in the ministry of the saints of light. We ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, for all eternity. Rejoice, dear friends, this is the Good News of our Lord.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

**\*\*HYMN No. 581**

*"Glory Be to the Father"*  
Glory be to the Father, and the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen, Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

*Children in kindergarten – 7<sup>th</sup> grade may exit the sanctuary for Sunday School with Mrs. Jones*

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

*Isaiah 43:1-7*

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*"Be a Light"*

arr. Tim Hayden

**GOSPEL LESSON**

*Luke 3:15-17, 21-22*

**SERMON**

*"Keep Repeating: Jesus Loves Me"*

Rev. William Schram

**RENEWING OUR BAPTISM COVENANT**

Bless your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water that by it we may be reminded of our baptism into Jesus Christ and that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may be kept faithful until you receive us at last in your eternal home.

**Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was and is, and shall always be, world without end. Amen.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that separate you from the love of God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior?

**I do.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love, to your life's end?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you choose this day to commit your talents and your resources to the mission of Jesus Christ through this congregation?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, supporting them and sharing the work?

**I will, with God's help.**

Eternal God, you have come to us in Jesus Christ, given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and forgiven all our sins, bless us now with the grace we need to fulfill what we have promised.

**Keep us faithful to our Savior Jesus Christ, forever and ever. Amen.**

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

**Amen.**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

May the God of glory be with you!

**And also with you!**

People of God, offer your hearts to God.

**We give them to the One who comes to redeem us.**

Sing songs of praise and joy, Children of God.

**We lift our voices to the One who journeys with us through the waters of baptism,  
and who feeds us at the Table of hope.**

With the water of baptism reminding us of your love for us, . . . we will join our voices as your children, singing to God, Child, and Spirit, God Holy Three in One. Amen.

**\*\*HYMN NO. 595**

*“Holy, Holy, Holy”*

ARGENTINE SANTO

Holy, holy, holy.

My heart, my heart adores you!

My heart knows how to say to you:

you are holy, Lord!

### CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS

#### 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**

#### SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

**HYMN NO. 604**

*“Lamb of God”*

AGNUS DEI

*Sung during the sharing of communion*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

Grant us peace; grant us peace.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(In Unison)*

**Baptized in you Lord Jesus, help us go to share God's love with others. We will welcome those the world rejects as our sisters and brothers. Baptized in you Lord Jesus, we will share your grace. Let us share the waters of life with everyone we meet. Baptized in you Lord Jesus, we will be part of the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Help us be a community of justice, not judgment; and a household of hope, not an exclusive club for just a few. Amen.**

**\*\*HYMN No. 163**

*“Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice”*

ABERSTWYTH

Wild and lone the prophet’s voice echoes through the desert still,

Calling us to make a choice, bidding us to do God’s will:

“Turn from sin and be baptized; cleanse your heart and mind and soul.

Quitting all the sins you prized, yield your life to God’s control.”

“Bear the fruit repentance sows: lives of justice, truth and love.

Trust no other claim than those; set your heart on things above.

Soon the Lord will come in power, burning clean the threshing floor;

Then will flames the chaff devour; wheat alone shall fill God’s store.”

With such preaching stark and bold, John proclaimed salvation near,

And his timeless warnings hold words of hope to all who hear.

So we dare to journey on, led by faith through ways untrod.

Till we come at last like John to behold the Lamb of God.

**\*\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*“Shall We Gather at the River”*

arr. Robert J. Powell

***\*\*Those who are able may stand***

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Rev. William Schram

Rev. Barbara Piercy

Susan Jones

Paul Salierno, Cantor

Westminster Choir

Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers