



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN  
**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 12, 2020

The Baptism of Christ

**WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!**

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 167 years our Covenant has been: We covenant with the Lord Jesus Christ and one another, and bind ourselves in the presence of God to live together in all God's ways as revealed to us by the Holy Spirit and holy scripture. The church acknowledges that all members have the right of individual interpretation of the principles of the Christian faith and respects them in their honest convictions. In accordance with the teaching of our Lord, the church recognizes two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion.*

Please silence all electronic devices.

Assistive listening devices and large-print bulletins with hymns of the day are available at the Sanctuary doors. Deacons wearing white roses and Ushers wearing red roses can assist you.

Cards requesting prayer are in the Welcome Notebooks and should be placed in the offering plate.

(\*) Indicates the congregation should stand as they are able.

*Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve. Please use this time for quiet preparation for worship.  
 'We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of your temple.'  
 (Psalm 48:8)*

PRELUDE *Christ unser Herr, zum Jordan kamm*, BWV 684 J.S. Bach

ENTER TO WORSHIP Fran Panek

Leader: Blessed be God, Light of the world, bright Morning Star, and Spirit of love.

\* *Then all stand.*

L: Welcome to worship this day!

**P: We have come seeking God's blessings and love.**

L: They shall be given to you.

**P: We have come seeking forgiveness and healing.**

L: These will be offered to you. Let us open our hearts to receive God's Good News.

**P: We open our hearts to all of God's words and ways for us. Amen.**

\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 71 Lord, When You Came to Jordan  
*Genevan 130*

\* INVOCATION The Rev. Dr. William Nirote

L: God be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**P: O God, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

\* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Corzine  
*Please find the attendance pad in the Welcome Notebook at the end of each pew, sign it, and pass it on to your neighbor.*

L: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Let us greet one another with the sign of Christ's peace.

CHILDREN'S TIME Mark S. Williams

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

LITANY OF BAPTISMAL AFFIRMATION

L: Lord and life-giving Spirit, who brooded over the waters when first the world began:

**All: Help us renounce evil and receive new life in Christ.**

L: Who led your people out of slavery through the waters of the Red Sea and into freedom through the waters of the Jordan: who overshadowed Mary of Nazareth and caused her to be the mother of Jesus.

**All: Help us renounce evil and receive new life in Christ.**

L: Who anointed Jesus as Messiah as he was baptized by John in the Jordan: Who raised Jesus Christ from the grave and proclaimed Christ "Son of God" in all power over the living and the dead.

**All: Help us renounce evil and receive new life in Christ.**

L: Who appeared in tongues of flame on Pentecost: Who charges the waters of baptism through and through with power to give new life.

**All: Help us renounce evil and receive new life in Christ.**

L: Lord, hear our prayer.

**All: Let our cry come to You.**

PRAYER OVER THE WATER OF BAPTISM Rev. Corzine

*Please stand.*

\* RENEWAL OF BAPTISM Rev. Corzine  
*The Choir will introduce the song by singing it once through. Please join the Choir on the repeat. As we sing, Rev. Corzine will share the water of baptism with all using these words:*

L: Remember your baptism and keep it holy.

**P: Amen.**

We have put on Christ this day, sing al-le-lu-ia and re-joice. We have been baptized in Him; sing al-le-lu-ia and re-joice. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, sing al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, sing al-le-lu-ia!

\* CLOSING PRAYER Rev. Corzine  
 Let us pray.

**Almighty and everlasting God, who out of pure mercy decreed both the creation and the renewal of the world, be present and active in the sacraments which you have instituted for our salvation. Send forth the Spirit of adoption in full measure that those who are born of water and the Spirit may live under the power of the same Spirit all the days of their life and so arrive safely in their heavenly home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated for the readings.*

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE Isaiah 42:1-9 (O.T. p. 670) Mrs. Panek

L: May Light break forth on God's Holy Word.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM Go Tell It On the Mountain Spiritual, arr. Roland Carter  
 Lynn Eustis, *soloist*

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 10:34-43 (N.T. p. 129) Mrs. Panek

L: May Light break forth on God's Holy Word.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* GOSPEL HYMN 70 Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized *Caithness*  
*During the hymn, Children, Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, are invited to the Worship Connections in the Children's Library on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Education Wing. They will return after the meditation. A fully staffed childcare ministry is provided during each Sunday Morning Worship Service and Education Hour for infants through age 4. This ministry is located in the nursery and toddler rooms on the first floor of the Education Wing.*

THE GOSPEL Matthew 3:13-17 (N.T. p. 3) Rev. Corzine

L: May Light break forth on God's Holy Word.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION "Rise from the Water" Rev. Corzine  
*A time of reflection follows.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Nirote

OUR 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,  
 and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
 Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,  
 for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.  
 Amen.**

THE OFFERTORY

Want to give online? Please see the Depart to Serve leaflet for more information and a QR link.

MISSION INVITATION

Rev. Corzine

Cash and designated checks go to **Church World Service Water Systems**. CWS joins communities to help build and maintain a variety of water systems – from sand dams to wells to reservoirs – that draw upon rainwater or underground sources. Food security and nutrition improve when clean, stable water sources help diversify crops. Health improves because clean water means less disease. Displacement decreases as people no longer have to abandon their communities because of the lack of drinking water. And ultimately, standards of living rise because people spend less time searching for water and more time on other activities, such as getting an education or earning a living. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM *Laudate Dominum* (Solemn Vespers) W.A. Mozart

Lynn Eustis, *soloist*

*Laudate Dominum omnes gentes  
Laudate eum, omnes populi  
Quoniam confirmata est  
Super nos misericordia eius,  
Et veritas Domini manet in aeternum.*

Praise God, all you nations;  
laud the Most High, all you peoples.  
For God's loving-kindness toward us is  
great, and the faithfulness of God endures  
for ever.

*Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.  
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper.  
Et in saecula saeculorum.  
Amen.  
—Psalm 117*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and  
forever.  
Amen.

\* PRESENTATION HYMN Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
sung to *Lasst uns erfreuen*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleuia!  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Rev. Nirote

*Please be seated for the Notices.*

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE Mr. Williams

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* CLOSING HYMN 300 Down to Earth, as a Dove *Personent Hodie*

\* BENEDICTION Rev. Corzine

POSTLUDE Praeludium in F-sharp Minor Dietrich Buxtehude

*Please be seated for the postlude*

*Thank you for attending worship this morning. We hope that you have found welcome, peace and grace here, and invite you to return often. If you would like more information or have any questions about First Church, please ask anyone wearing a nametag. We'd be delighted to assist you. Please join us for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.*

† ACOLYTES: Ruby Holt and Naomi Holt

† CRUCIFER: Will Haslett

† MUSIC: The First Church Choir, Kevin Jones, *organist and director*

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 107th birthday of Mildred Livingston, given by her daughter, Nancy Livingston.

† GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY:

Broad Street – Rev. Corzine  
Ninth Street – Rev. Nirote  
Education Wing – Mr. Williams

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Welcome Statement

You are welcomed, affirmed, and loved here; our faith informs us that you are a child of a loving God. Your characteristics and gifts will enrich our congregation. In this community, you will be celebrated, embraced, and honored, no matter how you identify or how your identity may evolve. Wherever you are on your faith journey, we invite you to join us in our diverse yet united experience.

First Church is a Faith Community

† Called together by God, the Creator and Sustainer of life, to worship, pray and serve;  
† Led by Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Savior, to learn the faith and welcome all God's children;  
† Empowered by the Holy Spirit to witness to God's love and justice between ourselves, and throughout the world.

Open and Affirming Statement

We, the members of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio, welcome and affirm all. We believe we are all created in God's image and called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, called to unite all people in God's love. We are a community seeking God's presence and love in our lives. We seek to unite persons of all ages, races, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, sexes, gender identities and expressions, family structures, mental, intellectual and physical conditions, economic circumstances, political, theological and faith backgrounds. Together in our diversity, and being empowered and directed by the Holy Spirit, we will "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God." (Micah 6:8)

—Adopted September 8, 2002 by the congregation  
Revisions adopted January 27, 2019 by the congregation



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