

**“Whoever you are...wherever you are on life’s journey,  
you are welcome here.”  
God is Still Speaking**

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF THE

***Ascension***

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**

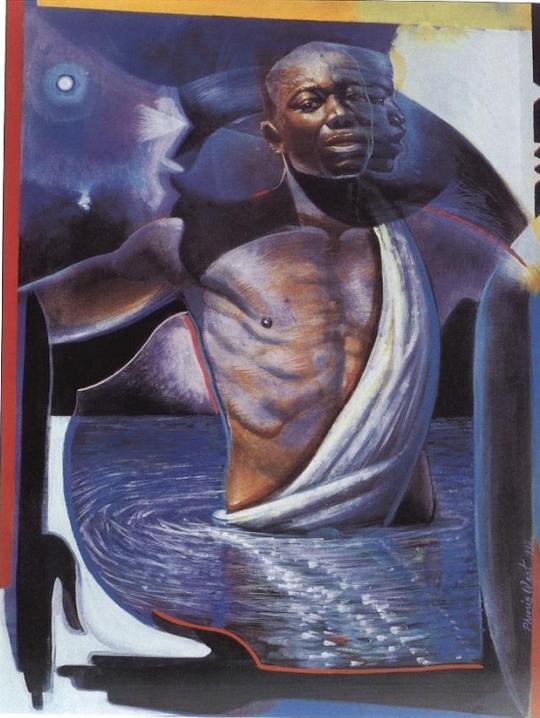


***An Open and Affirming Congregation***

**January 9, 2022**

**11:00 AM**

***The Baptism of Christ***



Phedris West, *The Baptism of Jesus Christ*

1700 West Main Street, Jeffersonville, PA 19403  
**(610) 539-1693**

[www.ascensionucc.org](http://www.ascensionucc.org)

[info@ascensionucc.org](mailto:info@ascensionucc.org)

**Order of Worship**

**PRELUDE**

“Glory and Strength” (Seitz)

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR/RECEIVING THE LIGHT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*please rise*

**Leader:** In the beginning God created.

**People:** **And it was good.**

**Leader:** In the present God creates.

**People:** **And it is good.**

**Leader:** In the future God will continue creating.

**People:** **And it will be good.**

**Leader:** Let us gather to worship our God.

**People:** **Who creates goodness in, through, and all around us. Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

“Holy, Holy, Holy” *Verses 1&2* *Glory to God 1*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, too often our lives reflect chaos instead of creation. Living in disorder and turmoil, we exist as though you do not. Rather than the tender hovering of your Spirit, we feel the buffeting currents of change and doubt. Have mercy on us. Blow through our lives like a mighty wind this day, clearing away the clouds of despair. Shine brightly among us, renewing our reason for hope. Rain your love upon us, creating in us a new day.**

*silent prayer of confession*

**KYRIE**

*Unison* A D E A

1 Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son,  
2 Chri - ste e - le - i - son, Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

F# Bm E A (A)

e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
ste e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**HYMN**

“Holy, Holy, Holy” *Verses 3&4* *Glory to God 1*

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*please be seated*

Hebrew Lesson Isaiah 43:1-7

*please rise*

Gospel Lesson Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Leader: Holy Wisdom

**People: Holy Word**

**THE SERMON**

**SERVICE OF WATER**

Leader: Dear friends, on this day of re-creation we recall Christ’s baptism, and we claim and remember our own.

**People: We gather at this font of living water to celebrate the gift of God’s redeeming grace.**

Leader: For just as the body is one and has many members and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

**People: For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, male or female – and were all made to drink of one Spirit.**

Leader: Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

### **HYMN**

“At the Font We Start Our Journey”

*The New Century Hymnal 308*

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Leader: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

**People: I do.**

Leader: Do you believe in God?

**People: I believe in God, the creator of heaven and earth.**

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, the only one begotten of God before all worlds.**

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in God, the Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and community, in the breaking of bread, and in prayer?

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

Leader: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being?

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

## BLESSING OF WATER

Leader: Let us pray...

### THE CONGREGATION REMEMBERS BAPTISM

Leader: 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.

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

Leader: Remember your baptism and be thankful.

**People: Amen.**

## THE OFFERING OF OUR TITHES & OURSELVES

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us open our hearts.

**People: We open them to our God.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

**People: It is right to lift of thanks and praise.**

Leader: Great Deliverer, how wondrous are your deeds! You created the world and all that is in it. With a mighty arm you parted the waters and led your people to liberation. When we were in exile, you gathered us up in your bosom and led us home like a mother sheep. When we were mistreating our own, you sent prophets to set us right. You pulled down the arrogant and lifted up the weak. And when the time was right, you sent Jesus to set us free. Now send us again your life-giving Spirit and recharge your promise within us, for we are eagerly awaiting our Savior to come again from heaven, saying:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

Leader: So, with gratitude and expectation we remember that Jesus took bread, blessed, broke, and gave it to his disciples, saying, this is my body, given for you. So also we remember that Jesus took the cup, saying, this is the new covenant of love and grace poured out for you and for many. Do this in remembrance of me. Now, as we wait for him to come again, O God, stir up your power and restore us by sending your Holy Spirit to infuse us with hope in the great mystery of our faith:

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Leader: Bless us too, that by our eating and drinking we may have love for each other and be servants of Christ's peace, until the New Day comes and every creature finds an honored place at the Banquet of Life!

**All: All glory and honor are yours, eternal God, through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
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.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom,  
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

**BREAKING THE BREAD & POURING THE WINE**

**Leader:** In the breaking of this bread, we are one with Christ in his body broken for us.  
In the pouring of this cup, we are one with Christ in his blood poured out for us.  
Come, for all things are ready.

**All:** **Lord Jesus Christ, we come to this table to know you in the breaking of this bread.**

**PARTAKING OF THE MEAL**

**CLOSING HYMN**

“God of Grace, and God of Glory” *Glory to God 307*

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD**

**POSTLUDE**

“The Voice of the Lord” (Reilly)

**January Birthdays**

**1/9-1/15/2022**

*Danielle Gieringer (9); Amanda Wetherill (13)*

**January Anniversaries**

**1/9-1/15/2022**

*Kimberly Lane & Mimi DeSouza (11)*

For the month of January, we will continue to worship virtually, via Facebook or YouTube. We will re-access the Covid data later this month and make a decision regarding the month of February.

Please keep the Rev. Judith Meier and Sally Shaw in your prayers.

**The Rev. Judith Meier** continues to recover in the ICU. She is doing well, but her recovery will be lengthy. Due to COVID restrictions the hospital is only allowing two visitors a day. The family has requested that these visitors be limited to family members. She is unable to speak at this time. You may send a card in the mail to her home address and keep her in your prayers.

**Sally Shaw** has returned to her apartment today. Please keep her in your prayers. Phone calls and cards would be welcome.

**Covid**, also we ask for prayers for those members of our congregation who are currently struggling with Covid.



The LORD gives strength to his people;  
the LORD blesses his people with peace.

**Psalm 29:11**





*We welcome you to our Community of Faith. We pray that God will speak to you during this worship experience. If you have need of pastoral assistance, we encourage you to contact Pastor Dwayne at the church office number listed below or make an appointment with him today.*

*We welcome children in worship at all times. If you would prefer, childcare is available. Please see one of our ushers. Children's bulletins and crayons are available from the ushers.*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Ministers</b>                        | All the people of the Congregation  |
| <b>Pastor</b>                           | The Rev. Dwayne A. Mosier   |
| <b>Minister of Music</b>                | Dan Weckerly  |
| <b>President of the Consistory</b>      | Liz Brunton   |
| <b>Vice President of the Consistory</b> | Michele Luke  |
| <b>Secretary of the Consistory</b>      | Liam D'Aquila   |
| <b>Moderator of Spiritual Council</b>   | Molly Lorenz  |
| <b>Elders:</b>                          | Liz Brunton, Robin Weed, Mary Lambon<br>Molly Lorenz, Barbara Montague-Graham |
| <b>Chair of the Diaconate</b>           | Michele Luke  |
| <b>Deacons:</b>                         | Liam D'Aquila, Sandy Dounce<br>Michele Luke, Lynda Waltman, Christa Cavanaugh |
| <b>Church Secretary</b>                 | Judy Parker   |
| <b>Sexton</b>                           | Emeric Suto   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                        | Sandy Maben   |

**Telephone: (610) 539-1693**

**[www.ascensionucc.org](http://www.ascensionucc.org)**

**[info@ascensionucc.org](mailto:info@ascensionucc.org)**

Please like us on Facebook and check-in here:

**Reformed Church of the Ascension, United Church of Christ**

Follow us on Twitter @AscensionUCC