

BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF RULING ELDERS AND DEACONS
JANUARY 9, 2022 • 9:30 a.m.



Jesus of the Bayou
Lauren Wright Pittman

GATHERING

Please join in reading and singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

Today we celebrate Baptism of the Lord Sunday. Jesus' ministry to bring in the Reign of God was inaugurated in his baptism. As he came out of the water, the Spirit rested on Jesus, and God said, "You are my son, the Beloved. With you I am well-pleased." On this day, we celebrate not only Jesus' baptism but our own as well, for our baptism is rooted in Christ, joining us to him and his church. With all of the beloved of God, we are called to share in Christ's ministry.

The Prayer of Confession is adapted from the *New Book of Common Worship*, PC(USA).

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Christ, unser Herr zum Jordan kam, BWV 684

J. S. Bach

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O come let us worship and lift our hearts . . .

All: Not because the world is good and last week was awesome, but because the earth is the Lord's and everything in it, and you are the God of the whole Earth.

One: O come let us worship and raise our hands ...

All: Not because our lives are all sweetness and light, But because even those who walk in darkness can see a great light, the Bright and Morning Star, Jesus Christ.

One: O come let us worship and bow down ...

All: Not because God gives us what we want, But because God gives us what we need – the holy child Jesus, God's Unspeakable Gift.

* HYMN 485

We Know That Christ Is Raised

ENGELBERG

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful and loving God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling to proclaim the good news in word and deed. We are quick to speak when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We put too much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength of your Spirit. O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world. By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need to be faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior...

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE

LAND OF REST



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as God's people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**O how deep your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor!
With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you,
water-washed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer.
Re-create us; God, transform!**

*This is Stanza 3 of Hymn 490, *Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters* (BEACH SPRING).*

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 43:1–7

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 3:15–17, 21–22

The grass withers, the flower fades; **the word of the Lord endures forever.**

SERMON *For What Else Were We Born?*

RESPONDING

LITANY OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

A Litany of Call

One: The buzz of the world interrupts our lives and fills our ears.

Two: You call us into Your way of life, O God.

One: We know there are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

Two: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

One: God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

Two: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

One: Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

This week's *Growing in God's Love Bible story*, "An Awesome Day," is found on page 202.

Worship Lab, a hands-on experience for our youngest disciples, is a place where children can ask questions and dig deeper into the various parts of Presbyterian Worship. Children learn what they have to offer as they discover and understand their place in the Body of Christ on Sunday mornings. Worship Lab immediately follows A Conversation with Young Disciples.

In Baptism each Christian is called to ministry in Christ's name. God calls some persons from the midst of congregations to fulfill particular functions, so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish. In ordination the church sets apart with prayer and the laying on of hands those who have been called by God through the voice of the church to serve as deacons, ruling elders, and ministers of Word and Sacrament. In installation the church sets in place with prayer those who have been (previously) ordained as deacons, ruling elders, and ministers of Word and Sacrament, and are now called anew to service in that ministry. (*Book of Order*, Directory for Worship, W-4.0401)

Constitutional Questions

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

To Elders:

Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

To Deacons:

Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Questions to the Congregation

One: Do we, the members of the church, accept these people as (Ruling Elders/Deacons), chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

All: We do.

One: Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

All: We do.

The Laying-On of Hands

Prayer of Ordination and Installation and 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; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

At the River

Aaron Copland

Chancel Choir Section Leaders

Shall we gather by the river, where bright angel's feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God.
Yes, we'll gather by the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints by the river that flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease,
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.
Yes, we'll gather by the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints by the river that flows by the throne of God.

* Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SENDING

* HYMN 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

HERE I AM

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

In the name of Jesus —
Let us Love...**with Open Hearts!**
Let us Learn...**with Open Minds!**
Let us Serve...**with Open Arms!**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729*

J. S. Bach

Please remain seated until the conclusion of the closing voluntary.

Use these offertory moments to savor your gratitude for the abundance of God's love — and to consider your own response in loving service.

Ways to give: click

<https://secure.myvanco.com/YM88/home>

or use "Text-to-Give" (855-904-1523), the Vanco Mobile app, put a check in the mail, or scan the QR code below.



Children's Choir will rehearse today at 10:30. Please meet Ms. Powell at the pulpit door.

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

We are glad you are here! Please sign our Friendship Pad. If you are worshiping with us via YouTube, Facebook, or radio, please sign the pad on our website to let us know you are here or you may click here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2OFFlvBmiZ1jQUGxeXcsAIDITp2WEYepSmnjQYMXbHHndA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1>.

Worship Leaders: Welcome – Jay Sanderford; Liturgists – Megan Berry and Melissa Anne Rogers; Scripture Reader – Leina Kaehr; Children’s Message – Hannah Lundberg; Preacher – Jay Sanderford; Musicians – Chancel Choir Section Leaders; Organist – David Hufford; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Ushers – Len Rezmierski (captain), Marolin Bellefleur, Clem Gill, Keith Molin, Beth Sanderford, Joe Schmidt, and Angela Yang

The Elders-elect will be presented by Clerk of Session Linda Rex for Ordination and/or Installation.

The Deacons-elect will be presented by Board of Deacons Co-Moderators Carol Gottliebsen and Michele Madden for Ordination and/or Installation. † The cross denotes persons previously ordained.

Elders to be Ordained and/or Installed are †Jim Cameron, Callie Feyen, Steve Gerhardt, Gail Grady, Rick Ingram, Chris King, †Lynne Lande, and †Marti Wendler.

Deacons to be Ordained and/or Installed are Andrea Bare, †Beth Caldwell, †Heidi Dodson, Barbara Eichmuller, †Jesse Feyen, Beth Gerwig, †Georgia Goodman, †John LeDuc, †Deborah MacVey, Chloe Majorprice, †Mary McKeever, †Nancy Oliver, †Norm Samuelson, Olive Rigotti, †Nicki Sorter, †Jeanette Swartz, †Sara VanderVoort, and †Julie Wheaton.

Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Cam Smith by his parents Collyer and Annie Smith.

The prayer team is available for those desiring prayer in Hillegonds Chapel after the 9:30 service. Prayer team volunteers are Ginny Rezmierski and Marita Servais. "Prayer does not consist in gifted expressions and a volubility of speech; but in a brokenness of heart." – John Blanchard

Join Rev. Rogers for a virtual Social Hour today immediately following the Closing Voluntary.

Our conversation prompt: "If you've served as an Elder or Deacon, what do you remember as being particularly faith-building or challenging? If you've not served before, what questions do you have about those particular offices?" Enter Social Hour today by clicking <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8225711636>. **There is no in-person Social Hour this Sunday.**

FAITH FORMATION TODAY @ 11:00

Fast Track to First Pres Membership! Become a member in as little as twenty minutes today! Meet with Rev. Rogers and two Elders at 9:00 or 11:00 a.m., in the Lead Pastor's Office across from the Vance Room or connect via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84143125355>.

The Bible at 11 o'clock (Curtis Room and Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86117387186>)

All are welcome to join our study of Isaiah led by Rev. Ed Koster.

Exploring the Faith and **First Friends** (Lewis Room)

All are invited to discuss Adam Hamilton's video "Creed: What Christians Believe and Why. Exploring the Apostles' Creed."

T2A2 Small Group (Founders Room)

All in their twenties and thirties are welcome to come and build community with us as we share meaningful conversations and reflect on the Word together. For more information, email t2a2@firstpresbyterian.org.

Adult / Parent Confirmation Class (Zoom)

This class follows the main themes the youth are learning in their confirmation class. This class meets on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. It is led by Revs. Berry and Sanderford. Please use this link to join the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87991156166?pwd=aFY3S3BpVjhnNIBWUURSSWt1bkxtQT09>

Youth (all middle & high school students, including confirmands) are invited to meet in the youth room. After beginning our time together, we'll split off into our separate groups for the rest of our formation time. For information about the numerous opportunities to connect for youth and families, contact Rev. Mares (mmares@firstpresbyterian.org), Minister of Youth & Families.

Children ages 4 through fifth graders join us for Chapel and lessons beginning in Monteith Hall on the first level. For more information, contact Beca Torres-Davenport, Coordinator of Children & Family Ministry (btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Amazing Stuff: God’s Gift for Growing Up” class for fourth and fifth graders, meets today at 4:00 p.m. This six-week course offers wonderful information for child and parent alike as your family begins navigating the physical and emotional changes of preteen / teen years with a faithful approach. We have a magnificent team of teachers comprised of nurses and doctors who are members of First Pres. There is a concurrent class for parents whose children are enrolled in “Amazing Stuff” that meets at the same time in a different room. Contact Beca Torres-Davenport for more information at btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org.

Volunteers are needed for the Rotating Shelter this week. If you need more information, please call Jim Peggs (734-646-9412) or Marcey Terrien (480-833-7019). You may sign up by using this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040f4aa8a62ea3fe3-first>.

The Dismantling Racism subgroup of the Social Justice Action Group will have their next meeting next Sunday, January 16, at 12:15 p.m., in the Curtis Room, with a hybrid Zoom option available. All are welcome to join in planning and discussion. Contact Sharon Sheldon, sheldons Sharon234@gmail.com, to obtain the link or if you have any questions.

The next Stephen Ministry Continuing Education presentation will be a Zoom presentation at 7:00 p.m., tomorrow, January 10. All are invited to participate in the presentation. Use this link to join the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89733372207>.

Mature Ministries Lunch & Learn: Discover Detroit’s Lost Black Neighborhood presentation is this Thursday, January 13, at noon, via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5502657984>). Questions? Contact Rev. Rogers.

Our January donations and financial contributions support Food Gatherers, the main supplier of food to local food banks in Washtenaw County. Non-perishable food may be placed in the bin provided in the Social Hall on Sundays, Mondays–Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Fridays 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Financial gifts may be made by check or online. Personal care items are of particular need since they cannot be purchased with Bridge Cards. Donations will be coordinated by the First Pres Local Missions team.

Visit our art exhibit “Finding Sanctuary during the Pandemic” by Christina Saj. “Finding Sanctuary” is displayed in the Social Hall. This body of work takes shape from the circles on which they are painted. The Pandemic collection seeks solace in aesthetics, delivering hope and faith through image, form, and color. Its intention is for each painting to bloom in our collective gardens, offering glittering rays of sunshine, the echo of children’s laughter, a burst of flowers to sustain us through these tragic times. Christina Saj is a contemporary artist whose abstract paintings reveal a fascination with vivid color and rich pattern. The artwork is for sale for \$225 apiece. The Sacred Music Fund will receive 40% of all sales.

Greetings, College Students! We hope you will find a home away from home here at First Pres. Contact Rev. McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org) to grab a cup of coffee or for more information. He would love to meet you, virtually or otherwise!

The Men’s Study Group meets on the first and third Friday mornings, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m., in the Curtis Room, for coffee, study, and conversation. Contact Rev. Sanderford for more information at jsanderford@firstpresbyterian.org or (734) 662-4466, ext. 340.

Journeys, a Bible Study for women, meets via Zoom on the first and third Thursday of the month from 11:30 to 1:00. A Resident Minister facilitates our time together. We're studying the book of Acts, incorporating art and poetry to tease out fresh modern perspectives about the authority and power of the Holy Spirit. For more details, contact Coordinator Beth Gerwig at bgerwig@comcast.net. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/295007173>.

Mature Singles meet on Friday nights. Please call Marcy (995-2519) for more information.

Expand Your Faith with Presbyterian Women. There are several monthly Bible studies that all women of the church are welcome to attend. Contact Meg Brown (Imegbrown@gmail.com) for more information. PW sends out timely information in email blasts so that all women of the church may stay connected. Let Meg know if you would like to be added to the email list.

The Prayer Team meets every Monday morning, 9:00–9:30 a.m., online. Would you like prayer for yourself or others? Use this form by Sunday evening: <https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/prayer-request/>. If you would like to join this group, email Rev. Rogers (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org) for information and the link. For those in worship today, to share a prayer today with the pastors or prayer team, please use a pew card or the friendship pad, or speak to a pastor after the service.

Refugee Resettlement Interest Meeting. As our church continues to partner with Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County in their efforts to support refugees arriving from Afghanistan, we may have the opportunity to co-sponsor a particular family, which will involve significant efforts (both through donations and volunteer hours) from our congregation. Before we commit, we would like to share more information and gauge our community's interest and engagement. Join Rev. Hannah Lundberg for an informational meeting this Wednesday, January 12, at 7:00 p.m., on Zoom if you'd like to learn more. Check the church calendar or contact Hannah (hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org) for a Zoom link and to answer any questions you may have.

Pastoral & Program Staff

Eric Banitt
Accompanist / Pianist
Rev. Megan Berry
Resident Minister
Barbara DeLancey
Parish Nurse
David Hufford
Organist
Rev. Hannah Lundberg
Resident Minister
Rev. Mark Mares
Minister of Youth & Families
Rev. Evans McGowan
Assistant Pastor of Faith Formation and Campus Ministries
Stacey Pakela
Parish Nurse
Shayla Powell
Children's Choir Director
Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers
Associate Pastor
Rev. Jay Sanderford
Associate Pastor
Beca Torres-Davenport
Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministry
David VanderMeer
Minister of Music & Fine Arts
Rev. Matthew J. Warfield
Resident Minister

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Robin Agnew
Administrative Assistant
Nick Dibacco-Vaidya
Finance Assistant
Pat Gilbreath
Welcome Center Coordinator
Almer Harris
Maintenance Specialist
Kathy Houser
Technology Coordinator
Diane Knibbs
Administrative Assistant
Anna Miller
Finance Manager
Allie Milot
Communications Coordinator
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First Presbyterian Church Ann Arbor
1826-2021

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