

Prelude

Welcome Millicent Scarlett

Choral Call to Worship *Surely the Presence of the Lord* UMH #328

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer Worship Leaders: Fisher Family

One: We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

All: **We need not look up to find God,**

One: We only look around – within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another.

All: **We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God.**

One: We need only listen to the music of life, the words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.

All: **We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives.**

One: Let us pray.
We turn to you often, O God, as we seek through prayer the meaning of life. Sometimes it's a fervent prayer in the midst of serious mediation, but more often it's a fleeting prayer on the run.

All: **We pray for patience when there are too many things to be done. We pray that you will awaken us to hear the cries of the poor, the homeless, the broken-hearted.**

One: Help us to redirect more of our resources to clothe the naked and feed the hungry.

All: **Mold us, Od God, and open our hearts and minds to be willing vessels of your spirit. Amen.**

*Hymn *Lift Every Voice* UMH #519

Prayer for Illumination

Beloved God,
Through the pages of scripture, you have sprinkled your love for us like an echoed refrain. Despite its repeated truth, we too often allow that good news to roll off of us like water, barely allowing it to touch us.

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Make today different.
As we read your Word aloud,
let the truth of your love for creation seep into our bones.
May we hear your echoes of "beloved" deep within us
and respond with overflowing joy.
We are here. We are listening. Amen.

Scripture Reading Matthew 3:13-17 N.T. p.3

For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us. **Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn *When Jesus Came to Jordan* UMH #252

Reading "Just a touch of Water on our lives.... From *The Shape of Water*
Reader: Julianne van Meerten

*Hymn *Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters* UMH #605

Reading *Prayer for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day* by Jarrod Johnston
Reader: Patricia Thomas

*Hymn *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* UMH #474

Choral Call to Prayer *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* TFWS #2207

Prayers of the People Julie Ponting

Lord's Prayer UMH #895

Reading *Baptism in its fullest* Excerpt from A Baptized Life by J. Andrew Daugherty
Reader: Ellen Brown

Music Ministry Aldersgate Choir
Setting of Two Hymns: I Surrender All, I Need Thee Every Hour by Moses Hogan

Reading *A Music Prayer* Reader: Eric Schoute

Music Ministry Aldersgate Choir
Just a Closer Walk with Thee by Fettke and Grassi

Offering and Answering God's Call

Your financial giving supports many wonderful ministries and partnerships. Please prayerfully consider your giving to UUMC. You may place your gifts in the front basket, the box in the back of the sanctuary, or make a gift electronically at www.uumcp.org/electronic-giving, or texting an amount to: 301-364-9236

*Doxology UMH #94

Opportunities to Serve

Reading *Let's Reclaim Baptism* From A Baptized Life
Reader: Tim Snyder

*Closing Hymn *Lead Me, Guide Me* TFWS # 2214

***Blessing**

Postlude

MD Food Pantry Please donate feminine hygiene products and cumin.

For Your Calendar:

Jan. 22 Leadership Board Meeting

Jan. 21 Loaves and Fishes Meal

www.uumcp.org office@uumcp.org (301) 422-1400



UNIVERSITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH



January 14, 2024



Baptism of the Lord
By He Qi