

Communion Service Liturgy for January 10, 2021

Baptism of Jesus

Community of Faith United Methodist Church

CALL TO WORSHIP

Water. Refreshing, cleansing, nourishing, life-giving . . .

Water. Dangerous, life-threatening, powerful . . .

The waters rush over us in our baptism.

And we are filled with the Holy Spirit. Alleluia!

THE READING

Mark 1:4-11

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

PRAYER OF CONFESSIOIN

Loving Lord, we confess we have not always heeded your prophets' voices. We admit we have not acknowledged John the baptizer who proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. We acknowledge in our failure to do so we missed John's all too important declaration about the greater One who was coming. God, today we gather needing grace and the gift of forgiveness granted through your Son. Amen. (*Silence*)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

When we confess our sins and shortcomings, God shows up and shows out! Receive God's forgiveness. Put regret behind you and walk in the joy of the Lord!

A BRIEF GREAT THANKSGIVING

LORD'S PRAYER

THE INVITATION TO RECEIVE

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

