

*Please stand in body and/or spirit

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome, Acknowledgment of first-time visitors and Announcements

Words to Ponder: "In our daily walk with God, we often find ourselves at a crossroads between our feelings and our faith. Emotions are a natural part of being human, but faith calls us to trust in God's promises even when our feelings might lead us astray."

Introit

Chancel Choir

*Call to Worship (Responsively)

We gather to worship the Living Water!

Spring up, Oh Well, within our souls.

In our dry and arid places, Water of Baptism, refresh us.

Stir up inside of us, renew us Living Water.

The baptism of the Ethiopian official of Candace, sovereign queen of Ethiopia, remind us of our connection to both the first church and the eternal Well that never runs dry.

Burst forth within us, overflow, saturate the stagnant areas of our lives, reconnect us to you, our true Source.

Let us remember our baptism and be thankful!

Take us to the waters! Let us renew our baptismal vows. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Blessed Assurance"

#369

Opening Prayer (*Unison*)

Most wonderful God,

foolish and flawed though we are,

we too delight in your beloved Son.

As in his name we gather in the house of many praises,

may the heavens be opened for us,

that we may catch a glimpse of that Light and Love

that transforms our common days

with a beauty not of our making.

Through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen!

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

I believe in one God,

the Father almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the Only Begotten Son of God,

born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,

and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,

and rose again on the third day

in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory

to judge the living and the dead

and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins

and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Silent prayer of confession

Words of Assurance

Lord God, I believe in You. I know I don't deserve Your grace, but I choose to receive it because it is a free gift that You have given to me.

Anthem Chancel Choir
Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 4: 1-16, Isaiah 43:1-7
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Children's Moment Tammy Bronson
(Children go to Junior Church)

*Hymn "Amazing Grace" #378

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Feelings vs. Faith" Tammy Bronson
Remembering our Baptism

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

*Doxology #95

*Prayer of Dedication (*Unison*)
Loving God, who guides us with your everlasting presence, we offer these gifts with grateful hearts. As Jesus stood with us in the waters of baptism, may these offerings stand as a testament to your love and grace. Use them to bring hope, healing, and transformation to our world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns
The Lord's Prayer

*Closing Hymn "They'll Know We Are Christians" See Insert

*Benediction
*Response "Bless Us Now" Frank Milnes
Bless us now as we depart, Watch o'er us, God, while we're apart; Give strength to conquer daily strain, and bring us to Thy house again.
Amen

Postlude

The United Methodist Church
12 Commerce St.
Clinton, Connecticut
Baptism of the Lord Sunday



Morning Worship
January 12, 2025
10:00 am

REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

INTRODUCTION

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Through the sacrament of baptism

we have been initiated into Christ's holy church.

We have been incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation

And have been given new birth through water and the Spirit.

All this is God's gift, offered to use without price.

Through the public acknowledgement of faith,

We renew the covenant declared at our baptism,

acknowledge what God is doing for us in Jesus Christ,

and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy church and the way of discipleship.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

We do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

We do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

We do.

According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

We will.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and include one another in mutual care, love, and forgiveness, and service to others?

We will.

Will you pray for one another and the world, that we may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life?

We will.

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord, [who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.]

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

We believe in the Holy Spirit, [the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.]