

January 8, 2017

9:30 A.M.

Thought for Reflection

“A silent community merely observing the events of the time
would not be a Christian community.”
Karl Barth

At God's Invitation We Gather

WELCOME AND GREETING

RINGING THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE *Adagio, Andante Moderato from "Pastorale"* Bach

INVITATION TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Baptized to begin lives of faith,
**we would witness to all You do in our communities, in our
midst, in our world.**

Baptized to serve,
**we would speak up for the voiceless; we would bring justice to
those who have none.**

Baptized to speak,
we would heal, and not hurt; we would bless and not curse.

Baptized to do what is right,
**we would not play favorites, but treat each other as Your
Beloved.**

INTROIT *As with Gladness Men of Old* arr. Page
Glory Bells

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

* *Please stand, if you are able*

* HYMN *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* # 356

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God Speaks to Us through the Word

WORDS FOR THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

Message *The Gift of Water*

Prayer
(Children and Youth are dismissed for Sunday School.)

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

We try to stop Jesus from coming into our lives, Patient God, for we know how disruptive he can be. He wants us to preach the gospel with our lives, but we prefer to complain how hard that is going to be. He wants us to do what is right, yet doing the wrong thing comes so easily for us. He would like us to not give up until justice is done, but we are too busy looking out for our own interests.

We confess because we know we need to be forgiven by you, God of Glory and Grace. Bathe us again in the life-giving waters of your mercy so that we can come from the water ready to do good for others, to give you all the praise, and to learn justice, grace and hope from your Servant Jesus Christ.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Isaiah 42:1-9* p. 584

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 3:3-17* p. 784

MEDITATION *Meeting Jesus in the Waters of Baptism*
Rev. Dr. Lawrence J. De Vuyst

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (responsively)

Let us affirm the baptismal covenant together: Come to the Water!
From the waters of chaos, God brought order and life.

From the waters of the flood, God preserved life, giving
righteousness a new beginning.

**Through the waters of the sea, God led Israel out of slavery
to freedom and the promised land.**

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus was baptized by John and
anointed by God's Spirit.

**By the baptism of his own death and resurrection, Christ
sets us free from sin and death.**

In the waters of baptism, we are reborn by the power of the Spirit.
**Let one and all come to the water! Let us meet Christ here
and receive his new life in us. Amen.**

We Respond as God's People

BRINGING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

Tiny King
Chancel Choir

Eilers

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving

Communion

Prayer after Communion

A Time of Remembrance

God Sends Us Out to Serve

* HYMN

Baptized in Water

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* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

Allegro from "Pastorale"

Bach